FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent Information Nights
Thank you to parents who have attended their child’s parent information sessions this week. Below are information sessions to be held this week. These sessions will be held in your child’s classroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 17 February</th>
<th>Thursday 18 February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Years 5 &amp; 6</strong></td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/GI, 6C, 6W</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 4</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4E, 4R</td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
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</table>

Religious instruction
We are providing religious instruction (RI) for students in Years 1 to 6 from Thursday 18th February 2016. Our school will offer Connect Program delivered by the instructors from a variety of church groups who are partners in a cooperative agreement. RI will occur on Thursday 11.40 – 12.10pm Year 5, 6 & A1, 12.10 – 12.40pm Year 1 & 2, 12.40 – 1.10pm Year 3 & 4. Students that do not participate in RI are provided with other instruction.

The information on your child’s enrolment form is used to place them in either RI or in other instruction, unless you have provided additional written advice to the school.

If we do not already have clear advice from you about your child’s participation in RI please provide this to the school in writing.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd March 2016 from 3.30pm – 6.30pm. Please note that PW will not be held on Wednesday an alternate date will be advised.

A timetable to nominate your preferred time will be sent home in coming weeks.

Assemblies
All members of our school community are welcome to attend our school assemblies on Friday of each week. They are conducted in the hall and commence at 9.00am. All parents and family members are invited to attend.

Procedure for Early Departure:
**Prep parents** – Sign child out at office, member of Admin. will ring teacher or aide and inform them that parent is on their way down to collect.

**Yr 1- Yr 6** – Sign child out at the office and wait at office. Admin. staff will send the message down to classroom for student to pack up and walk to office to be picked up by parent.

Procedure for Late arrival:
**Prep-6** – Parent to sign the child in at the office.
School News

2016 school holidays and term dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 27 January - Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>9 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 11 April - Friday 24 June</td>
<td>11 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 11 July - Friday 16 September</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 4 October - Friday 9 December</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Date Claimers

- 19.02.16 Yrs 5/6 Friday Sport
- 19.02.16 Leaders Speak on Assembly
- 19.02.16 Scholastic Book Club Orders close
- 24.02.16 P & C AGM and General Meeting
- 25.02.16 Mothers’ Morning Tea
- 01.03.16 Chess Championships
- 04.03.16 Clean Up Australia/Schools
- 04-10.03.16 Book Fair in the Library
- 04-14.03.16 Life Education
- 11.03.16 Jnr Choir on Assembly
- 18.03.16 Harmony Day Parade
- 22.03.16 Cross Country (All Grades) 9.00-11.00am
- 24.03.16 Mothers Morning Tea
- 24.03.16 Last Day Term 1

MOTHERS MORNING TEA

25 February
9.00am – 10.30am
Gabbinbar State School Hall
Hosted by City Women on the third Thursday of every month. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Student Leaders

Students in Year 6 have been invited to participate in our 2016 Leadership Program. Students will present a speech to staff and peers at Assembly on Friday 19 February which will be followed by a ballot open to students from Year 5-6 and all staff. House Captain speeches will be made later that day or the following Monday, time permitting, to students in Year 4-6 in each house, with a ballot to follow.

Student Arrival and Pick-Ups

Parents are advised that children should not arrive at school before 8.15am as playground equipment is out of bounds. Students who arrive at school before 8.30am must report to the Science lab. Children should be ready to begin work in class by 8.50am.

Lunch breaks are 11:00 – 11:40am and 1:10 – 1:45pm.

Unexplained Absences

Absences that are “Unexplained” are recorded as such, and are highlighted in your child’s Report Card at the end of each Semester. Does your child have any Unexplained Absences?

- A reminder to all parents that it is your responsibility to notify the school of your child’s absence. You can do this in four simple ways by:
  1. Phoning the school on 4631 5260.
  2. Sending a signed and dated note to school with your child.
  3. Emailing the school via our website – click on the tab ‘Absentee-eLine’ and emailing us.
  4. Emailing directly: absences@gabbinbarss.eq.edu.au

Changes to distribution of the Gazette

The Gabbinbar Gazette will be published every second Wednesday of the school term. It is available from our website gabbinbarss.eq.edu.au from 5 pm Wednesdays. If you would like a paper copy, students and parents/carers can collect it from 8.30am Thursday mornings from the office.

