EISTEDDFOD
Thank you to Ms Christina Edwards from the Clarence Valley Conservatorium and Miss Watters for the work they did in preparing the band and choir for their recent eisteddfod performances. Gillwinga is the only small school in the local area to have a band program and we are extremely grateful for the support we receive from Ms Edwards and the Conservatorium.

Congratulations to our students who were involved in the choir and band, both groups performed extremely well today. Our students were a part of the Combined Small Schools Choir who placed 1st in that section, the Gillwinga Choir received a Highly Commended and the School Band received second place. Well done!

EAR HEALTH
This week all classes will be participating in an ear health program run by Mrs Casserly. Infants classes will be learning about the importance of keeping noses nice and clear so as to reduce the risk of middle ear infections and primary classes will be examining some of the dangers associated with using headphones and how they can affect ear health.

P&C FUNDRAISER
Thank you very much to the P&C and canteen workers for the recent finger bun day. Our small but dedicated group of workers do a fantastic job in supporting all the students in the school and this is just another example of the great work they do. The P&C and canteen are always looking for more helpers. Please contact the office if you can help in any small way.

JUMP OFF DAY
Last week Mrs Carrigan spoke to all students concerning the annual jump off day to help raise funds for the National Heart Foundation. Last week all students from Kindergarten to Year Six would have received their sponsorship forms and a list of thank you prizes that they can work towards. It is important to remember that all sponsorship forms must be returned to school on or before the due date regardless of the number of sponsors achieved. It is important that all sponsorship forms are fully accounted for.

DENTAL CLINIC
A reminder the parents/carers of Aboriginal students that AMS will be holding their dental clinic here at school this Friday 29th May.

READY SET GO
On Monday of this week Mrs Perl commenced our Ready Set Go program for this year. Ready Set Go will run for two hours each Monday from 9:00am to 11:00am and is open to all children who will be starting Kindergarten in 2016. There are spots still available and if parents/carers are interested in their child/ren attending they are asked to please contact the front office for an information brochure and application form or they can be downloaded from the schools website.
RECONCILIATION WEEK
This Friday classes will be participating in lessons and activities to commemorate Reconciliation Week. This year’s theme for the week is “Home Grown Heroes” and lessons will not only recognise Sorry Day and the historic significance of the week but also recognises the people that are making such an important difference in closing the gap and building bridges between and amongst all Australians. The classes will be decorating their own cardboard hand with Indigenous designs that will be then displayed as a sea of hands.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
Congratulations to all the students who went in the public speaking competition held last week. Thank you to all the teachers for their help and support in preparing the students for this competition. It was great to see the level of confidence that students displayed during their speeches. Special mention must go to Nathan Weatherall, Adam Wright, Hanna Kaptein and Mervyn Weatherall who were the overall winners for stage 2 and 3 respectively. These students will compete at the District Public Speaking competition to be held on 17th June at Westlawn Public school.

YOU CAN DO IT - CONFIDENCE
This week we have begun focussing on the “Confidence” key to success. Students will be delivered 2-3 lessons per week on this topic. People who are confident are not afraid of making mistakes and are willing to try something new. They believe they will be successful if they work hard. People who are confident are not afraid to meet new people and like making new friends. They speak in a clear voice and communicate openly with others.

What People Who Are Confident Look Like:
- They participate in new, unfamiliar activities.
- They do their work without constant help.
- They introduce themselves to someone new.
- They use a clear voice and eye contact when speaking to others.
- They politely say hello and good bye to people.
- They share new ideas with family and peers.
- They answer questions loudly and clearly.
- They address an audience positively.
- They offer to take control of organising events or activities.

MID NORTH COAST CROSS COUNTRY
Last week’s rain event forced the postponement of the Mid North Coast Cross Country. Weather permitting the event will be held this Friday 29th May. Good luck to those students who are competing in the event.
ABSENCES
On Monday this week we started sending home reminder notes for those students who had unexplained absences for the previous week. It is important that parents/carers advise the school if the students are away for whatever reason. It is a legal requirement that these reasons are recorded and that the attendance role is marked accordingly. Parents/carers are asked to please remember that attending school is the first step towards helping your child/ren achieve at school and assisting them to develop positive habits that will hopefully stay with them throughout their school career.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
“Think big thoughts, but relish small pleasures” – H. Jackson Brown Jr.

COMMUNITY NEWS: Parenting Festival: See the Clarence Valley Council’s website for further information:

CANTEEN ROSTER: Mon 1st June: Lee Hodge. Tues 2nd June: Kylie Chalker