FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Every Day, Every Hour and Every Minute Counts at Gabbinbar!

Fact 1: Gabbinbar’s average student attendance rate has increased this year from 93.5% in Semester 1 2015 to 94.7% for 2016. While in over 50% of cases students are away due to illness, 16.3% of absences are unexplained, a figure that should be reduced to 0%.

Fact 2: If a child is 10 minutes late to school every day (in a year), this is equivalent to **32hrs** of class time missed.

Fact 3: If a child averages 1 day per week absence during a school year, this is equivalent to approximately **8 weeks of missed schooling** (it should be noted that a normal school Term is approximately 10 weeks).

Each parent of a child who is of compulsory school age must ensure that the child is enrolled and attends school on every school day for the educational programs in which the child is enrolled unless the parent has a reasonable excuse.

Every Day Counts ……..because children achieve better when they attend school all day, every day.

Every Day Counts……..because going to school means getting a better chance at life.

Every Day Counts……..because school helps children build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Every Day Counts……..because going to school is a legal requirement.

What the law says:

- Under the law, you must make sure your child attends school on ALL school days unless you have a reasonable excuse.
- You must not keep your child away from school for minor reasons.
- Under the law, schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences.

My child cannot attend school, what arrangements do I need to make?

Parents can apply for an exemption from this obligation when their child cannot attend or it would be unreasonable in all the circumstances for their child to attend school or participate in an eligible option for a period of more than 10 consecutive school days.

Situations where an application for an exemption may be made include:

- Illness
- Family reasons
- Cultural or religious reasons

If your child is exempted from compulsory schooling, you are excused from your obligation in relation to compulsory schooling or compulsory participation.

The school principal is not responsible for providing an educational program to your child, however they may provide advice on other educational options available.

Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away?

Yes – Parents must let the school know the reason for the absence, if not beforehand, then within two days of their child’s return to school.

Can I take my child out of school for family and social occasions?

No – You should arrange leisure activities, visits to family and friends and shopping trips outside of school hours.

Does the occasional day away from school really affect my child’s education?

Yes – Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2016

Since 2008, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools. The program continues in 2016 with all students in Years 3 and 5 being assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

Who will sit the tests?
All students in Years 3 and 5 are expected to participate in the assessment program. If your child has special circumstances, you should discuss these with the school Principal.

When will the tests be held?
The tests are scheduled for the mornings of the 10, 11 and 12 May (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, commencing at 9.00am.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete a ‘catch-up’ test at another time during the week. Individual students who are absent on test days are not permitted to sit tests after Friday, 13 May.

What will be assessed?
The content of each test is informed by the National Statements of Learning in English and Mathematics, which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Test questions cover aspects of Literacy (Reading, Writing, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) and Numeracy. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response.

Where can I find example questions?
Sample question and writing tasks that parents can utilise to better understand what will be tested and/or to assist their children can be found on the Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority website:
https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/naplan/test-preparation

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later in the year.

Service

ANZAC DAY
Friday 22nd April 9.00am in place of our regular assembly.
Parents and community are invited to attend.

School News

2016 school holidays and term dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 11 April - Friday 24 June</td>
<td>11 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 11 July - Friday 16 Sept</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 4 October - Friday 9 Dec</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2016 Gabbinbar Inter-House Cross Country

Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Chloe Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Jaxen Salmi</td>
<td>Lachlan Warmington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Isobel Heinrich</td>
<td>Gabrielle Reimers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Dustin Hohn</td>
<td>Annalise Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Abit</td>
<td>Mia Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Harry Parrington</td>
<td>Addison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Biar</td>
<td>Siena Dawson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Callum Wright</td>
<td>Keziah Mayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Hans</td>
<td>Kynna Crump</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Champions

1st Place Evans 317 points
2nd Place Nelson 284 points
3rd Place Rudd 277 points

Congratulations to all runners who took part in the Cross Country. Thanks to all parents, family and friends for coming along and cheering for our students.

PREP NEWS

Congratulations Prep W Students
All Prep W students earned a FREE ENTRY to the Toowoomba Show by doing paintings, collage and handwriting entries. WELL DONE!

Intermediate Chess Term 2
Intermediate Chess players are invited to tutoring on Thursdays at 11am in the Science Room with Mr Lord. Lessons will start THURSDAY 28 APRIL with a cost of $30 for 9 lessons. Permission forms are available from the office.

MOTHERS MORNING TEA

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

Harmony Day

We celebrated Harmony Day with a parade of Nations on Assembly – around twenty-five different countries and cultures were represented.

We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
The Student Council organised “A Taste of Harmony” at first break, where students sampled the food of different cultures from around the world. Some of the countries represented were Germany, Italy, Indigenous Australia, France, India, Taiwan, England and South Africa. The crowd favourites included pizza from Italy and a traditional South African dish made from white maize. We raised $270 in total. This money will be donated to the Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support Services. Students representing the different cultures on Harmony Day.

Music Notes:

CLASSROOM MUSIC:
We all enjoyed a wonderful 1st terms work in all Grades with all classes settling into the expected routines. The Junior grades will continue to have the fundamentals of beat and rhythm reinforced through songs and games, and we will 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 reinforcing their rhythmic skills, through our arrangements of simple melodies, with the addition of tuned and untuned percussion.

CHOIR:
A great start to the year has seen both choirs settling into their rehearsals really well. 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. Our Junior choir has grown again this year, and 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 on May 13. Our Senior choir are a great group, and will shortly commence working with our accompanist, Miss Pam Duanne, in the build-up to the SINGOUT 2016 in June. A full information letter will be issued in due course. They will be singing for ANZAC day Parade on April 22 and again on Parade on June 3.

