GILLWINGA TO PARTICIPATE IN UNIVERSITY STUDY

Gillwinga has been asked to participate in a study being undertaken by the University of Newcastle that aims to examine the educational and career aspirations in the formative years of schooling. The study will run over four years and commenced in 2012.

The aims of the study are to

- Investigate the relative impact of student-level and school-level factors that influence the educational and career aspirations of students in the middle years of schooling (aged 10 to 14 years).
- Explore ways in which socioeconomic status shapes the educational career aspirations of students in the middle years of schooling.
- Develop principles for school-based educational and career interventions designed to increase equity for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In 2013 students from years four and six will be involved in completing an online survey as well as being part of interviews and focus groups.

The data collected through the surveys, interviews and focus groups will be analysed but the information supplied will not be able to be linked to any individual.

Parents/carers will have the opportunity not to have their child/ren’s information included in the data sample by completing a withdrawal form.

At present the University has not given us a date as to when they will start collecting the data.

Additional information is attached to this newsletter and parents may wish to visit the website – www.newcastle.edu.au/aspirations to learn more about the study.

More information will be supplied to parents/carers once it is made available to the school.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Last week the staff participated in the biggest morning tea to raise funds for the Cancer Council. Through generosity and support of Miss Watters and her family who supplied a delicious selection of treats we were able to raise eighty two dollars to support this very worthwhile cause.

PSSA NETBALL

Good luck to our girls Netball team who will compete in the first round of this year’s PSSA Knockout against Westlawn on Wednesday 29th June at Westlawn Public School. Mrs Magarry and the girls have been training hard during their lunch times and although we have a very young team the girls will benefit greatly from the experience.
PSSA SOCCER

On Tuesday the 4th June the Boys/Girls soccer teams will participate in a Soccer Gala Day at Rushforth Road soccer fields. This gala day is aimed to complete two rounds of the NSW PSSA Knockout whilst giving the students the opportunity to participate in a number of games that they would not normally play as part of Knockout competition.

BOOK FAIR

I'd like to thank those parents/carers and students who have visited the book fair over the last few days and purchased books. A percentage of the profits will come back to the school to purchase additional resources for the Library.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

National Reconciliation week commenced on Monday 27th May and will run through until Monday 3rd June. The theme for this year is “Let Talk Recognition”. Ms K. Baker has organised a colouring competition for all classes to be involved in and prizes will be handed out at this week’s assembly.

END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Thank you to those parents and carers who have been advising the school of changes to afternoon arrangements so we can keep our bus rolls up to date. By working together in partnership, parents, carers and the school are working together to ensure the safety of students.

BUS SAFETY

Recently, I was contacted by a local bus company concerning the behaviour of students on their buses. It is important that parents and carers take the time to discuss with their children the importance of following the rules and expectations of the bus drivers. Bus drivers have a huge responsibility to ensure that all students are able to travel safely to and from school. If the behaviour of any student on the bus distracts the driver from the purpose of driving the bus in a safe manner they are placing themselves, other students and the driver in danger. It is important that students remain seated throughout their journey and refrain from distracting the driver so that his/her attention is not taken away from the road. All parents and carers should take the opportunity to stress with their children the importance of being responsible and respectful whilst they are travelling to and from school.

EXCURSION

Unfortunately due to the low numbers of deposits for the proposed excursion to “The Great Aussie Bush Camp” for years four, five and six we have had to cancel the excursion. We are now currently looking into an alternative excursion.
at the Coffs Harbour Beach School. More information will be supplied to parents/carers once we have made a decision. Those families that did pay the deposit or any funds for the “Great Aussie Bush Camp” will have their money fully refunded or they may like to have it transferred over to pay part of the costs of an alternative excursion.

PHOTOS

Photo orders can now be made for House Captains, etc. These orders need to be in at school with payment of $10 each by Friday 31st May. Special order envelopes are available at the front office.

SPECIAL CANTEEN ORDERS

Special canteen orders with payment need to be returned to school by Friday 7th June. No late orders can be accepted.

ASSEMBLY

All parents, carers and community members are always welcome to attend our regular Friday assemblies but we would ask that people please refrain from taking photos or videos during assemblies. Whilst we encourage parents, carers and friends to celebrate the successes of their children we must be mindful that we do have students whose parents have not given permission for them to be filmed or have their photo taken even if this happens unintentionally and is not intended for public viewing. We would please ask that if parents, carers and friends do wish to take photos or videos that they do so at the end of the assembly in a more private setting.

ACHIEVING OUR GOALS

At last week’s assembly I spoke about the importance of having goals and how ordinary people are capable of doing extraordinary things when they work hard and remain focussed on achieving what they want in life. We all need goals, but before we can set a goal we must start with the end in mind and know what it will look and feel like when we have finally achieved what we set out to do. Once we know where we are going we can set out along a path that will get us to where we want to be. “If you want to reach a goal, you must ‘see the reaching it’ in your own mind before you actually arrive at your goal.” - Zig Ziglar

AWARDS


AAA Award Winners: Oscar Wales, Kai Connor, Ryan Fallon, Krystelle Lentfer, Hayden Pacey.