FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As this term draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents, guardians and volunteers who gave up their time throughout the term to support and provide our students with the variety of offerings including, excursions, Eisteddfods, swimming, chess and in school support with reading and other classroom activities.

Over the school break work to install wireless internet in prep and alternate class blocks will be undertaken. Our prep classrooms will have large screen televisions installed to enable projection of interactive learning materials.

2015 Prep Enrolments

Thank you to parents who have returned enrolment forms for Prep in 2015. We are currently finalising plans for our transition program commencing with parent information session early in term 4. If you intend to enrol your child in Gabbinbar’s Prep program in 2015 and have not submitted your enrolment application, we ask that you make this a priority to enable us to confirm numbers and finalise planning. We also ask that you pass this message to any families who may be joining us for the first time next year. We would like to make the start of the year as smooth as possible for all involved and appreciate your assistance.

Student of the Week

Saxon (PW), Hayden (PS), Anna (PC), Mia (1R), Jordan (1L), Rebecca (2G), Ella (2G), Alex (3P), Eli (5L), Brody (6H), Riley (7B)

Each week class teachers nominate a student of the week award. Due to media permissions, some students’ names or photographs may not be available for publishing.

Gotcha Awards

Mia, Lewis, Sophie, Aidan, Bella, Lexii
School News

Social Media and the school community

The internet, mobile phones and social media provide wonderful opportunities for you to network and socialise online. While these technologies provide positive platforms for sharing ideas, they also have the potential to cause pain and suffering to individuals, groups or even whole communities.

Just as you would discourage your child from behaving inappropriately online, it’s important to remember that sometimes negative comments that parents and caregivers post about their school community have a greater impact than expected.

Reputations of teachers, schools, principals and even parents can be permanently damaged — and in some cases, serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour are dealt with by police and the court system.

Being aware of a few simple strategies can help keep the use of social media positive and constructive:

- Before you post something online, ask yourself if the community or individual really need to know. Is it relevant, positive and helpful?
- Remember that what you post online is a direct reflection of who you are. People will potentially form lasting opinions of you based on what you post online.
- Be a good role model. If things get heated online consider logging out and taking a few moments to relax and think. Hasty, emotive responses could inflame situations unnecessarily.
- Be mindful when commenting, try to keep general and avoid posting anything that could identify individuals.
- A few years ago parents may have discussed concerns or issues with their friends at the school gate. Today with the use of social media, online discussions between you and your close friends can very quickly be shared with a much wider audience, potentially far larger than intended.
- Taking a few moments to think about the content you are about to post could save upset, embarrassment, and possible legal action.
- As a parent you have a role in supervising and regulating your child’s online activities at home and being aware of the impact it may have on the reputation and privacy of others. Parents are their child’s first teachers — so they will learn online behaviors from you.

Prep – Year 2 Swimming

Swimming will commence at the start of Term 4 on Tuesday 7 October. To confirm participants in our swimming program and finalize arrangements all permission notes with payment must be returned to the school office by Friday 19 September.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday 7/10, 14/10, 21/10</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Thursday 9/10, 16/10, 23/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>PW &amp; PS</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>1L &amp; 1R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>2G &amp; 2M</td>
<td>12.15am</td>
<td>PC &amp; 1G &amp; A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm</td>
<td>PC &amp; 1G &amp; A1</td>
<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>PW &amp; PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45pm</td>
<td>1L &amp; 1R</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>2G &amp; 2M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Absences

Gabbinbar State School is committed to providing safe and supportive learning environments for all students which address their educational needs. We expect that every child of compulsory school age who is enrolled attends every school day for the educational program in which the child is enrolled, unless the parent has a reasonable excuse. Gabbinbar’s attendance policy aims to support parents to provide the best possible educational outcomes for their child and give them the best headstart possible for the future. “EVERYDAY COUNTS!”

Our Responses to Absences

We are constantly looking at ways to improve the systems we use to track absences. Some of the initiatives during 2014 have been: to write the Gabbinbar State School Attendance Policy which was ratified by our P&C earlier in the year, send home weekly reminders to parents regarding their duty to inform us if their child is away, to trial the use of digital roll marking which enables the administration team to know who is present at school and who isn’t on any day.

