Every Year 3 Indigenous student succeeding through reading

This week will see us start our 10 week program working with our year 3 indigenous students in Closing the Gap through reading. Mr Hoare and Ms Pengelly will begin lessons this week. Students have been identified and placed into groups.

The program provided (a 10-week program of 30-minute sessions every school day) is designed to:

• increase students’ reading volume by engaging them in successful daily reading
• support student’s development and flexible use of reading comprehension strategies
• help students understand the purposes of different text structures, interpret language features and build vocabulary
• develop oral language skills by providing prompts for meaningful student talk
• empower students to use annotation and writing to support and extend comprehension
• support students to access the Year 3 Australian Curriculum
• provide teachers with easy-to-use, close reading opportunities with classroom texts.

Attendance vs Absenteeism

As you are all well aware we here at Gladstone West State School have targets we need to meet regarding attendance of students at school.

In discussions with a parent last week, whose child had days absent due to illness, very ill, but this child really wanted to come to school as they felt they would miss out on celebrations at the end of term.

At present I am doing a review of our attendance policy and making changes to create a whole school process.

Students do not need the extra stress of not being at school due to end of year celebrations.

At present the only end of term celebrations are those students who achieve their stars from the west star chart in their classroom which gives us bronze, silver, gold, diamond, platinum levels.

This week on assembly I will explain to the classes that attendance is important but acknowledging that there are times when they’ll be unwell and that they shouldn’t be at school. Some children put a lot of pressure on themselves to do the right thing and in a situation like this they then feel as though they are not just letting themselves down but others also.

I know we have a lot of families at Gladstone West who do value attendance at school and I thank you for this. Our major concerns really do focus on the unexplained absenteeism. So if your child is absent please make sure you respond to SMS or ring the school office.

I’ve had to reflect quite hard professionally around my messaging to schools around managing attendance recently as I’ve come across this scenario a lot in the past couple of years. How do we celebrate attendance without making the children that want to do the right thing and be at school feel as though they are being punished for being sick versus the children and families who genuinely do not value the importance of attending school. Lots to ponder.
## 2018 TERM CALENDAR

### TERM 1 Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>PJ Marsh Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>6-a-side Soccer commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>Robotics Challenge Event—Clinton State School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>‘Shrek the Musical’ - Year 5—GECC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>Free Dress Day—Wear Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>NRL Development Cup Grand Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Port Curtis Rugby Union Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Port Curtis Tennis Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th March</td>
<td>Easter Bonnet Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th March</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th March</td>
<td>Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TERM 2 Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th April</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th April</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th April</td>
<td>Starlab Education Astronomy Activity—Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd April</td>
<td>Port Curtis Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day—Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th May</td>
<td>ICAS—Digital Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th, 16th &amp; 17th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th May</td>
<td>‘The Owl &amp; The Pussycat’ - Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th May</td>
<td>ICAS—Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st June</td>
<td>FAMILY FUN NIGHT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th June</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival—Prep—Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th June</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival—Years 3—6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th &amp; 21st June</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2018 TUCKSHOP ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuckshop Roster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7th March</td>
<td>Tammy Honour  Brenda Lyons  9.00am—11.00am  9.00am—1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8th March</td>
<td>Shannon Natoli  Maree Offord  Jenny Nielsen  9.00am—11.00am  9.00am—2.00pm  9.00am—2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9th March</td>
<td>Adriana Du Toit  Lynda Fieldus  Sandra Khalu  Linessa Welch  9.00am—11.00am  9.00am—12.00pm  9.00am—2.00pm  9.00am—2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14th March</td>
<td>Bev Smith  Brenda Lyons  9.00am—11.00am  9.00am—1.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NO Foreign Currency accepted and NO EFTPOS available

West is Best
Uniform Shop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirts/Polos</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hats</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combos</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dresses</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackets</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track Pants</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unisex Shorts</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Opening times for Uniforms in 2018

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
8.30am—9.00am

The Uniform shop is now located at the Tuckshop

Tuckshop

When ordering your child’s tuckshop please make sure that each break is listed on separate paper bags.

We cannot accept orders in snaplock or plastic bags as the students’ lunches are delivered in the paper bags.

PBL Focus:

This week’s PBL (Positive Behaviour Learning) is being —

“Safe”

by: “Keeping hands, feet and objects to myself”

SMS Services

Gladstone West State School is using SMS messaging to ask parents to inform us of their child’s absence. This will improve our unexplained absentee data.

Please make sure that your details are up to date.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club continues again in 2018 at the SEP on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8.00am—8.45am. Parents please inform the SEP if your child has any food allergies.

