No culture can live, if it attempts to be exclusive.

**NATIDOC**

Over the last three weeks the whole school has been engaged in activities and discussions about Aboriginal and Torres Strait culture and traditions. As part of our engagement with these perspectives, we have been talking about ‘us’. ‘Us’ as a school, ‘us’ as individuals, friends, families and classes. We have all realised that we each have a story about how we came to be at West, and we have all really responded to sharing our stories. To tell our stories, each student has created their own person, and we have attached each of our people to our school fences to show that at West, everyone belongs.

In the spirit of sharing and generosity, our local Gooreng Gooreng community has supported us – sharing traditional stories and histories of the Gooreng Gooreng people. On Friday, Jacqueline Johnson, Neola Savage and Julie Johnson, elders of the Gooreng Gooreng people, together with other members of the community taught traditional dances to all classes in the school. One of our West students was an amazing ambassador for his Gooreng Gooreng community and for West – Marley Brown really showcased his dancing abilities and worked with the Aunties and our guests to demonstrate moves and actions. Marley was a real West ‘hero’.

We also engaged in a variety of traditional games – all great fun, as well as a fantastic way to learn a little about indigenous culture. The day was very successful, and HOT! Thank you to our wonderful staff who worked so positively to make the experiences so rewarding for our students.

**HOLIDAYS AND ENROLMENT**

Over the Christmas break, if you are lucky enough to be away on holidays, we wish you a safe and enjoyable time. If you will still be away after Thursday 5 February 2015 AND you will be returning to GWSS, could you please let us know in WRITING...these means that we can count your students as part of our overall enrolment.

**FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Please note that this assembly will be taking place in week 8 on Friday 28 November from 2pm.

**STUDENTS DEPARTING**

If your child will be departing Gladstone West and not attending in 2015, please advise the office staff. This will assist us when looking at class arrangements for 2015.

**2015 - ENROLMENTS**

As you know, the move of Year 7 into high-school will mean many changes for all primary schools. These changes will have a big impact on our planning and budgeting. We need the numbers of our students and community the more successfully we can meet those needs in 2015. If you are going to enrol your child at Gladstone West State School in 2015 in classes from Prep to Year 6, please complete an application as soon as possible. Enrolment packs are available from the school’s office or downloadable from the school’s website.

**TERM 4 SWIMMING – YEAR 7**

There is NO swimming this week for our Year 7’s. The next swimming lesson is on Tuesday 25 November 2014.

**PARENT TIP**

Make Communication a Priority

You can’t expect kids to do everything simply because you, as a parent, “say so.” They want and deserve explanations as much as adults do. If we don’t take time to explain, kids will begin to wonder about our values and motives and whether they have any basis. Parents who reason with their kids allow them to understand and learn in a nonjudgmental way.

Make your expectations clear. If there is a problem, describe it, express your feelings, and invite your child to work on a solution with you. Be sure to include consequences. Make suggestions and offer choices. Be open to your child’s suggestions as well. Negotiate. Kids who participate in decisions are more motivated to carry them out.

**SWPBS FOCUS**

This week’s SWPBS focus is Responsible: Complete all class tasks on time and to the best of your ability.

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

The last borrowing day for Year 1-7 is this Thursday, 20 November. Parents have already finished borrowing for the year. All books are due back to the library by Thursday 27 November. Please assist your child in bringing their books back on time. Thank you.

**Book Fair**

Many thanks to all our wonderful student and parent helpers. Without you it would be very hard to run Book Fair. Thank you to all who supported Book Fair. You have helped raise $3047 for us to spend on new books for the library. The next Book Fair is in March, 2015.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

The P&C association final fundraiser for the year is our Christmas Raffle. Ticket books were issued to your child/oldest child in the family yesterday. Prizes total $3000.

The multi-draw Raffle will be drawn at the whole school parade on Friday 28 November. Thank you to all our sponsors.

16 great prizes to be won this year include:

- **1 Prize:** $800 Artisan Kitchen Aid – Betta Home Living & P&C Association
- **2 Prize:** $259 Android Tablet – Gladstone Computing Services
- **3 Prize:** $250 Oak Port Barrell – The Gladstone Observer
- **4 Prize:** $200 Go Pro donated by P&C Association
- **5 Prize:** $350 Erico Floor Cleaner & Fire donated by Mrs J Suter & Golden Chicken Voucher
- **6 Prize:** $200 Enjo Car Packs & Pizza Capr Voucher
- **7 Prize:** $100 Tupperware/Wine donated by T Jenkinson & Pizza Capr Voucher
- **8 Prize:** $100 Summer Pack donated by Mrs D Welsh & Golden Chicken Voucher
- **9 Prize:** $100 Barbies Doll & Lego donated by Mrs B Fenton & Knart & Burnings Voucher
- **10 Prize:** $100 Instax Camera & Film donated by Betta Home Living & P&C Association
- **11 Prize:** $100 Family Pass Return Trip on Curtis Endeavour – Curtis Ferries & Golden Chicken Vouchers
- **12 Prize:** $100 Click & Build an Engine Kit – Kin Kira Post Office & Golden Chicken Voucher
- **13 Prize:** $100 Mystique Jeweller Vouchers donated by the Geddes Family & Survalley Meat & Gladstone Fish Market Vouchers
- **14 Prize:** $100 Ipad Mini Christmas Table Runner donated by Adele Halliday & $50 Myer/Coles W’Card.

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**TUCKSHOP ROSTER**

| West Wasps on their way to the GOLD MEDAL!! |

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**NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS**

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**TICKET Raffle BOOKS**

If your family is unable to sell all of the tickets in their book of Raffle Tickets could you please return them to the office ASAP as we have other families who would like extra raffle tickets to sell.

All tickets must be returned sold or unsold by Monday 24 November 2014. Please keep in mind that there is no obligation to sell all of the tickets in your book. The family who sell the most books will win a Ipad Touch & iTunes card valued at $260 courtesy of the P&C. All sold tickets go into the draw for movie passes & prizes to be drawn at assemblies in week 6 & 7.

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**VOLLEYBALL SUPERSTARS!**

West is Best - again! Our school is developing a rich culture of success on the volleyball courts. Several of our past students have gone on as students at Gladstone High to play for Capricornia and Queensland, and the current crop of students have the same player potential!

Last term we entered 15 teams (yes – 15) into the Spikezone competition at Gladstone High. Twelve teams placed in the top 3, and our senior girls – “West Wasps” won their division.

This term we have had two teams (one of Year 6 students and one of Year 7 students) playing in the interschool indoor competition at Toolooa SHS. These teams have played brilliantly – the Year 6’s losing only two games and the Year 7’s just losing one. In Week 8 they will play off for 3rd and 5th respectively.

Mr Rudder would like to thank the students for their commitment to training and their superb conduct both on and off court. These young people are a credit to themselves and to our school. Well done!

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**14TH TERM CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 November</td>
<td>Prep Open Day 9am – 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 November</td>
<td>Prep Open Day 9am – 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 November</td>
<td>Full School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 – 3 December</td>
<td>Yr 7 to 8 Orientation Day - GSHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 – 4 December</td>
<td>Yr 6 to 7 Orientation Day - GSHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>Yr 6 Transition Day – Toolooa High</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 December</td>
<td>Yr 7 Transition Day – Toolooa High</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Year 6 &amp; 7 Presentation 9.30-10.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Report Cards Issued</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Year 7 Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 December</td>
<td>Year 6 &amp; 7 Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Last Day 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 January</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher 2pm – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-22 January</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open – 11am – 12pm</td>
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**SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER - 4979 7333**

**STUDENT ABSENCE LINE - 4979 7366**

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