The QSchools app is the best way to keep up-to-date with events and news at Gabbinbar. To install it on your smartphone, tablet or PC, search the App Store, Google Play, or Windows Store for “QSchools”. Once installed, search for Gabbinbar and add us as a favourite. Also allow push notifications from the school; this allows us to alert you of important or emergent school news and to notify the community when the Gazette is available. More information about QSchools can be accessed from the link on our homepage.

With more parents/carers accessing our school news via QSchools app, we have decided to discontinue the email notification of the availability of the newsletter; we apologise for any inconvenience.

Student of the Week

Week 2:- Elaina (PW), Isobel (PS), Lachlan (PC), Leilani (1L), Thomas (1L), Deklin (LF), Mia (1LF), Jorge (1P), Stephanie (1P), Hailey (2G), Rose (2G), Ella (2F), Jack (2R), Xavier (3M), Katie (3H), Bianca (3F), Ella (4R), Jake (4E), Cameron (5D), Luke (5M), Karina (5M), Ethan (5/6I), Bailee (6C), Lola (6W), Dominic (A1)

Week 3:- Jaxen (PW), Jorah (PS), Katherine (PC), Seth (1L), Eden (1L), Felicity (1LF), Freddy (1P), Ellord (1P), Marcos (2G), Jack (2R), Eoin (2R), Addison (3M), Rasheed (4R), Sylvia (4E), Emily (6C), Bailee (6C)
Gotcha Awards
Week 2: Niamh (2F), Rory (5/6I), Sophie (1P)

Week 3: Kyden (5M), Blake (5/6I), Siena (4E), Tianna (6C)

Classroom Music Notes
A great start to the year has seen all classes engaged in some great music making over the first few weeks of the year. The first round of recorder lessons for the Grade 4’s has been a revelation to all concerned...especially the children who are discovering that moving the fingers on their left hands is far harder than what it sounds!!! Thanks for persevering with them, families, as we go through the first few weeks of making duck noises and the like!

CHOIRS:
Our 2 choirs are into rehearsals and working very hard already. Numbers are up again this year, and we look forward to enjoying their music as the year progresses.

Choir Membership Letter returns.
Thanks to the many children who have promptly returned their Choir Agreement and levies to the office. There are still a few outstanding. I would ask that if you follow this up promptly if yours is outstanding. This is the written commitment that the children (and you) make to the choral program, and we endorse it as another way of encouraging our children to assume responsibility for their decisions.

SEMESTER 1 DATE CLAIMERS:
Senior Choir:
Harmony Day Parade March 18 School Hall
School Parade June 3 School Hall
SINGOUT June 14, 15 or 16 Empire Theatre
Semester 1 Music Night June 7 School Auditorium

Junior Choir:
Harmony Day Parade March 18 School Hall
School Parade March 11/May 13 School Hall
Semester 1 Music Night June 7 School Auditorium

Thank you for noting these.
Brett Gredig.
Classroom Specialist and Choir Conductor.

Schools Clean Up day is FRIDAY March 4
Gabbinbar State School will be participating in the 25th Anniversary Schools Clean Up Day. We are registered as a ‘clean-up’ site. There are over 1300 schools registered! Students will work with their classes to clean allocated areas of the school with their teachers at a time that suits during the day. Students are encouraged to bring a pair of gloves for this activity.
Local community events for Clean Up Australia will take place on Sunday 6 March and can be found on the council website.

Teaching our children that picking up rubbish is important to preserve our environment!

Library News
We love to see students borrowing books each week. We have a wide range of books with something for every child. Our library currently has:
- 1117 Junior fiction books
- 148 Junior non-fiction books
- 3093 Fiction books
- 2145 Non-fiction books
- 149 Magazines
- 271 Youth picture books
- 114 Youth fiction books (for year 6 only)

Prep to year 3 students must have a library bag to borrow; older students are encouraged to use library bag. Library bags can be purchased from the office for $10.
Prep students may borrow one book each week; older students may borrow two. Please note your child’s current library day and remind them to take library bags/books to school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PW 1P 6W</td>
<td>PS 1LF 5/6I 5D 5M</td>
<td>1L 4R 4E 6C</td>
<td>A1 2R 2F</td>
<td>PC 2G 3M 3H 3F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anthony Seng
Teacher-Librarian

Tallebudgera Year 6 Camp
On Monday 8th of February the year 6s departed to go to Tallebudgera Beach School. During the week we were challenged by a variety of exciting activities including tobogganing, canoeing and body boarding. In smaller teams we worked together to complete tasks to develop problem solving skills such as the beach challenges (jail break, biggest hole, sea critters). A highlight of the camp was visiting the David Fleay’s Wildlife Park. We also climbed Burleigh Mt (hill) and the view was great. Everyone had a great experience, fun and overcame some fears and challenges.