As of the commencement of Term 4, all classes will be marking their rolls digitally at the commencement of school (8.50). If students arrive after this roll mark, teachers are unable to change their previous entry as they are expected to concentrate on their core job, teaching. The computer system won’t allow this. Students that arrive after this time must come to the office with a parent to have this changed and to give a reason for their lateness. Families that have a student/s who demonstrate regular non-attendance, even if explained, will have a letter sent home to highlight the importance of attending school. If we are going to assist students to reach their full potential whether academically, socially or emotionally then we must work together to achieve this goal.

Please remember our new absence line on 4631 5260 (24hrs a day) or email us on absences@gabbinbars.eq.edu.au

Chess Club - Intermediate

Chess tutoring starts the first week of next term. This class is suitable for students in Prep to 5 who have completed beginners’ chess. Each lesson is one hour on Thursdays at 11 am (first break). The lessons continue for 8 weeks. The cost is $30 per term. See Mr Seng in the library for a permission note with more information.
Internal Car Park – Parent Notice
Our school precinct is a very busy area before and after school. Access within the Internal Car Park is for staff, parents of students with disabilities and private suppliers and contractors only – it is not a general 'pick-up' and 'drop-off' area! Please help us keep your children safe.

Keep a watch on our school these holidays
With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please call School Watch on 13 17 88.

The School Watch program is a partnership between the Department of Education, Training and Employment, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools.

If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter. Keep the number handy—13 17 88—and let’s work together to help create a safer school community.

Bike Left at School
Staff have noticed that a blue Repco ten speed bike has been left at the school since last Friday. It is basically new and has a combination lock keeping it safe. If this is one of your children’s bikes could you please come and collect it before the start of the school holidays. If you are unable to do so for various reasons could you contact us and give us the combination to the lock so that we can remove it and keep it in a safe place until you can retrieve it next term.

Calling Student App Developers
The best student entry to the 2014 Premier’s Awards for Open Data can win $2000, while also competing for the $5000 prize in one of the main categories! Teams of up to five students with an idea, app or website making use of any of the 1300 Queensland Government datasets should enter by 26 September. The Microsoft StartUpQ prize, valued at $60,000 is also available for the entry with the most start up potential. Go to www.data.qld.gov.au/data-event/premiers-awards for more information.

World Teacher’s Day student challenge - You could win money for our school
Students have the opportunity to win cash prizes for our school by taking part in the World Teachers’ Day student challenge.

To enter, students, either individually or as a group, must create a digital product that expresses the theme: a teacher’s commitment to their students’ learning is inspirational. This could include a presentation using PowerPoint or Prezi, a poster, banner, animation or cartoons.

You’ll need to get a move on as entries close Friday 10 October. For more information and to upload your entries go to the World Teachers’ Day student challenge website: http://www.qct.edu.au/wtd/studentchallenge/index.html

Media Consent Forms
Important Reminder: New Media consent forms are effective from the start of this term. Students’ name and images will not be permitted to be used if new forms have not been received by the office. If you haven’t returned your form, we ask that these be completed and returned as soon as possible. If you are unable to find your forms, copies are available from the front office. Unfortunately we are unable to place photos of our students in the Newsletter if the current consent forms are not completed.

P & C News
Tuckshop Tales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuckshop Day</th>
<th>Tuckshop Helpers</th>
<th>Tuckshop Home Bakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 September</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/ Jen Munt/ Charmaine Ingledew</td>
<td>Not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 October, Term 4</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/ Donna Elsey/Julie Leathy/ Elizabeth Wembri</td>
<td>Nat Herbert/ Ailsa Dwyer/ Vicki Flynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9 October, Term 4</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/ Jen Munt/ Charmaine Ingledew</td>
<td>Rebekah Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14 October, Term 4</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/ Donna Elsey/Julie Leathy/ Elizabeth Wembri</td>
<td>Janet Edwards/ Roslyn Woodhouse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will be doing the Term 4 roster soon, so could our current helpers and home bakers please advise me of any preferred days. We are still in need of some helpers in the tuckshop, so if you can spare an hour or two please give me a call.

