In Focus: Monitoring Progress

SPRF: School Planning, Reviewing and Reporting Framework
The improvement and accountability framework for Queensland State Schools

We are undergoing a Whole-School Review from 23—25 February 2015. This process is part of our school planning framework.

Every school develops a four-year plan that outlines the school’s future direction and aspirations—the steps required to achieve these and of course the resources that will be required too. This plan is called the ‘Quadrennial School Review’ (QSR). No planning process can be successful if it doesn’t also look ‘back’ at what has already been achieved and what has been identified as priorities.

The QSR is then the framework for each annual plan for the next four years.

We are looking forward to sharing the fantastic practices and results we already enjoy—and we are also looking forward to building of this great foundation to create a plan that will support further improvement and success for our kids.

The review team is chaired by an internal reviewer, an external reviewer and a principal peer reviewer.

The assistant regional director is interviewed as part of the review.

At the completion of the review the review team presents its findings and recommendations to the school leadership group. A written report follows.

Using the report, the school works with its assistant regional director to incorporate the review findings into its four-year school plan. The final report is to be published on the school’s website.

Review questions focus on—

- How are we performing?
- Where do we want to be?
- How will we get there?
- How do we know we are on the right track?
- How do we know when we get there?

From the Principal

Our student leaders for 2015 have begun undertaking their formal responsibilities over the last couple of weeks.

It is awe inspiring to watch these amazing young people step up and run assemblies—and there is always a little ‘hitch’ to manage.

In spite of their nerves temperamental microphones and music tracks that won’t play—our student leaders have not missed a beat. Each one of them has already shown determination and courage—the true skills of leaders.

We will be electing Sports’ Captains soon—even more fantastic students willing to take on roles of responsibility!

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Upcoming Date Claimers

- P & C Meeting TONIGHT
- 4th & 5th March—School Photos
- 10th March—Year 2 Swimming Starts
- 18th March—Parent Teacher Interviews
Class Spotlight

4 C Characters

Konnichiwa! Dozo yoroshiku!

Hello there! Nice to meet you!

My name is Jesse Gadischkie – better (and more easily!) known as Mr G. 2015 is my third year at Gladstone West and I teach the Year 4 C Characters, having taught Year 2 for the past two years.

The key to any successful learning environment is positive relationships.

Health & Well-Being

Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn’t faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience.

The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Resilient kids share four basic skill sets: independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.

Building Resilience: parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them.

Promote a lasting sense of resilience by:

- Having a positive attitude. Your attitude impacts on kids’ abilities to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Model a ‘you can do it’ attitude for your child when s/he meets some of life’s curve balls.
- Look for teachable moments. Many kids’ learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.

High expectations are an important part of my classroom and children respond really well to these.

I think we all need to ease up and steady the pace every now and then and enjoy a bit of humour in our lives.

A joke and laugh on a daily basis is great for maintaining those positive relationships with children in today’s busy classrooms.

Promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don’t go their way, including acceptance, getting away for a while, and normalisation.

Community Culture

Kaiviti—a word that means ‘someone from Fiji’

From Margie Burrell...

I am ‘kaiviti’ - I was born in Lautoka so I am someone from Fiji.

For as long as I can remember, my mother proudly displayed a tabua in our family home.

This was one of the gifts she had been given in recognition of friendship and connection.

The tabua is the most important cultural object in traditional Fijian society, whose presentation and acceptance as a gift binds two parties together.

The tabua is made from the polished tooth of a sperm whale. The gift of one conveys deep respect in Fijian society.
**Tuckshop**

**From Kay—our ‘royal’ convenor!**

This year the tuckshop is again up and running and providing tasty and nutritious meals and snacks to our hungry, growing and learning students.

Thank you to our many ‘regulars’, who make the food preparation and serving such a streamlined production.

Also—a HUGE welcome to our new parent volunteers…we very much appreciate the time you give so generously, and we really enjoy getting to know you and look forward to sharing many busy but fun-filled hours together.

One of the key factors about running the tuckshop—apart from yumminess, is food handling procedures. This is something that I always take time to discuss with all volunteers, but I managed to find some expert posters about washing hands...created by our own West students. Check them out next time you’re at the tuckshop—great posters, great practice for home and tuckshop.

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**Term 1 SWPBS Celebration**

Whole-school Assembly…

Bronze Certificates

- 27 March, 2.00pm.

Order Forms can be found at the office or on our website.

On-line orders are also available.

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**SWPBS**

**Week 4 Focus: I am Safe**

Walking on concrete areas

When walking around the grounds of Gladstone West State School, all concrete areas need to be treated with care and caution—Always walk along concrete areas to avoid any injuries that may occur.

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**Attendance**

How are our cohorts doing in the attendance challenge?

- Prep: 95.2% 
- Year 1: 96.5% 
- Year 2: 96% 
- Year 3: 95% 
- Year 4: 96.4% 
- Year 5: 96.4% 
- Year 6: 94.3%

Year 1, 4 and 5 leading the way...only 1 cohort less than 95% - come on Year 6, you can do it!