By Riley, Jack E. and Lulu

P & C News
The Annual General Meeting followed by the monthly meeting of the Gabbinbar P & C will be held on Wednesday 24 February at 7pm in the Admin block. All members of the Gabbinbar School community are most welcome to attend.

Fundraising
Ceramic Tile Fundraiser - Thank you to those who participated in this fundraiser. Tiles will be back at the school towards the end of the month. We are still looking for a tiler to help us complete the project so if anyone knows of a tiler who would be willing to donate their time please contact the P&C.

School Fun Run - The school will be holding their cross country on 22 March. Once again the P&C will be conducting their annual fun run to coincide with the cross country. Sponsorship forms will be sent home shortly.
Every student who raises $10 or more gets to choose a prize from the sponsorship form and this year they will also be automatically entered into the draw for a chance to win a 2 night family holiday at SeaWorld resort to the value of $600. Please note this prize only covers accommodation.

Again there will be a prize for the highest fundraiser, this year is an iPod shuffle 2GB. There will also be a class party for the class who raises the most money.

If you have any questions please contact the P&C.
Mobile Dental Clinic News
The Mobile Dental Clinic 42A is open each Monday - Friday from 8.30am until 4.00pm.

Our phone number is 0408 767 779

Registration forms have been issued to all students and we are making appointments with all families who have returned their registration forms. Appointments will be made with their parent/carer so they can attend with their child/children at times that are suitable with the dental van and parent.

If there are any concerns please contact the Dental Van.

Thank you
Karen, Sandra, Brenda and Mel
Dental Staff

Tuckshop News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuckshop Day</th>
<th>Tuckshop Helpers</th>
<th>Tuckshop Home Bakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Rebekah Nelson Rob Callow/Letisha Gant</td>
<td>Sharon Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23 February</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Belinda Parkes/Chiara Oeser</td>
<td>Ryan Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 25 February</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Rebekah Nelson Charmaine Ingleedew/Jennie O’Reilly</td>
<td>Nat Herbert/Sue Long Sarah Brown-Duthie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1 March</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Belinda Parkes/Leslie Howman</td>
<td>Enn Belot</td>
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</table>

A very warm welcome to our new helpers and home bakers. “Hello Pandas” are not available till April.

White Wings Cookies are available in their place.
Larry Heuston 0417731126 or leanne.heuston@bigpond.com

Scholastic Book Club
Preferred method of payment - Credit card payments and orders can be made online, or on the iPhone or Google play apps (see back of this page for more info on LOOP) these order forms do not need to be returned to school. It will automatically appear in the class orders when I finalise them. Or, if paying by credit card on the scholastic phone number or with cash or a cheque made to Scholastic Australia, return the order form to the school office.

Orders for Issue 1 are due back to the school by Friday 19th February. The books will arrive around two weeks after I send the class order to Scholastic.

Free feel to call or text if you have any questions or concerns 0403 674 443.
Kind regards, Dениnne Gillies

OSH
Hello and welcome to OSHC News! We would like to welcome back our families, and welcome all of our new families for 2016!

After school care has filled quickly, with only some vacancies left. If you require care, please ring and collect our Enrolment package to be on the waiting list.

Before school care is also nearing capacity. During the warmer months we will now program for limited outdoor play in the mornings.

A reminder to all families to let us know if your child is not attending on their booked day. This ensures your child is safe and reduces your fees and additional charges.

Please inform us if your child has an Asthma Plan or any other medical issues. We have purchased another First aid box to store medication.

Davina Quinn, OSHC Coordinator, Gabbinbar State School 07-4631 5266

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Uniform Shop
New uniforms can be purchased every morning before 11am at the office.

Second Hand Uniforms
Get prepared for winter early. $5 off jumpers this month.
Shorts and trackpants - $3 (Excludes consignment items).

Hours: Wednesday morning 8:45 -9:15am
Thursday afternoon 2:45 -3:15pm
Contact: Kylene 0412 020 030

Chappy Word
Hi Everyone,
It has been wonderful to catch up with so many of you already this year and to meet some of you for the first time. Please remember that we will be having our first Mothers morning tea next week the 25th of February, 9am at the hall, it is a great opportunity to relax have a cuppa and chat.

