JACARANDA

Thursday 31st October is Jacaranda Thursday, thank you to all those parents/carers who have advised us that their children will be participating in the Jacaranda activities on Thursday morning. All parents/carers are reminded about the school concert that will be held in Market Square from 10:00am till 11:00am on Thursday morning. Our skipping team will be putting on a performance and there will be items from other schools within our Community of Schools group.

CRANES COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Parents/carers are reminded about the parenting workshops being run by Cranes in our Community room over the next few weeks. If any parents/carers are interested in finding out more information they can contact Cranes ring on 6642 7257. Child minding facilities are being provided for parents/carers who have younger children should they wish to attend the workshops.

SISTA SPEAK PROGRAM

Our Sista Speak program has been running for a number of weeks now under the leadership of Mrs Sullivan and Ms K. Baker. Mrs Sullivan and Ms Baker have been extremely impressed with the attitude and behaviour of the girls involved in the program and would like to thank the various community businesses and organisations for their assistance.

SCHOOL FUNDING

Undoubtedly all parents/carers have heard via various media outlets that many schools across NSW have received additional funding for 2014. It has been also been reported that some schools have received less funding. I am pleased to report that Gillwinga’s funding allocation has been increased for the 2014 school year. We will continue to receive Low SES National Partnership Funding for 2014 and it is anticipated that this National Partnership funding will continue into 2015. Gillwinga will also receive additional funding under the new Resource Allocation Model (RAM). The aim of the new funding model is to provide funding on a more equitable basis for all schools through the state based on student numbers and the needs of the students in each of the particular schools.

MARCH OF YOUTH

Thank you very much to students and parents/carers, that attended the March of Youth last Saturday as part of the Jacaranda Festival. Thank you very much to Mrs Baker and Ms Watters for supervising the students. It is important that Gillwinga continues to participate and be represented in community based activities. Thank you to those students who participated in the March of Youth last Saturday: Melanie Laurie, Ruby West, Lily Tainsh, Cate Duroux, Jimmy Kennedy, Cena-Jay Flentjar, Cody Pearce, Jamie Pearce, Page Pearce, Hanna Kaptein, Kayla Kaptein, Ally Grant, Lex Bagster and Carter Smith.
CUSTODY MATTERS

All parents/carers are reminded that if they have any court papers providing details of child custody arrangements it is important that the school is provided with a copy of the papers. Without proper court documentation it is very difficult to deny parent access to their child. It is important that we continue to work together as a school community to protect the interests of the students placed in our care.

SPORTS PROGRAM

This week I have a meeting with Bruce Wallace from the Australian Sports Commission concerning an exciting program that we hope to be involved in in 2014. The program is known as an Active After School Care Program although the name is a little misleading in that if we do become involved in the program it will run during normal school hours so that all students will have the opportunity to be involved in the program.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I found this quote from John Barrymore that I thought sums up what the pursuit of happiness really is about. “Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn’t know you left open”. We all want to be happy in our lives and some people spend a whole time searching for it but never really find it. Rather than making a deliberate pursuit to find happiness maybe we should leave a few doors open and let happiness find us.
SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to those families who have paid school contribution fees. If you still have fees outstanding, early payment would be appreciated.

AWARDS

Congratulations to our weekly award winners: Oscar Wales, Malakai Fernando, Arie Hodge, Samantha Lennard, Drew Cooper, Lachlan Haywayrd, Jessica Cooper, Cate Duroux, Chloe McCafferty, Jasmine Wheatley.

Bronze Award Winners: Marsell Leach, Kaleb Fletcher, Trudy Dawson, Luke Dawson, Chance Fuller, Arie Hodge, Reese Russell.

Silver Award Winners: Jason Wallace, Annabelle Morgan, John Vargas, Maddison Joseph, Jaykila O’Driscoll, Shayla Holloway, Shakira Morgan.

Gold Award Winners: Melanie Laurie, Rose Williams, Carter Smith, Hayley Woolley.

Writer of the Week: Noah Hayward. Maths Champion of the Week: Cody Pearce.
AAA Award Winners: Nyree Browning, Annabelle Morgan, Elisa Allen, Isaiah Thornton.

GILLWINGA’S GOT TALENT

Nomination forms need to be returned by 1st November. Auditions begin Wednesday 6th November. You can sing, dance, act, tell jokes, do magic, gymnastics or anything else amazing. You can enter twice, once as a group and once as a solo. Grand final show Friday 29th November.