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**Sports/Activities**

The Scooter lessons are a blast! - Great skills, great fun—WooHoo!!

- 10 March—Starts... Year 2 Swimming
- 31 March: GWSS Cross Country

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**Library**

Borrowing...

- Before school
- First break

To care for books—remember your Library Bag.

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**Uniform Shop**

**Opening Hours**

**Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**

8.00am—9.00am

**Order Forms can be found at**

the office or on our website.

On-line orders are also available.

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**P&C**

17 February: Next P&C Meeting

The P&C raises in excess of $30 000 each year, with the tireless support of our fantastic ‘West community’.

Funds raised go to support projects across the school—in 2014...

- Shade Shed, Boles Street
- New signage—all access points around the school
- 30 IPad minis to support students on Individual Curriculum Plans

For 2015 we are looking to provide

* an additional PE shed—including double access doors, retaining wall;
* Smart Boards initiative—start replacing our old Interactive boards with these flexible use and access boards for multi-users;
* extend the IPad program...

We are ‘great’ but with your help we would be AMAZING...come along!

17 March: AGM
2015 TERM CALENDAR

17th February - P&C Meeting
4th & 5th March - School Photos
10th March - Year 2 Swimming Commences
17th March - P&C AGM
31st March - Cross Country
2nd April - Last Day of Term 1
20th April - 1st Day of Term 2
20th—24th April - Year 6 Camp

2015 TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Wednesday Brenda Lyons 9.00am—11.15am
18th February Kaylene Johansen 9.00am—10.00am
Thursday Tracey Goodwin 9.00am—11.00am
19th February Shannon Natoli 9.00am—11.00am
Melissa Gobbert 9.00am—10.00am
Friday Lynda Fieldus 9.00am—11.00am
20th February Sandra Khalu 9.00am—2.00pm
Helen Whitten 9.00am—2.00pm
Monday Tanya Lucas 9.00am—11.30am
23rd February
Tuesday Sandra Khalu 9.00am—2.00pm
24th February
Wednesday Tammy Honour 9.00am—10.30am
25th February Brenda Lyons 9.00am—11.30am

School Notices

GRIP Leadership Day

Seven of our eight Gladstone West leaders attended the GRIP Leadership Conference held at the Boyne Tannum Community Centre. GRIP is an acronym for Generosity, Resilience, Integrity and People. The conference allowed our leaders to think about a plan in which they can promote initiatives within the school, and understand qualities that make a great leader. The conference leaders shared their stories and encouraged all to reflect on their qualities as a leader, which led to some fantastic ideas.

Amongst ten other schools, our leaders represented Gladstone West State School with pride and demonstrated why West is Best!

Well Done.
Parents may report an absence in the following ways.

- Student Absence Line - 49797366
- Note to Class Teacher
- Absentee form through our NEW Skoolbag App.

Please note that ALL absences need to be explained.

### 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.

### Medication

Parents/caregivers are reminded that all medication given to students at school must be prescribed by a doctor, a medication form 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.

### Sporting News

#### Port Curtis Primary School Girls Soccer Competition

The Gladstone West girls soccer team played their first inter-school game yesterday afternoon against Central. With one player down and no subs, the girls battled it out in the heat for 40 minutes. All players are to be commended for their efforts, teamwork and outstanding sportsmanship. The team experienced their first loss, going down to Central 4-0, but their spirits were high and they are looking forward to their next game. For their second game of the season, the girls will take on Tannum Sands next Monday afternoon at 4:50 on field one.

#### Port Curtis Primary School Boys Soccer Competition

On Monday West SS played Central SS. It was a very tough game which saw the score at 0-0 at half time. In the second half Central scored two impressive goals. West fought back and Thomas Godbee scored a fantastic goal, bringing the score to 2-1. It was a great game and the boys are improving with every game.

Mr Grayson

### SWIMMING

Yesterday Rohan Neill, Clara Furness and Kane Martin participated in the Capricornia Swimming Trials in Rockhampton. All three had a great day and CONGRATULATIONS to Kane for being selected in the Capricornia Team that will travel away in March.

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Wallaby Junior Rugby League

Football

Wallaby’s are still seeking players in all age groups.

Come down to the Wallaby Fields this Thursday from 4.30pm

Any Enquires please contact

President Darren: 0418740783

Yaralla Junior Football Club

Are seeking players from U5 to U15 for the 2015 season.

Boys and Girls are all welcome to register with our club.

Enquiries please ph Laura on 0400 355 593

CHILDRENS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM for 2015

Enrolment forms for Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion will be available from Monday 23rd February from Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Parish office in Herbert St, Gladstone. Candidates need to have made their First Reconciliation and must be in grade 4 or above, or turning 9 this year (if in grade 3). Applications will close on Friday 6th March. Please contact Colina at adfaith@tpg.com.au for further information.