24th January, 2017
Principal’s News

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2017 school year. It was wonderful yesterday to see all the happy faces as students and their families came in to start the year. It could be my imagination but I think some parents may have had broader smiles than the children ;-) By all accounts our new Preppies have begun the process of settling in very well after some initial tears in the morning again mainly from the parents.

Please remember that classes for 2017 are never set in stone until after Day 8 in that year. We have had a number of enrolments so our numbers are looking pretty good although there are also a number of children who have yet to start the new year so as usual it is difficult to say exactly where we stand at the moment. What it does look likely at this early stage is that we should be able to continue with the classes we planned for. If you know of anyone who has yet to enrol please strongly encourage them to do so. Our resourcing depends on our numbers on Day 8 so it is vital that we have everyone enrolled by then.

We welcome on board Tanya Taylor, Jenny Waters, Marni Telford, Cheryl Liddicoat and Dani Blackburn (curriculum). We know they will have a wonderful time working at Gympie South.

We do have Miss Mac and Mrs A away at the moment. While Miss Mac is away we are thankful that Mrs Reed will take her class full-time for that period and that, in turn Ms Nothdurft will take her class full time. Mrs Wilson is replacing Mrs A who is due back on the 6th of February.

We hope to try out the SMS system for absences tomorrow so please bear with us as we give it a go. It is mandatory that we contact parents if your child has an unexplained absence so if that happens please expect an SMS or phone call from the school. It is important to keep us informed if your child is going to be away.

A reminder to notify the school if your child is going to be, or has been away. If those absences are unexplained then we have certain legal requirements around them that culminate in parents receiving phone calls, letters etc. In the case of any absence please ring the school on 54830460 or email 1221_Admin@eq.edu.au.
As our numbers continue to grow the unfortunate downside is that our carparks are fuller than ever. This is particularly so in the afternoons as everyone is in to pick up their children. I realise that actual carparks can be very hard to find but please remember that the drop off area needs to be kept clear for that purpose. If everyone does that then the whole thing will work more smoothly. The other message is to remember to be patient. Thank you to all those people I witnessed yesterday afternoon doing exactly that in a very slow line. It is good for you and great modelling for the kids so well worth the effort.

Have a wonderful 2017 school year.

Kind Regards,

Mr Wilson (PRINCIPAL) and Mrs Wilson (ACTING DEPUTY)

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**SWIMMING LESSONS**

Swimming lessons during PE time start this week and will continue through until the end of Week 9. Students will require togs, a sunsafe shirt or rashie, towel, swimming bag, hat, sunscreen and footwear. Students are to provide a note if not participating.

Lesson days are listed below:-

- **Tuesday** - 5MW - PJV - 2JD - 3JJ - 5MM - 2JN - 1JA
- **Wednesday** - SEP - PJE - 1JT - 4ML - 5MN - 3JY - 2JP
- **Thursday** - PJM - PJC - 4MP - 4MV - 1JH - 3JR - 1JL
- **Friday** - 6MD - 6MS

Please Note that Prep swimming will start in Week 2.

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**YEAR 3 - 6 Swimming Carnival**

The Year 3 - 6 Interhouse Swimming Carnival will be on Friday, 10th February (Week 3) starting at approximately 9.00 am. Students will do their nominations during PE lessons so they can choose the events they wish to participate in. Students are encouraged to dress up in their team colours but must remember to wear a sunsafe shirt and hat when not competing. A modified tuckshop will operate from the pool (more details on this in a later newsletter). We will require some parents to assist with timekeeping and also 8 parents to swim in the Relay at the end of the day Vs Staff and selected students from each house.

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**District Sport Selection Trials**

Students turning 10 (born 2007), 11 (born 2006) and 12 (born 2005) are eligible to participate in District Sports Selection Trials. Interested students should play the sport regularly and have an above average skill level in their chosen sport/s.

Please see Miss Moy to get a Permission Note if you would like to attend any District Sports Trials as you have to be nominated through the School to participate. Keep an eye on the Date Claimers to know when District Trials are coming up. Please be aware that if you attend District Sport Trials, it is your parents responsibility to transport you to and from the venue.

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**HOT SHOTS TENNIS EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**

Gympie and District Tennis Association Coaches Brett Cottrill & Matt Watkins will commence the HotShots Tennis program on **Thursday 9th February** at Gympie South State School. Lessons will be held **Thursday Lunchtimes** from 11.00am to 11.40am for grades 4 to 6 and 1.10pm to 1.40pm for grades Prep to 3 for a minimum block of 7 weeks. Costs will be $75.00/pupil, $140.00 for 2 children or $190.00 for 3 children in the same family. To register for the program please contact Brett Cottrill on 0417746795 or return the completed form back to the office by Thursday 9th February.

Name…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………. Age……………… Grade/Class…………………………

Contact Phone/s………………………………………………………………………………………………………. Email………………………………………………………………………………

Parent or Guardian Signature……………………………………………………………………………………………

We accept the Get Started Sporting Vouchers. Cash or Cheques made payable to Brett Cottrill please. Direct Deposit B A COTTRILL BSB 014585 ACCT 583359786 students name as reference please. Join our Excellence Program and our weekly Hot Shots Competition for 1 child $140, 2 children $200 or 3 children $250 per term. Our Hot Shots Competitions start Thursday 2nd February at The Reg English Tennis Centre on Cartwright Rd from 3.30pm. Every player who registers receives FREE Gympie Junior Tennis Membership and Tennis Australia Membership.
Life Education Van

In today’s society it is essential that all children have the necessary knowledge and skills to stay healthy and avoid dangerous situations by making smarter choices. It is important that your child participates each year and receives a workbook so the classroom teacher can do follow up work to reinforce what has been presented to your child. All Children from Year 1 to Year 6 will be participating in the Life Education visits.

Cost: $7.00 per child

Payment due the day prior to class attending.
First class will commence Monday, 30th January.