From the Principal

Yesterday I accompanied the student leaders—all 15 of them—to an all day programme designed to develop leadership skills. It was a high-energy, LOUD and exciting day—fun and challenging...and I saw our kids rocking the dance moves!

We shared with day with representatives from Trinity College, Clinton SS, Yarwun SS, Kin Kora SS, Miriam Vale SS and a couple of others too. The students worked in their school teams as well as sharing ideas with students from the other schools. I may be a little biased—however, the West students were the most amazing, best behaved and deepest thinking students of any who were participating.

Some of the things the students have been talking about here at school, as well as during the course of yesterday’s activities are conducting surveys with the students about how they feel about their learning, what makes them feel safe and any improvements they would like to suggest.

Two activities that the student leaders will be undertaking this term are...

1. ‘Plain clothes’ day in the last week of term, collecting gold-coin donations that will help support our Brekky Club. (Remember Brekky Club is available to all students!).

2. ‘Bullying—No Way’. The national day for ‘Bullying—No Way’ is on the 18 March—we will ‘do’ our day a week earlier. We have an information card and wrist band for every student. To receive a wrist band and information card each student will need to do is answer a simple question... “What will YOU do to help stop bullying?”

2016 Improvement Focus — Writing

Every text has a purpose and is constructed in a particular way to convey meaning. All texts are created to either entertain, inform or persuade. At West we teach our students how to write narratives, recounts, reports, descriptions, explanations, instructions and persuasive texts.

Over the next couple of weeks we will look at the different types of texts in more detail.

Narratives entertain, narrate events and move people emotionally. They have a beginning (orientation), middle (complication) and an end (resolution). Narratives are written in time sequence. Eg. Stories

Recounts entertain and inform us, they retell events in sequence and the writer is usually the expert. Recounts consist of an orientation that tells who, when and where and the events are written in time sequence. Eg. Diaries

Persuasive texts are written to persuade, promote a viewpoint, and substantiate ideas or arguments. Persuasive texts contain a point of view or hypothesis, supporting evidence and a summary or recommendation. Eg. Political speech or newspaper editorial.

We start by teaching our students a simplified version of a text and the complexity increases as students progress across the year levels. In prep students start learning to write a narrative by sequencing pictures in familiar stories and retelling events whereas in year 3, students need to decide on ideas, plan and write their own story.

Next week we will look at Informative texts.

Inside this issue:

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Absences

We have been noticing a pattern developing with our absences. Can you see the pattern? It is a requirement under the Queensland Education Provisions Act 2006, that parents and carers ensure children of compulsory school age are in attendance at school every day.

Some circumstances, such as illness, may prevent 100% attendance but all parents should be aiming for maximum school attendance for their child/ren.

THEIR FUTURE LIFE CHOICE OPTIONS DEPEND ON YOU

---

Every day and every minute counts
What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing part...</th>
<th>The equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that's...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a half years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing per...</th>
<th>The equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that's...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child can perform in...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 days per week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School starts at 8:50am
Classroom doors open at 8:30am

GRIP Leadership

Our Year 6 Student Leaders
### 2016 TERM CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st March</td>
<td>Year 2 Swimming Commenced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd &amp; 3rd March</td>
<td>Year 5 Botanical Gardens Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd—11th March</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>Twilight Netball Carnival—Boyne Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th March</td>
<td>Port Curtis Netball—(By Selection only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th—12th March</td>
<td>Combined Schools Musical—The Addams Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>Year 4—The Addams Family Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th—18th March</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp—Yeppoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Annual General Meeting—6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>GWSS Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Easter Bonnet Parade—Prep—Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Full School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>Public Holiday—Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th April</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2016 TUCKSHOP ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Tammy Honour</td>
<td>Bofoon Cho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brenda Lyons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Shannon Natoli</td>
<td>Kylie Goddard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Maree Offord</td>
<td>Adriana Du Toit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Helen Whitten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Rebekah Gumowski</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maree Offord</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9.00am—10.00am</td>
<td>Manuella Cuda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th March</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>June Wong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Bofoon Cho</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>9.00am—1.30pm</td>
<td>Brenda Lyons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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GLADSTONE WEST STATE SCHOOL
Boles Street
Gladstone
Queensland, 4680

Phone: 49797333
Fax: 49726396
Dental Clinic: 49729364
Email: principal@gladstonewestss.eq.edu.au

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4979 7366

West is Best

We're on the web
www.gladstonewestss.eq.edu.au

www.facebook.com/GladstoneWestStateSchool
Thank you to our wonderful volunteers that have made themselves available for helping out in the Tuckshop.

Breakfast Club has once again commenced in 2016 in the SEP on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7.45.

Parents please inform the SEP if your child has any food allergies.

We have recommenced our Sensory Motor Circuits which is on at the SEP each morning from 8.15-8.45am. This program is designed to improve brain processing efficiency. Each child completes a series of activities to help develop perceptual motor activities that are known to have a significant influence on the development of many school related learning abilities. Most students would prefer to have some structure before school is a safe environment. If you would like your child to participate, please send to the SEP at 8.15am on mornings that suit.

Melanie Pengelly
Head of Special Education Services.

Thank you.

We now have in stock all sizes of our polo shirts (4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, Small and Medium.

Our Uniform shop is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 8am—8.50am. Eftpos is available.

**SWPBS Focus:**

This week’s SWPBS is—RESPONSIBLE by:

“I am SAFE
I am RESPECTFUL
I am RESPONSIBLE

“Playing fairly”

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Melanie Pengelly
Head of Special Education Services.