Arrival & Departure

Late Arrival—Students arriving at school after 9.00am must sign in at the office, before continuing to their classroom. It is preferred that parents/caregivers sign students in and include the reason for the late arrival.

Early Departure—From time to time, parents/caregivers may need to collect their students from school prior to the formal end of the school day. Students must be collected from the Admin office area. Students must be signed out by a parent/caregiver, or by a responsible adult nominated by the parent/caregiver. Students cannot sign themselves out of the school.
**Autism Queensland Visit**

Gladstone West had a visit from the Autism Qld Outreach Team last week. The Outreach Team is a transdisciplinary team, consisting of teachers, speech pathologists and occupational therapists. The purpose of their visit is to offer services to assist families and school staff to support student’s diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Five students were observed at different times and then an hour meeting with parents, class teacher, SEP case manager and teacher aides who work with the student were involved in a round table discussion. This gave the team an opportunity to address current educational and developmental needs and concerns related to communication, sensory processing, fine and gross motor skills, activities for daily living and general behaviour.

These sessions are individualised and the outcomes benefit the student, family and the teachers. At one of the meetings the team from Austim Qld congratulated the class teacher on her wonderful teaching strategies in the classroom, they had said they have visited many classrooms and this particular teacher was outstanding. As a school we find these visits informative and this then helps us to learn new strategies and put them in place to continue best practice for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

---

**Free Dress Day**

Harmony Day is Wednesday 21 March. On this day students at Gladstone West will be having a Free Dress Day and will be allowed to wear ORANGE (the colour for Harmony Day). We will be collecting a gold coin donation to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation.

Our diversity makes Australia a great place to live. Harmony day is a celebration of our cultural diversity—a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Held every year on 21 March, the Day aims to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster sense of belonging.

We will also be coinciding this day with [National Day for Action against Bullying and Violence](https://www.nationaldayaction.com.au). Students will be receiving a wrist band and will be able to wear this for the remainder of the term for awareness of bullying.
## What’s Happening around G.W.S.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Robotics Club</th>
<th>Chess Games</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robotics Club will be held on Mondays at 1st break. Students interested are to come to the STEM room (Next to tuckshop) after they finish eating.</td>
<td>There are supervised Chess Games in the Library, 1st Break on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

## Communication at G.W.S.S.

Stay up to date with what’s happening at Gladstone West State School via our weekly newsletter which is uploaded every Tuesday afternoon to our Website and via our Skoolbag App and Facebook page. This App is a great way to be alerted with any updates and information on what’s happening at G.W.S.S.

Don’t forget to download our school’s SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

- School newsletters
- Notices
- Events
- Cancellations
- Reminders
- …and more!

Just search for our school’s name in the App Store on your phone and download our app!
Sport News

Capricornia Swimming

Congratulations to Kayden Gibson who has been selected in the Capricornia School Swimming team to compete at Chandler in Brisbane in March. Kayden has been selected to swim in the 50m Freestyle, Backstroke and Butterfly, as well as being selected to complete in both the Freestyle and Medley Relays.

Good Luck Kayden!

P&C News— Friends of the Library

Join the GWSS P&C Friends of the Library Group! Mrs Salter is looking for volunteers to assist with Library-related tasks at GWSS. The aim of this group is to:

1. Help run the Scholastic Book Club and deliver book orders around the school.
3. Help out at the Book Fair from Monday July 30—Friday August 2.
4. Easy shelving and any other jobs.

This will be of great help to the Library. If you can help out, please phone the Office, or drop into the Library to see Mrs Salter in person. Alternatively, email your contact details (mobile number, email address) to gwssfundraising@gmail.com – thank you!

Book Club

Issue 2 Scholastic Book Club
Issue 2 has been distributed to all students. All online orders must be completed by the 15th March 2018

Library

Plastic Bags
If any parents have any plastic bags they do not need could they please send them into the library.
ICAS Competitions

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 and parents can enter their children in as many of these as they choose. The selection is limited to three subjects for Year 2 students and 6 subjects for Year 3-6 students. The due date for payments is **Monday 19 March.** Late entries cannot be accepted.

### Year 2 Competition Sitting Dates and Prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Sitting Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>13 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>31 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>14 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 3-6 Competition Sitting Dates and Prices

<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>$9.00</td>
<td>8 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>29 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>13 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td>14 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>31 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>14 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coles Sports for Schools

Gladstone West is participating in the Coles Sports for Schools program. All you have to do is for every $10 spent at Coles, customers will receive one Sports for Schools Voucher. Your school’s families can then bring the vouchers to the school, placing them in the collection bins provided in the foyer of our Admin Office or place in the GWSS collected bin at Coles. Every voucher received by GWSS will go towards our tally to help us order sports equipment.
Welcome to Week 7. This week we are highlighting some more activities you can do with your family. We suggest you take note, as holidays are quickly approaching.

