FROM THE PRINCIPAL

NAPLAN
The Assessment Program, National Literacy and Numeracy for Year 3 and 5 will be held on Tuesday 12 Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May 2015. We are currently developing our school support program for NAPLAN.
Thank you to parents who have taken the opportunity to discuss their child’s participation in NAPLAN this year. If you have any concerns about your child’s participation and support requirements please contact your child’s teacher as soon as possible.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent teacher interviews are continuing throughout this week. Thank you to those who have made an interview time.

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.

Student advantage —
Free Microsoft Office software for students' personal computers
All Queensland state school students are now able to download multiple copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite onto their personal devices. This suite provides students with the latest full versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote and more.
https://mishelp.eq.edu.au/studentadvantage/Pages/default.aspx
Gazette Distribution
Due to changes in our IT systems and with the development of the QSchools app, we have decided to discontinue the notification via email of our newsletters. We apologise for any inconvenience.
To keep up-to-date with news from Gabbinbar State School you can:
- See our website at gabinbarrss.eq.edu.au from 5pm Wednesdays of school weeks for the latest Gabbinbar Gazette (newsletter)
- See our calendar and news at our website
- Install the QSchools app on your smartphone, tablet or PC. Just install then add Gabbinbar as a favourite school and allow push notifications
- Collect a paper copy of the newsletter (or ask your child to) from the office from 3pm Wednesdays

Free Dress Day
Last Wednesday the Student Council organized a Free Dress Day. We raised $380.00 to support the Toowoomba Hospice. Student Council members, Tammy, Kya and Dahra presented Mr Ray Dallman representing the Hospice with the money raised. Thank you to everyone who donated a gold coin.

Music Notes
Choir:
A great start to year has seen both choirs settling into their rehearsals really well. Our Junior choir has grown again this year, and as they work through the preparatory work on FANFARE, June 2, I am genuinely impressed with the quality of their sound. A lovely group, who are working hard in their rehearsals, whom you can hear sing at parade next Friday.
Our Seniors are a great group, and are just about to commence working with our accompanist, Miss Pam Duanne, in the build-up to the 2015 Eisteddfod in May. They were listed to sing for ANZAC day, but time has beaten us. Both Choirs combined at Harmony Day Parade to lead the school in “I am Australian” – and what a wonderful sight and sound spectacle we had with nearly 80 voices combined.
A reminder of the importance of folders to come to rehearsals – especially the Junior Choir. So much musicality is covered, and it simply can’t be comprehensively worked on without the scores there. PLEASE ensure your child has their folders on their day of rehearsals.

Upcoming performances:
JUNIOR:- School Assembly - March 27.
“Those Magnificent Men"

Classroom Music:
We have all enjoyed a wonderful 1st term’s work in all Grades. The Junior grades continue to have the fundamentals of beat and rhythm reinforced through songs and games, and we work on developing their awareness of pitch range in the voice. Meanwhile, the middle and upper grades continue to extend their music reading and writing skills, along with extending their rhythmic skills, through our arrangements of simple melodies, with the addition of tuned and untuned percussion. A written assessment will be held in Week 10 for Grades 2 – 6, where we’ll review the term’s work.
Thank you for noting these.

Brett Gredig.
Classroom Specialist and Choir Conductor.

Library News
Students are very welcome to borrow library books over the Easter holidays. Students in years 1 – 6 can borrow the usual two books, and students in prep can borrow one. Students in years 5 and 6 can request to borrow additional books – please see Mr Seng or Mrs McMillan in the library.
We also welcome parents to the library with their child before or after school (from 8:15 am; until 3:30 pm) to help choose books.
Anthony Seng
Teacher-Librarian

MOTHERS MORNING TEA
Thursday 26 March
9.00am – 10.30am
Gabbinbar State School Hall
Hosted by City Women on the third Thursday of every month. Everyone is welcome to attend.

School News

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>25.03.15</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting @ 7pm</td>
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<td>26.03.15</td>
<td>Parents’ Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>27.03.15</td>
<td>Assembly – Leader Induction</td>
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<tr>
<td>27.03.15</td>
<td>Assembly – Junior Choir Singing</td>
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<td>02.04.15</td>
<td>Cross Country/Jogathon</td>
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<td>02.04.15</td>
<td>Tuckshop Meal Deal</td>
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<tr>
<td>02.04.15</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.04.15</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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Disco News
It was absolutely fantastic to see so many people at our Disco last Wednesday night. It was our first Disco with the Year 3’s joining our “Senior Disco”. The Discos continue to be an excellent fundraiser and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Harmony Day Parade
Gabbinbar State School celebrated HARMONY DAY last Friday with a parade of 19 different nations/cultures. Many students chose to wear their traditional dress, making it a very colourful affair. We are very proud to have so many cultures enriching our school community. Thanks to all the parents who joined us for the occasion.

We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
Gabbinbar Cross Country
Thursday 2nd April 2015
On Thursday 2nd April Gabbinbar will be staging their annual Inter House Cross Country. This is an event open to all students from Prep to Year 6. The races will commence at 9:15am with our older students running their long course.
Below is an approximate timetable of when races will be held. If you are planning to come and see your child run, please be early as the starting times are a guideline only.
In the words of the Australian Youth Choir. “Early is on time, on time is late”
9:30am Boys and Girls born 2005
9:45am Boys and Girls born 2006
10:00am Boys born 2010
10:10am Girls born 2009
10:30am Girls born 2009
10:40am Boys born 2008
10:50am Girls born 2008
11:00am Boys born 2007
11:10am Girls born 2007
Students are invited to wear their House colours:
Rudd Red
Nelson Blue
Evans Yellow

Representative Sport News
Congratulations to Lillian Hanssen on being selected in the Range Zone Touch team to trial for the Darling Downs Touch team. This week we have a large number of boys and girls trialing for zone teams in soccer and AFL. Good luck to all students on their endeavours.