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 Parade May 13
“Beyond the Black Stump”

SENIOR:- School Parade June 3
“Motherless Child”
SINGOUT – EMPIRE THEATRE - June 14

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

Chappy Word

Building children’s confidence. Feeling confident helps children do well in all aspects of their life. Confidence is important for developing and maintaining good mental health as confident children are more able to build positive relationships, do better at school and become happier, successful adults. Confident children are also motivated learners.

Confident children are motivated learners.
Children who are confident are motivated to engage in more experiences; they expect to have successful and positive experiences because they have done so in the past. Children who lack confidence in their abilities can sometimes try to avoid having a go at some things and this can stop them from developing the skills they need to tackle tasks confidently.

Here are some ways parents and carers can help build children’s confidence:

1. Encouraging them to participate and have a go!
Encouraging children to have a go and valuing individual improvement is one good way to support children’s confidence. Participation is less about winning and losing, and more about valuing individual effort, persistence and improvement. It’s important to celebrate with children the experience of participating in something for the enjoyment it creates, rather than for a reward.

2. Supporting their self-esteem
Confidence and self-esteem go hand in hand. It’s important to help children feel positive and accept themselves the way they are, and see that they don’t have to be as good as everyone else.
Confidence improves through building on small successes, so make sure you celebrate your child’s improvements and successes. When a child says he or she can’t do something that you know he or she can do, try not to get caught up in the attempts to avoid doing the task. Instead, try and motivate the child by making the task fun and interesting. You might set a challenge to help make learning fun, for example: “I wonder how many spelling words you can get through in one minute?” Reminding children of positive goals can also help them to keep trying, for instance: “Keep practising a few more times. Just think how proud you will feel when you are ready to perform in a couple of weeks.”

3. Dealing positively with disappointment
Children need to learn ways to deal with disappointment positively, and to feel good about their efforts - win or lose.
When children are disappointed, it’s easy for them to get into an “I can’t” or “I’m no good” mindset, which can chip away at confidence. Participation is less about winning and losing, and more about valuing individual effort, persistence and improvement. It’s important to celebrate with children the experience of participating in something for the enjoyment it creates, rather than for a reward.

Parents and carers can help children focus on their own efforts and on achieving personal goals as the best way to measure success.

Here are some good tips for helping children deal positively with disappointment:

- Responding sympathetically and with encouragement (e.g. “that was disappointing, but at least you had a go.”).
- Helping children focus on what they can change to make things better, rather than thinking that the situation is unchangeable or that there is something wrong with them (e.g. “What can you try that might make that work better next time?”)
- Challenging ‘I can’t’ thinking by showing and saying you believe in them and reminding them of what they have achieved.

A message from Chappy Tricia.
This article was resourced from the Kids Matter website.

We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
P & C NEWS

P & C Meeting
The monthly meeting of the P & C will be held on Wednesday 20 April at 7pm in the Admin building. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

Fundraising

Election Cake Stall
Many thanks to all the families who generously gave their time to help with the Cake Stall on Election Day. This includes our homebakers and the ladies who helped on the stall. Your help was most appreciated and raised approximately $400.

A big thank-you to our school captains, Sam Leahy and Belita Welsh, who gave up their Saturday morning to help out as well.

School Fun Run
Thanks to every student who helped raised funds. We managed to raise almost $4000 in total. The highest fundraising class was 1LF and the highest fundraising student was Edward Long. Congratulations to the winners.

We are still waiting on sponsorship prizes and once received and checked, they will be delivered to the classrooms, including the prizes for highest fundraiser and highest fundraising class. We will also be drawing the prize of the accommodation package from Sea World once the voucher has been received.

Mother's Day Stall
The P&C will run the mother’s day stall during the 1st week of May. Date is still to be set.

Mother’s Day Raffle
The P&C will also be raffling some great prizes for mums. Tickets will be available at the stall and will be drawn on assembly the Friday before Mother’s Day.

If you have a small business and would like to donate products for the stall or raffle, or if you can contribute your time to help man the stall, please contact the P&C.

Tuckshop News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuckshop Day</th>
<th>Tuckshop Helpers</th>
<th>Tuckshop Home Bakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14 April</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Rebekah Nelson, Charmaine Ingleed</td>
<td>Sue Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19 April</td>
<td>Larry Heuston, Jane Higgins/Chiara Oeser</td>
<td>Ryan Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 21 April</td>
<td>Larry Heuston/Rebekah Nelson, Rob Callow/Lexie Shackleton</td>
<td>Erin Belot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26 April</td>
<td>Larry Heuston, Belinda Parkes</td>
<td>Nat Herbert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Welcome back everyone, hope you had an excellent Easter holiday break.

Thank you to everyone for their support of the Pizza Meal Day held last term. We raised approximately $300. Many thanks also to the parent helpers and teachers who made the distribution of the meals so quick.

Larry Heuston 0417731126 or leanne.heuston@bigpond.com

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

Second Hand Uniforms
Hours: Wednesday 8.45 – 9.15 and Thursday 2.45 – 3.15.
Contact: Kylene 0412 020 030

Cobb & Co Museum Holiday Programs

Winter Holiday Program
Museum Zoo Program in conjunction with the Room Full of Wild Animals exhibition
Mon 27 June to Fri 8 July 2016 (Weekdays only) $10 each
Daily shows at various times

Have Another Look Captain Cook – Indigenous Week Activities
Mon 1 to Fri 5 August 2016 – 10 am to 2 pm daily – similar program to last year
Make a booking for a one day visit
We value: Achieving our Best, Being Respectful and Responsible, Caring and Confidence
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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@ckd.asn.au
Web: www.ckd.asn.au/gabbinbar
Phone: 07 4613 6205
Fax: 07 4613 6209

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