**Home Weather Station** - Rain. Sun. Snow. It doesn't matter. Creating a home weather station entertains your kids regardless of the weather. Your home weather station can start with a simple rain gauge and you every day.

**Imaginary Play** - From playing airplane to opening a pretend restaurant, your kids will never be bored when they use their imagination to play. There are plenty of imaginative ways to play with children and there's no telling where their imagination will take them.

**Kid-Sized Board Game** - Board games are a lot of fun for kids. Now super-size that fun by building a life-sized board game out of household items. Put all of those toys to good use. Use that slide in the playroom, the play food, the alphabet floor mat squares and that toy purse. Now you've got all the pieces you need for your own game. Just look around the room and get creative.

**Outdoor Painting** - Take your little artists outside for some creative outdoor painting. You only need some banner paper, non-toxic paints and kids who love to get messy. And when they're done, hose the kids off for minimal cleanup!

**National Day for Action against Bullying**

Gladstone West are proud to announce that we will be celebrating the National Day for Action against bullying on March 21, to coincide with Harmony Day. This week we are looking at the definition of Bullying.

“**Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).**”

Some behaviours that are not bullying include mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance), not liking someone or a single act of social rejection, one-off acts of meanness or spite, and isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence. However, these conflicts still need to be addressed and resolved.

**Check in next week for some more information about Bullying.**

*Yours in Mental Health;*

*The GWSS Wellbeing Team J*
### Medication

Parents/caregivers are reminded that all medication given to students at school must be prescribed by a doctor, a medication form must be completed and medication stored at reception where it will be administered to students. Parents are asked to ensure a CURRENT green medical authorisation form is completed.

**EPIPENS**

Please make sure you have replaced any Epipens that may be out of date. These are stored at the office (unless alternative arrangements have been made). A new green form must also be completed for 2018, at the office. Please update any action plans and contact details at the office if needed.

### Volunteers

Any parents wanting to volunteer in their child/ren’s classroom or Tuckshop must come down to the office and fill in a new Volunteers form for the 2018 Year. All Volunteers must sign in at the office and collect a lanyard to be worn while in the school grounds.

### School Safety

**Attention Parents**

Parents are not to be driving into the school via the Quoin Street entrance to drop off or pick up students.

This is reserved **only** for Students with Disabilities who have arrangements already put in place or sometimes students with a major injury requiring drop off which has been approved by the principal.

No other vehicles are to drive into the school as student safety is compromised.

Thank you.
Community Notices

42nd Gladstone Harbour Festival

Fun Run
GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 30TH 2018
EAST SHORES GLADSTONE
Great Prizes to be won!
3km Race Junior: $15 | Senior: $27
10km Race Junior: $37 | Senior: $47

On the day Race Kit Collection from 5:45am – 6:45am for a 7:00am start

For more info visit Gladstone Road Runners on Facebook.

Registrations Open (Online Only):
www.eventwizard.com.au

Liberating your Inner Child: Beyond Co-dependency

A FREE workshop consisting of 3 sessions addressing co-dependency

Wednesday, 7 March 2018 09:30 – 11:30
Session 1: What is Co-dependency?

Wednesday, 14 March 2018 09:30 – 11:30
Session 2: Recovery from Co-dependency

Wednesday, 21 March 2018 09:30 – 11:30
Session 3: Assertiveness

As registrations are essential, please contact the Gladstone Women’s Health Centre on 4979 1456 or email info@gladstonewomenshealthcentre.com.au to register your attendance.
Community Notices

PUBERTY CLUES

A workshop on puberty and menstruation for mothers and their daughters (Grades 5-7)
It is important that each girl attends the program with her mother/guardian or a woman.

20 Tank Street from 5:30 to 7:30pm
Cost: Gold coin donation
We ask that each participant also bring a plate of food to share.

REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL

Please call 4979 1456 to Register

WORKSHOPS FOR 2016
13 FEBRUARY 2016
13 MARCH 2016
19 MAY 2016
12 JUNE 2016

ANXIETY INFO SESSIONS

Thursday, 8th March
SESSION 1: 10:00am—12:00pm
* Defining Anxiety and Anxiety disorders

Thursday, 15th March
SESSION 2: 10:00am—12:00pm
* Treatments of Anxiety and Making Changes

Please call Gladstone Women’s Health Centre on 4979 1456 or email info@gladstonewomenshealth.org.au to Register.