MOTHER’S DAY AND P&C
Thank you to the P&C and volunteers who helped with the Mother’s Day stall last week. Thanks to everyone’s efforts we made a profit of approximately $350.00. I trust that all Mum’s had a wonderful day on Sunday, the weather certainly did its part in making it a great day.

The next P&C activity will be a finger bun day on Monday 25th May.

BOOKS IN HOMES
This week we received all the books that students have ordered for the first round of The Books In Homes program. Thank you to the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Fund who are sponsoring the program for our school. It is anticipated that we will be holding an assembly on Thursday 18th June with a representative from Newcastle Permanent in attendance to help distribute the books to the students.

READY SET GO
Our pre-kinder orientation program “Ready-Set-Go” will commence on Monday 25th May. There are still spots available for students to enrol. Forms are available from the front office or can be downloaded from the schools website at www.gillwinga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

PLAYGROUP
Parents/carers are reminded that playgroup is still running each Friday from 9:00am till 11:00am.
This activity is free of charge and open to all children aged 0-5, so please come along and support this very worthwhile activity and help your child develop some important skills to get them ready for pre-school or school.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
A number of students have been busily preparing speeches for our up-coming Public Speaking Competition on Thursday 21st May. Parents/carers and any interested community are more than welcome to attend. The competition will commence at 9.30am in the hall.

STEWART HOUSE
Last week I mentioned Stewart House and the great job they do in providing for disadvantaged students in New South Wales Public Schools. Thank you to those families who have returned their fundraising envelopes. All envelopes need to be returned to school no later than 14th May. Again I would urge all families to contribute a gold coin donation to this very worthwhile cause.

PARENTING TOOLBOX FESTIVAL
Clarence Valley Council are supporting a fantastic opportunity for parents to attend presentations and access other information on a range of parenting skills and issues. Famous author Stephen Bidulph along with others are also presenting. See Clarence Valley Council’s website and search for the parenting toolbox festival or try http://clarencevalleycouncil.eventbrite.com.au for further details.

NAPLAN
This week year three and year five students will be participating in the NAPLAN test which will occur on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The test will be part of the normal school day. Any students from those years that are away during the testing period will be able to complete any test they missed on Friday 15th May.

LEADERSHIP DAY
GRIP Leadership Day – Last week six of our school leaders attended a leadership day held in Coffs Harbour. They participated in workshops focussing on leadership skills, on how to work with others and how to see a project through from the initial ideas, consultation, planning and running the event. Students will continue this training throughout the year. We look forward to our leaders putting these skills into action throughout the year.
BUS TRAVEL

Students are reminded that they need to behave appropriately whilst travelling to and from school on buses. It is every student’s responsibility to behave in a manner that ensures the safety and comfort of passengers and drivers. This includes:

Behaving appropriately

• Respect the needs and comfort of other passengers, such as no use of offensive or racist language, fighting, spitting, placing feet on seats, throwing things in or from the bus, eating or drinking - except water - unless the bus operator gives written permission
• Give up seats to all adults and disabled passengers
• Obey directions from the driver, such as where to sit or to remain in the bus
• Keep arms, legs and heads inside the bus
• Refrain from attracting the attention of the driver except in the case of emergency.

Respecting property

• Protect bus property
• Ensure that buses are not vandalised
• Report any vandalism, such as graffiti and window etching.

Holding passes

• Show travel passes or tickets to the driver on boarding and when requested
• Use the travel pass only for its intended purpose
• Swipe or dip passes in ticket readers if available when boarding
• Keep your pass for your own use - you should not lend your pass to other students or borrow one from them.

If parents/carers have any concerns regarding behaviour on the buses they should contact the bus company to discuss the matter.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Life began with waking up and loving your mother’s face" – George Eliot

CANTEEN ROSTER

Mon 18th May: Wayne Burke, Sharen Bagster

Tues 19th May: Natalie Bullock