**Sport**

* AFL Trials - 3 March
* Netball Twilight Carnival - 3 March
* Rugby League (Boys) PJ Marsh 10 yrs - 4 March
* Rugby League Gala Day (Girls) - 4 March
* Rugby League 11/12 yrs Trials - 10 March
* Netball Trials - 7 March (Note that this date has changed)
* Hockey Trials - 10 March
* Soccer Trials (Boys & Girls) - 17 March
* GWSS Cross Country - 21 March
* Tennis 14 April
* Touch Football 21 April
P & C News

**2016 Gladstone West State School**

**West Kid P-6**

**Know the Child – Grow the Child**

**P&C Association**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Date:** Tuesday 15th March  
**Time:** 6.30pm

ALL executive positions are open for nomination with the election to be held during the AGM.

Over the last year the P&C has supplied the GWSS community with a great new Sports shed, buddy benches, musical equipment, supporting the community with our Mother’s and Father’s day stall, our Family Fun Night AND much more!

The P&C Association is a positive and constructive organisation – 1 hour a month, some giggles and conversation, and a massive sense of achievement as we work towards an exciting future for our students, our school and our community. We need YOU!

We look forward to working with you,
GWSS P&C Association.

**Sport**

**Sixt Netball Carnival**

This Thursday 3 March our G.W.S.S Netball Team will participate in the 2016 Twilight Carnival at the Dennis Park Netball Courts, Boyne Island.

The afternoon will commence at 4.00pm, girls are asked to be there by 3.45pm.

*This is the first part of the selection process for Port Curtis Netball*
Sport

The girls put up an amazing effort against Kin Kora with 8 girls vs 12. We unfortunately lost 6 - 1 but not without a fight. Great goalie work by both Amber and Summer (who had her debut goalie experience and was amazing!). Last game next week against Tannum at 4pm!

See you there!
Kind regards,
Melissa Josey

Draw for Next Tuesday 7th March
Girls—4.00pm—West v’s Tannum
Boys—5.40pm West v’s Biloela

Cheerleading
Squad 1—Cheerleading
This Sunday from 8am—3pm our Squad 1 Cheerleaders will be participating in a workshop at G.W.S.S.
Please meet Mrs O at the Basketball courts.

Swimming—Yr 2
Our Year 2’s have commenced their swimming today. Parents please make sure your child’s items are clearly marked with their name.

Thursday 03/03/2016
Tuesday 08/03/2016
Thursday 10/03/2016
Tuesday 15/03/2016
Thursday 17/03/2016
Tuesday 22/03/2016
Thursday 24/02/2016

Year 6 Camp
The Year 6 Camp to the PCYC Capricorn Coast Leadership Development Centre in Yeppoon will go ahead despite limited interest. In order for the camp to proceed we have cancelled one of the buses and the PCYC have altered their price to cater for the limited numbers. Due to this we cannot accept anymore payments.
The Children who are not attending camp will be provided with camp like activities during the week of March 14 until March 18 and a letter will be sent home in the next couple of days detailing the activities involved.

Year 4—The Addams Family Performance at the Gladstone Entertainment and Convention Centre on Wednesday 9 March at 11.00am. Students will travel by bus. Payment and forms are due by Wednesday 2 March.

Year 5—Excursion to the Botanical Gardens will be held over two days. Wednesday 2 March and Thursday 3 March. Students will travel by bus.

School Banking
School Banking is every Tuesday. Drop your Commonwealth Bank Book into your classroom.

If you require a school banking pack, please come and see the ladies in the Admin Office.

Excursions
ICAS Competitions

Information for the upcoming UNSW ICAS competitions went home recently with all students from Year 2—6. Each year the University of NSW conducts assessment tasks (competitions) for children across the South Pacific in a variety of subjects. The objective of these competitions is to help parents gauge the progress of their child against children in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. These competitions are not compulsory but are open to families willing to pay the cost to have their child participate in the task.

There are a variety of competitions to enter, each of which cost $8.00, apart from spelling ($11.00) and writing ($17.00) as they are marked individually. Parents can enter their children in as many of these as they choose. To make the most of this opportunity parents must pay in advance for these competitions. The due date for payments is Friday 18 March. Unfortunately late entries cannot be accepted, as these payments need to be forwarded interstate.

Last year many of our children received “academic excellence awards” and we encourage parents to talk to their children to consider taking on this challenge. Children do not need to sit for each competition, but should consider tackling the subjects they demonstrate confidence in. eg: if they’re good spellers, try the spelling competition!

Parents please note that our Year 2 students are only eligible to sit the Spelling Competition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Sitting Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>17 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>31 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>13 &amp; 17 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>15 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>2 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>16 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Position Vacant

Clinical Nurse Vacancy Part time (0.6 full time equivalent)
State Schools Nursing Service Department of Education and Training
Supporting students and schools in Gladstone and surrounding area

**Key Duties:** Provides educationally relevant nursing services that enable student access and participation in education for students with specialised health needs.

**Skills/Abilities:** Level 2/Grade 6 Registered Nurse. Experience in paediatrics, disability and/or emergency nursing desirable.

**Enquiries:** (07) 48428347 Helen.McCullagh@dete.qld.gov.au
**Applications:** smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interview notes were sent home last Friday to all students. Please return these forms to your class teacher ASAP, so that an interview time can be arranged. These notes can also be found on our Skoolbag Ap or collected from the office.
The Gladstone Mudcrabs JAFC AFL Auskick Centre will be held on Thursday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:00 in Term 1, for 7 weeks. Auskick will start on the 3rd of March and it will be held at the same time and place for the 7 weeks.

Come along and join the fun with your school friends learning a whole range of new skills, playing plenty of fun games, and getting kitted out with the latest Auskick sporting merchandise. This includes your very own Auskick lunchbox, footy, hat, Footy pump, footy cards, and even a height chart. For more information please contact Ben O’Neill on 0488 262 436.