In Focus: 10 tips for tweens who find maths hard

1. Speak with your child about any concerns they have with maths. They may not always be willing to discuss difficulties they’re having, but it’s a good opportunity to show your support.

2. Work with your child to develop a plan to overcome their concerns. Any plan will have a better success if your child:
   - recognises a problem exists
   - contributes to the plan
   - is prepared to do it.

3. Speak to your child’s teacher. Concerns can be discussed, learning patterns can be better identified and a solution can be developed. The meeting can also help build a working relationship between you, the teacher and your child.

4. To be confident with maths, your child needs to understand why maths works, not just how to carry out procedures and apply formulas. Talking about maths problems and different ways of solving them can help strengthen your child’s overall mathematical understanding.

5. Relate maths content to familiar experiences. This helps your child to see a real-life purpose for the maths. This could include:
   - seeing an area of one hectare as roughly equivalent to the area of two rugby league football fields
   - comparing similar products that are packaged differently to work out the best value for money
   - using plans to sketch how a structure might look from different perspectives

6. Build and reinforce strong mental calculation skills using one-, two- and three-digit number combinations (eg 1, 10, 100) for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This provides basic mental tools that your child can apply to problems across many situations and the confidence to trust their answers.

7. Maintain a focus on maths by exploring daily activities such as:
   - estimating the length and mass of objects in familiar settings
   - calculating the fuel consumption for a car trip
   - comparing mobile phone plans.

8. Discuss how words in everyday contexts can also have mathematical meanings. Words such as ‘more’ and ‘all together’ may suggest addition but depending on the phrasing they can have a different meaning eg. “What is three more than five?” and “Five is three more than what?” use the same words but have different meanings.

   Words with mathematical and non-mathematical meanings eg. volume, index, interest and table.

   Prepositions should not be overlooked in mathematical word problems because they give context by showing place and time. For example:
   - Mia drove from Sydney to Brisbane and Cooper flew from Brisbane to Sydney
   - Leo caught a train to the city 15 minutes before the express train

9. Encourage your child to solve problems in different ways. This can include using models, diagrams, calculations and working backwards.

10. Above all, remain positive and ask your child to do the same.

From the Principal

In a school setting, volunteers come in all shapes, ages and genders—and undertake an amazing list of ‘jobs’...all of which contribute to the quality of the teaching and learning.

We have volunteers who cover books for the library—at home.

We have volunteers who work in our tuckshop—sharing a chat and a giggle with her ‘royal highness’ Mrs Castles, while preparing yummy lunches and healthy snacks.

We have volunteers who turn up at camps and cook dinner, prepare sandwiches and help get kids in and out of showers.

We have volunteers who come and talk to classes about when they were at school.

We have volunteers who help with school banking, pack raffle prizes, mothers/fathers day ‘presents’.

There is no one way to help—and everything is valued. Our volunteers’ afternoon tea is a very minor way to say thank you...please accept this invitation to attend on Wednesday 25 November...

Upcoming Date Claimers

- 30th October—Free Dress Day
- 9th - 13th November—Book Fair Week
- 25th November—Volunteers Afternoon Tea
- 27th November—Full School Assembly
Parents may report an absence in the following ways.

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

Please note that ALL absences need to be explained.

**BOOK FAIR NEWS**

Book Fair will be held in Week 6 - Monday 9th to Friday 13th November. It is open 8.00am - 8.50am and 3.00pm—3.30pm each day. EFTPOS will be available both mornings and afternoons. Students in Yrs 3-6 may also purchase at first break -10.30am-10.50am. Please do not send over $20 with children and please ensure their money is safe in a wallet or self-seal bag. If any parents are available to help us serve, count or tidy up any morning or afternoon, please let Library staff know by the end of Week 5. Thank you! We look forward to seeing you at Book Fair. Freyia and Anne-Marie.

**Health & Well-Being: “Healthier Choices For Breakfast”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast food</th>
<th>Healthier choices</th>
<th>Nutritional value</th>
<th>Handy tips</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bread and bread rolls</td>
<td>Wholegrain, wholemeal multigrain, added fibre, soy and linseed, high-fibre white, focaccia, Lebanese, pita, pocket, mountain and fruit or raisin loaf, bagels, baps, wholemeal crumpets, hot cross buns</td>
<td>Contains dietary fibre, carbohydrate, minerals and B vitamins</td>
<td>Wholegrain or wholemeal breads are more nutritious because they contain all of the natural parts of the cereal grain, including the bran and germ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Spirit: Day for Daniel**

The students are invited to wear ‘red for Daniel’ on Friday 30th October—gold coin donation.

All donations deposited with the Daniel Morecombe Foundation... working to help keep kids safe.

**Brekky Club**

Brekky Club will continue in TERM 4 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Mornings at the SEP Unit, commencing from 7.45am
At GWSS, we are very lucky to have many resources and lots of equipment. Using equipment appropriately...

**LOOKS like**
Students working together and for each other

**SOUNDS like**
Students keeping an eye on each other—‘how are you doing’ ‘great way to play safe’

**FEELS like being**
Being safe and being cared for

---

**Volunteers Needed**
As term 4 has commenced we are in need of some more volunteers to help in the Tuckshop. At GWSS we are lucky to have our tuckshop operate 5 days/week, but this requires parent help.

If you can spare some time in the tuckshop we would love to hear from you.