Tuckshop News

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tuckshop Day</th>
<th>Tuckshop Helpers</th>
<th>Tuckshop Home Bakers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26 March Term 1</td>
<td>Larry Heuston  Julie Manteit  Lexie Shackleton</td>
<td>Cheri Ochnio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31 March Term 1</td>
<td>Larry Heuston  Kerrie Dow / Kylie Tomasi  Donna Elsey (8.30-10.00)</td>
<td>Nat Herbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 April Term 1</td>
<td>Larry Heuston  Charmaine Ingledew  Rob Callow</td>
<td>Not Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21 April Term 2</td>
<td>Larry Heuston  Kerrie Dow / Jane Higgs  Lisa Ramsey (Baking)</td>
<td>Penni Harth  Nat Herbert  Janet Edwards</td>
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We will be having a meal deal on Thursday 2nd April (last day of term) order forms have been sent home, they must be returned by Tuesday 31st April to the Tuckshop. The meal deal is for the first break only, there will be no second break available or other food items. (The only food available is this meal deal and only at first break, we will be closed second break) Larry Heuston 0417731126 or leanne.heuston@bigpond.com

Uniform Shop
Uniforms can be purchased from 8 am -11 am each day. Parents can also place a uniform order for collection at this time. New orange and blue scrunchies are now available for $4 each. Cash Only.

Second Hand Uniform Sales
Second Hand Uniforms are for sale on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9 am or by appointment by phoning Sharon 0423 654 259. PLEASE NOTE: Sales are CASH ONLY.

P & C NEWS
P & C Meeting
Please Note: The monthly meeting of the P & C will be held TONIGHT, Wednesday 25 March at 7pm. Everyone is most welcome to attend.
P & C Fundraising
This year’s jog-a-thon will take place on the 2nd April. As this is also the cross country, all students will be encouraged to participate, not only to raise money for the school, but to score points for their sports house. Sponsorship forms were sent home last week. More forms are available from the office if your child missed out.
There are some awesome prizes to reward and thank students for their efforts. There is also a prize for the highest fundraising student.

Easter Raffle & Guess the Number of Eggs Competition
The P&C are holding an Easter Raffle. Tickets are $1 and are available in the office. There is 1st and 2nd prizes for grabs. We are also running a Guess the number of eggs. The jar of eggs is in the office. Come in and have a guess of how many chocolates are in the jar. Each guess costs 50 cents.
P & C Fundraising Committee

OSHC
Hi and welcome to another week of Out Of School Hours Care. Vacation care is only 1.5 weeks away! The booking forms are out NOW! Remember that we provide all meals during Vacation Care, ensuring children have nutritious meals and snacks throughout the day. Fees are reduced if you complete your booking forms before the holidays. We have planned some fun days based on what the children like to participate in!

Lost
A navy Schwartz watch was left in the hall after a PE lesson on Monday. If you have seen the watch please bring to the school office.

Social Committee News
Attention all Coca Cola drinkers. We want your Coke Rewards Labels! Do you have labels from the Coke range that you are simply throwing out? The students who help run the school disco are seeking your unwanted Coke Rewards labels. We are hoping to collect the labels and turn them into prizes. Students can drop off their labels to Mr Hanssen’s class which is located behind the tuckshop.

We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
TOOWOOMBA GIRLS HAVE A BLAST WITH CRICKET

Summer in Australia means cricket, and in Toowoomba, the summer months have seen Captain Cook Reserve play host to a spectacular scene on a weekly basis. Over 260 girls have been congregating at these playing fields to participate in an eight-week MILO T20 Blast cricket program. Current Australian Southern Stars player, Delissa Kimmince, and QLD Fire Coach, Andy Richards, travelled up to Toowoomba on Friday 20 March to check out the girls in action. They, along with Toowoomba Regional Councillors Sue Englert and Ros Scotney, commented that it was a beautiful scene to see so many girls involved in this fantastic program.

Delissa and Andy encouraged the girls to continue on their cricketing journey over the coming years, by seeking opportunities to get involved within the Toowoomba Junior Cricket Association, in traditional forms of club cricket, as their skills continue to improve via the coaching and experience that they gain through participation in MILO T20 Blast programs.

This gradual skills progression will continue to hinge around the girls’ involvement in the MILO T20 Blast Programs at Captain Cook Reserve and/or at Heritage Oval (which runs on Thursday nights) within the Toowoomba region. Some of the girls have already developed the skills that have enabled them to make the step to junior club cricket, which could prove to be their first step on a path to the very top. After all, it was at the Captain Cook fields that Delissa once plied her trade as a youngster. This trade has since taken her all the way to winning a Cricket World Cup final and making a career out of cricket as a member of the national squad.

QLD Cricket Regional Cricket Officer, Bruce Deem, and Chair of QLD Primary School Cricket, Mark Ryle, can both be very proud of the support that they have given to girls’ cricket within the region. Cricket is a great sport for girls and the efforts of these gentlemen, have certainly provided a new wave of cricketers with a love of this great game. QLD Cricket applauds their ongoing work with supporting and growing the game on the Darling Downs.

For more information about how you can look to get your daughter (8-13 year olds) involved in MILO T20 Blast, please contact Market Development Manager, Tony Johnson, at tonyj@qld.cricket.com.au

Karate Lessons

$3 Kids Karate – 9:30am to 10am, Tuesday 7 April and Thursday 9 April 2015 at Queens Park, Lindsay St, Toowoomba. Activities are suitable for 5 to 15 years, and bookings are essential. All proceeds donated to Fighters Against Child Abuse Australia. To join or for more information Moneita 0407 756 332 or sharpekidskarate@gmail.com.