Have a great holiday everyone, the tuckshop will be open on the first day back (Tuesday 7) Don’t forget Friday treats from 3pm this Friday, Mrs Munt has a fantastic new variety of lollies and treats available. Larry Heuston 0417731126 or leanne.heuston@bigpond.com

We now have SLUSH PUPPY’S with 6 fantastic flavours available, starting tomorrow $2.50 each. Only available to purchase direct from the tuckshop.

Student Banking
We have had yet another great term of banking, adding new bankers throughout the term. Just a note regarding Term 4 reward items. The penguin and shark keyring and the whale shark pencil case will no longer be available. The new items will be the projector cup and sea streamers.

With regards to the Year 6 and 7 bankers, please redeem all of your tokens next term as once you leave Gabbinbar at the end of the year you will no longer be a part of the reward system (however you can still bank with siblings). Try and make enough deposits that will bring you up to a multiple of 10. Once you have reached a multiple of 10 and redeemed your tokens, no more tokens will be given out as there will not be enough days to make a further 10 deposits.

Any queries, please contact me.
Amy Manthey
Student banking Co-ordinator
manthey_crew@hotmail.com / 0429 597 093

September vacation care bookings now open.
$48 per day pre-booked 8am till 6pm including all food. Lots of fun for the kids so parents can keep working or have a well-earned break! Book now!
Phone OSHC 4631 5266

We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
Chappy Chatter

What is the hardest 4 letter word to say…….?

Often in my role I am challenged by people as to who, what and why something happens. Be it trauma, joy or confusion they need answers. Or at least something tangible they can hang onto. So what is that tangible thing we can all give and receive? What is the hardest 4 letter word in say? LOVE.

Love for some people comes with conditions and expectations. Will I, won’t I, what if. These things hold us back from saying that word or acting on that word. Why is this so? Love opens the door into everything, as far as I can see, including, and perhaps most of all, the door into one’s own secret, and often terrible and frightening, real self. We leave ourselves open to being vulnerable.

Love is a short word, but it contains it all: it means the body, the soul, the life, the entire being. We felt it as we feel the warmth of the blood, we breathe it as we breathe air, and we carry it in ourselves as we carry our thoughts. Nothing more exists for us. It is not a word; it is an inexpressible state indicated by four letters.

Love is something you and I must have. We must have it because without it we become weak and faint. Without love our self-esteem weakens. Without it our courage fails. Without love we can no longer look confidently at the world. With it and with it alone, we are able to sacrifice for others. That’s why we take the risk on love.

Love is part of the answer, sure, but just part. Hope is another part, and courage, and charity, and laughter, and really seeing things like how green pine trees look after a rain, and how a rainbow can lift you higher than ever before.

In these 2 weeks of holiday time, I want to challenge you to think about this quote from Mother Teresa “Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do, but how much love we put into what we do.”

Take care
Chappy Carmen

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property boxes are over-flowing once again. If your child has lost anything e.g. jumpers, hats, shoes, lunch boxes, water bottles, please check the boxes regularly. All unnamed items will be given to charity at the end of each term.

Mobile Dental Clinic News

The Mobile Dental Van 42A will be open the second week of the September school holidays (Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 1st). If you have any concerns, please contact the Dental Van 42A on 0408 767 779. The Dental Van is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8.30 – 4.00 and closed Thursday and Friday.

In the case of an emergency when the Mobile Dental Van 42A is closed, please contact the Oral Health clinic at the hospital, 8am Monday – Friday on 1300 082 662. For all other concerns please phone 4616 6436 after 9am.

We hope you have a great break during the holidays and we will see you when school commences.
Thank you
Karen and Sandra
Gabbinbar Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) provides services including out of school hours care (OSHC) programs, tuckshop, second-hand uniform shop and the student banking program. P&C meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Email: pandc@gabbinbarss.eq.edu.au
Web: gabbinbarss.eq.edu.au/OurCommunity/PandC
OSHC Phone: 07 4631 5266
Tuckshop Phone: 07 4631 5215 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

C&K Gabbinbar Community Kindergarten operates on our school site.
Email: gabbinbar@candk.asn.au
Web: www.candk.asn.au/gabbinbar
Phone: 07 4613 6205
Fax: 07 4613 6209

The Grand Central Medical Centre is taking new patients.

Dr Darshika Ellepola
Dr Joceyln Baviere
Dr Lakshaman Ellepola
Dr Rita Ponce
20 Hill Street, Toowoomba
07 4637 1000

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