PRINCIPAL’S ADDRESS

Welcome back
I would like to welcome back all of our families from 2015 and our new families for this year. The 2016 school year has started brilliantly. For most students it is a common experience returning to school, but for our new prep students it is all very new.

I would like to welcome 6 new staff members to the school community. Mrs Nicole Collocott (HOC), Ms Danielle Stapylton (Prep/Year 1), Ms Lucy Comerford (year 5/6), Ms Kayla Tudman (Year 2), Ms Carely Wood (Year 4) and Ms Courtney Bridges (PE and Health). All of the new staff have enjoyed the start at South and are looking forward to getting to know the students, parents and area better in the coming months.

This term I encourage parents to make time to talk with your children’s teacher. This may just be to put a face to the name or discuss any issues parents are concerned about. All of the teachers are very keen to meet their new parents or touch base with parents from last year.

In 2016 the school is aiming to achieve even more wonderful academic results for all of our students. We will once again be focusing heavily on reading and ensuring that all of our students learn the skills to comprehend everything they read.

School newsletter changes – From week 2, 2016
Starting next week we will be moving to an electronic newsletter. If you haven’t got your email address registered with the school simply email Annette Thomas at athom156@eq.edu.au with your name and child’s name and you will be added to our mailing list. The school newsletter is a valuable source of information containing what is happening around the school and classrooms.

Swimming Lessons during PE classes
Swimming will start in Week 2 on Wednesday and Thursday. A note has been sent home with class swimming times. Please contact your classroom teacher if you have questions or concerns about swimming.

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Next P&C meeting:
10th February 5:30 PM
In the Library

Kurt Goodwin
Principal
PRINCIPAL’S ADDRESS cont

Before and After School Care
This year the school has started a before and after school care program in conjunction with Camp Australia. The program will run from 6:30am to 6pm on all school days throughout the 2016 year. For more information please contact the school office or drop into the demountable building near the top oval before or after school.

Regular school attendance
At Gladstone State School we are aiming to have students at school 95% of the time throughout the year. Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day under Queensland law unless there is an acceptable reason such as:
- illness
- competing in school sporting or cultural events.

If your child is going to be absent from school, you must let the school know why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, it is best to advise the school beforehand.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for reasons such as:
- birthdays
- shopping
- visiting family and friends
- if they sleep in
- looking after other children
- minor check ups or care, such as hair cuts.

Establishing good routines around school can assist with regular school attendance. These include:
- have a set time to go to bed
- have a set time to get out of bed
- have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- set a time for daily homework activities
- speak about school positively
- send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, contact the school for advice and support.

Arriving at school before or after school
Parents are asked to wait in the play shed area if they have arrived at school early for drop off or pick up. Before school parents and students should not be around classroom doors or stairs. Teachers are using this time to prepare for the day. In the afternoons parents turning up to classrooms early cause distractions from the final part of lessons. I know parents will understand and support our teachers in this request.

School Uniforms - NEW School named Shorts and Skorts
This year all school uniforms are being sold through the office. School uniforms prices are:
- Shirt - $30
- Shorts - $17.50
- Skort - $20
- Hats - $15
- Swimming Caps - $8

Lunch Breaks:
- 1st Break - 11:10 am (play) - 11:35am (eating) -11:50am
- 2nd Break - 1:30 pm - 1:50 pm
Gladstone South P&C would like to give a well deserved thank you to our numerous volunteers, who have made South a proud and resourceful school community, especially in 2015. The P&C look forward to developing more innovative fundraising ventures in 2016; with the support of our hard working team. Welcome back to all of our continuing families, and a warm welcome to our new students and their families.

HOC Happenings
Hello South students and parents, my name is Nicki Collocott and I am joining the Gladstone South State School Team this year. My position within the school is Head of Curriculum (HOC) and so far I have loved this new role. I have found the staff here to be very warm and welcoming over the last few weeks and yesterday, on the first day of school, found the students to be equally nice.

My role is to work closely with and support classroom teachers, administration staff and outside agencies to ensure the best possible learning experiences can take place and shape each students’ academic progress.

Over the next few days I will be sending home ICP letters and information. If you receive one of these, please sign and date it as soon as possible and return to your child’s classroom teacher. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding these ICPs.

I look forward to getting to know you all during my time here and would like to extend an open invitation to come in and visit me or have a quick chat about how I can improve your child’s learning experience.

If contacting me by email is easier, my address is ncoll55@eq.edu.au or alternatively my direct number is 07 4899 4322.

What’s News?

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Trainings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Starting next week</strong>&lt;br&gt;Wednesday 3rd&lt;br&gt;Thursday 4th of February</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>During school lessons. See Swimming note for your child’s swimming days.</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Thursday 18th&lt;br&gt;Feb 2016</td>
<td>Basketball 10 – 12 years Boys and Girls Port Curtis Trials</td>
<td>Training will be held during lunch times. If interested come see Miss Bridges in the library.</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9</strong>&lt;br&gt;Wednesday 23rd March</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
<td>Training will be held mornings before school, for those who are interested. More information will soon be released about training days.</td>
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COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Junior Squash Superstar Program (Ages 7 - 16)

Designed to introduce juniors to squash, through a fun & interactive program. Fun, Fitness, Skills, Achievement levels

Wednesdays 4 - 5:30p.m. (27th January – 23rd March 2016)
(Beginners group available on Mondays)

Advanced Junior Squad Fridays 4 - 5:30pm by invitation

Coach Richard Williams (Assisted by Junior CQ reps)
Venue - Gladstone Tennis & Squash (Glenlyon Road)

Cost $10 per session (Discount for whole term)

Sessions designed to be fun while progressively developing skills

Please contact Richard Williams
Mob 0407 124636
aytonwilliams@gmail.com

AROUND SOUTH WITH THE P&C

Tuckshop News:

- Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Orders in by 9:30 AM
- Meal Deal next week (Wed Thurs Fri) - Macaroni &Cheese, Spaghetti Bolognaise or Lasagne with juice or flavoured milk $6
- If you do not have a menu, please collect one from the office.

A special thank you to the following volunteers for donating their time in the Tuckshop: Teagan Brookes, Paula D’Arcy and Kirsty Golding.

If you have an hour spare, please consider volunteering at the Tuckshop. We are very flexible with