**All sizes are now available in the Polo Shirts.**

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**Week 4: SWPBS Focus Safety—Use school equipment appropriately**

At GWSS, we are very lucky to have many resources and lots if equipment. Using equipment appropriately...

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**Attendance**

**School Goal:** 95%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL %</th>
<th>Boys %</th>
<th>Girls %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>91.5</td>
<td>91.7</td>
<td>91.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>91.1</td>
<td>93.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>90.1</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Book Fair**

**GLADSTONE’S HISTORY**

Our Year 2’s will be taking part in an excursion to the Gladstone Art Museum and around the Gladstone area for their History Excursion.

Notes were sent home last week with all year 2 students. The cost of the excursion is $7.00. Permission slips must be returned and payments made by Thursday 12th November.

If you would like further information on this excursion you can access the information on our Skoolbag App or call into the Administration office.
**2015 TERM CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30th October</td>
<td>Free Dress Day—Day for Daniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th October</td>
<td>World Teachers Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th—13th November</td>
<td>Book Fair Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th November</td>
<td>Year 2 Swimming Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th November</td>
<td>Volunteers Afternoon Tea—2pm—3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th November</td>
<td>Full School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th Nov &amp; 1st December</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7 Orientation Days—TSHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th November</td>
<td>Year 5 &amp; 6 Water Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd December</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7 Orientation Days—GSHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th December</td>
<td>Year 5 Movie Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Laser Skirmish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Presentation—9.15am—10.30am Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Dinner—Camelot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th December</td>
<td>Report Cards Issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Movie Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th December</td>
<td>Last Day of 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2015 TUCKSHOP ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Bev Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th October</td>
<td>9.00am—1.00pm</td>
<td>Brenda Lyons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9.00am—2.00pm</td>
<td>Jenny Nielsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th October</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Cathy Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9.00am—12.00pm</td>
<td>Lynda Fieldus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th October</td>
<td>9.00am—2.00pm</td>
<td>Helen Whitten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9.00am—2.00pm</td>
<td>Jenny Nielsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd November</td>
<td>9.00am—2.00pm</td>
<td>Maree Olford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9.00am—2.00pm</td>
<td>Sandra Khalu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd November</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Tammy Honour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
<td>Brenda Lyons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Students Departing**

If your child will be departing Gladstone West and not attending in 2016, please advise the office staff. This will assist us when looking at class arrangements for 2016.

**2016 Enrolments**

Enrolments for 2016 are now being taken. If you are wanting to enrol as a New student to Gladstone West State School in 2016 in classes from Prep to Year 6, please complete an enrolment form as soon as possible. Enrolment packs are available from the school’s office or downloadable from the school’s website.
School Notices

School Banking were recently advised to recall the Cosmic Light Beam Torch and the Lunar Light Band due to concerns about their safety. The Commonwealth Bank has replaced the Lunar Light Band that was to be available in term 4 with a Frisbee called the Galaxy Glider.

The Commonwealth Bank has also advised rewards that are still in stock and available to be reclaimed. These include items from our 2015 Outer Space range.

- ET DVD
- Intergalactic Rocket
- Invisible Ink Martian Pens

Plus, we have limited stock available from our 2014 Deep Sea Savers range of reward items including:

- Scented Pencils
- Shark Plush Toy Keyring
- Swimming Bag

These items are only available while stocks last.

Simply collect your 10 tokens, include a note along with your tokens in your deposit wallet and advise which reward you would like to receive. The reward should take between 1 and 2 weeks to arrive.

The School Banking Team

Don't forget Tuesday is banking day!!

Christmas Raffle

Thank you

To all our wonderful families that have already donated items to our 2015 Christmas Raffle. It is not too late to donate as we are still after

- 1L Softdrinks
- Pretzels * Nuts
- Biscuits * Festive Food
- Fruit Cake * Chocolates
- Poppers * Beer

The P&C are assisting the school with Buddy Benches, supplies including instruments for the Music room and upgrading our current PA System.

Please take your goods to the administration office.

We thank you for your support with this fundraiser. Any questions please contact me on the below details.

Janenne Suter
Fundraising Officer
GWSS P&C Association
0411400018
jodyjanenne@bigpond.com

Next year marks 50 years at Gladstone West State School. We are asking if any families have any past memorabilia from the last 50 years at G.W.S.S. that they would like to share with the school for our 50 year celebration in 2016.
Community Notices

Family Reunion Picnic
October 31st
2pm - 4pm
Come join the church family for a family picnic!
Have a catch up with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Salvation Army
Gladstone Corps
Building Community - Building the Kingdom

Anzac park, Tank street, Gladstone Opposite the Corps

Hookin2Hockey
www.hookin2hockey.org.au

Club: Gladstone and District Hockey Association

Contact Name: Jordyn Wilson Contact Number: 0430 353 227

Location: Rigby Park Hockey Fields, Corner of Dawson Highway and Glenlyon Road, Gladstone, QLD

Start Date: Wednesday 11th, November, 2015 Time: 3:30pm Registrations close: 30/10/2015

Email: jwilson@hookin2hockey.org.au Web: www.gladstonehockey.com.au

Additional Information: The cost of the program is $50. This includes: the 5 week program, as well as the participant pack: hockey stick, ball, shin guards, stick bag, mouth guard, reversible singlet, umpire whistle and umpire cards.