This week I have found an article on how to understand your child’s feeling with starting school. I found it on the Kids Matters website which always has useful information about raising children. This is a long article which will continue next week. If you wish to read the whole article I have provided the link below.

Understanding Behaviour
Starting school involves a big change for your child. It is normal for children to have strong feelings as they start to think about these changes, such as excitement about the prospect of going to school as well as nervousness about what lies ahead. Your child may also be feeling sad or angry about leaving early childhood education and care. This includes letting go of relationships formed with educators and other children, as well as a change to their familiar routines. Some common feelings children have during transition to school can include:

- excitement
- sadness
- anger
- anticipation
- fear or anxiety

Understanding and helping your child to handle the feelings associated with starting school will help to reduce their stress and can provide them with positive coping strategies.

Common behaviours
Young children often have difficulty explaining in words how they feel. Instead they may show their feelings through their behaviour. Some behaviours may be easier to spot like tantrums and crying, while others may be more difficult to notice like being quieter than usual. During the transition to school you may notice the following behaviours emerge or increase in frequency:

- clinging behaviour (e.g. not wanting to separate from you)
- restlessness (e.g. difficulty settling at activities, easily distracted, fidgeting)
- withdrawing (e.g. not participating in familiar activities, less engaged, less willing to persist)
- being anxious (e.g. shyness, fidgeting, stomach aches, needing excessive reassurance around the routines or plans for the day)
- refusing to comply (e.g. not wanting to follow rules and routines)
- avoidance strategies (e.g. increased negotiations around participation)
- planning and organisation difficulties (e.g. trouble getting started, remembering or finishing tasks)
- increase in crying and tantrums (e.g. more often or in more situations)
- changes in eating habits (e.g. loss of appetite, becomes fussy with food, overeating)
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· sleep difficulties (e.g. trouble falling or staying asleep, nightmares)
· regression to younger behaviours (e.g. bedwetting, thumb sucking, baby talk)
· aggressive behaviours (e.g. hitting, kicking, shouting).

These behaviours are examples of different ways children respond to challenging situations. They are very typical for children within this age group and you have probably already noticed some of these behaviours during other times of change. However, if the behaviours persist or are interfering with your child’s daily life it is a good idea to get further help.

What these behaviours may communicate

As it can be difficult for children to explain how they are feeling, it is often up to the adults around them to help work out what feelings and emotions may be underlying a child’s behaviour. As parents and carers, you are in the best position to help work out how your child may be feeling. It can be useful to do this in collaboration with your child’s educator and teacher, who will also have a good insight into your child. When you notice these changes in behaviour, you will still need to reinforce or set clear limits for your child while thinking carefully about what it might be telling you.

Understanding how your child is feeling and why they are behaving in a particular way can help you work out how to support them, emotionally and practically. For instance, when you notice a change in behaviour you might ask yourself:

· What is my child feeling?
· Why might they be feeling that way?
· Have they behaved this way before?
· How did I support them previously?

A message from Chappy Tricia

This article was resourced from: raisingchildren.net.au

West Wanderers Football Club

Soccer registrations for West Wanderers Football Club are closing soon. West Wanderers is situated on the southern side of Toowoomba at Neil E Robinson park on Hume Street, between Alderley and Stenner Streets. Please register online by following the instructions on our website

www.westwanderers.org

Once registered further details regarding Muster Day will be forwarded to you.

Any questions please contact us at juniorvp@westwanderers.org

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Have Fun, Get Active & Try Synchronised Swimming.

Sunday 28th February, we are hosting a free activity at Milne Bay Aquatic and Fitness Centre to introduce the sport of synchronised swimming to Toowoomba. This will be the first time synchronised swimming has been in the region for many years and we hope to have a fun, relaxed and successful day.

Girls aged 7 to 10 are kindly welcomed to our free Come and Try session to try something new and discover the sport of synchronised swimming and meet our friendly Aqualina team. Synchronised swimming is creative sport which allows girls to develop swimming confidence whilst improving their strength, endurance, fitness, creativity and coordination.

DATE: Sunday 28th February 2016
TIME: 10:00am - Midday
VENUE: Milne Bay Aquatic and Fitness Centre

Bookings required. To register, simply visit www.aqualina.org.au/toowoomba
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

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Dr Lakshman Ellepola
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