

# Guise Public School

## "Educating and caring for the whole child"

Eucalyptus Dr, Macquarie Fields

Ph: 9605 4397

Fax: 9829 3975

Email: guise-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

### TERM 3 WEEK 5 2015

#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

##### New Principal

Mr Paul Hughes, the Acting Director Public Schools NSW for Campbelltown, recently commenced a process to select a Relieving Principal for Guise PS. Ms Claire Trill and I participated in this process. We were unsuccessful in selecting an appropriate leader for our important school in the first round, but remain extremely optimistic of recruiting the best possible candidate soon. I will keep you posted regarding this vital process and plan to provide significant coaching and mentoring to the successful recruit for the remainder of this term and well into next term also.

##### Attendance

I am delighted to say that we have an excellent new Home School Liaison Officer working with us to promote positive attendance patterns in all of our students. He will enrich the already important work Mrs Elliott does in this endeavour. Please be reminded that consistent school attendance and prompt arrival at school before our morning bell are essential to your child's educational success at school. We make no apologies for a recent spate of attendance reminders and correspondence as we all share a moral obligation to ensure regular attendance in NSW Public Schools. Please read the attached brochure on attendance and take the time to contact us for advice and support in this area.

##### Education Week – Celebrating Local Heroes

We all enjoyed a magnificent week during Education Week. The highlight was probably the Open Classrooms and Grandparents Day Event. This day saw many parents, grandparents and friends join us to visit classrooms, attend our special assembly and play children's games from yesteryear. The children were beautifully behaved throughout assembly and demonstrated fabulous learning and art skills when showcasing their work. I saw many examples of quality learning during the class visits and grandparents with "a twinkle of pride in their eyes" when being led around the classroom. The playground games saw kids learning skills such as elastics, marbles, hopscotch and so much more from parents, teachers and grandparents.

##### Happy News Postcards

Mr Neilson has led the staff in developing a new way of celebrating great learning outcomes in our kids. Three times per term Happy News Postcards will arrive home unannounced with a message reinforcing your child's individual brilliance. These will be another opportunity for teachers to promote the great learning milestones achieved by our students. Keep your eyes peeled for these and ask your child to explain why it is that they think they have been recognised in this way.

##### Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to Mr Stuart Carr and his team for a fabulous Athletics Carnival in on Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>. Despite the cold and windy weather, we enjoyed a carnival that was full of sporting skill and great encouragement. We sent a team of 24 students to Campbelltown Stadium last week for the Zone Track Carnival. Again the teamwork and athletic prowess was impressive. Our new students Suzanna and Zubeda Hussein were standouts but all of our children acquitted themselves well. Many thanks to the wonderful parents that attended either day! **Your kids blossom through your love and spirit!**



#### CALENDAR

##### August

7th	Zone Athletics
10th	Primary Spelling
Bee	
14th	Zone Athletics—Field
17th	New Teachers—Autism Classes
	K-6 Assembly
19th	Book Fair arrives
20th	Happy Postcards sent
24th	Book Week—Light Up My World
25th	Character Parade
	YCDI Launch
28th	Gala Day



#### 2015 CLASSES

KE	-	Mrs Elliott
K/1S	-	Mr Neilson (DP)
2/3C	-	Mr Carr
3/4H	-	Mrs Horn
5/6M	-	Miss Bullock/Miss Wild
K/2C	-	Mrs Crichton
3/6C	-	Miss Capps
		Mrs Davies (AP)
Support Teachers		
		Mrs Kitsouklias
		Miss Anson
		Mrs Carr
		Miss Quevedo
Learning Support Officers		
		Mrs Swadling
		Mrs Harris
		Mr El-aali
		Kim Mayes
Aboriginal Education Assistant		
		Miss Bell
Office Administrators		
		Mr Stevens
		Mrs Ball
		Mrs Ballantine
Principal		
		Mr Diamond (Rel)

##### Security

If you suspect someone is unlawfully on the school grounds. **Please call School Security**

## Education Week YCDI Award and Art Competition WINNERS

KE - Peter Jones, Aaron Ali  
K/1S - Taeje Eli, Geoffrey Henry  
2/3C - Suzana Bobilya, Temukisa Leuea  
3/4H - Ebony Reyes, Debbie Li  
5/6M - Shiane Brady, Prakruthi Koovekal  
K/1C— Jack Standen 2/6C Mathew Beckett, Nathan Watts



### P&C News – CLO

I am delighted with the great work of our relatively new P&C. They catered up a storm at the recent Athletics Carnival with a delicious BBQ. They followed this work up with an excellent Parent Forum on Parental Participation on Friday July 31 led by Maryanne Lakeman. Twelve excellent parent advocates attended this meeting, investing in ways to promote authentic partnership initiatives between the school and its community. Please start thinking about attending a very important series of workshops entitled Positive Parenting Program on Tuesdays next term, October 13 – to November 3. See Claire Trill or Michelle Ballantine if you are interested.

We are also busy writing an advertisement to attract a Community Liaison Officer to work at our school for the remainder of 2015, one day per week. The main tasks of this officer will be to work alongside our P&C and promote community partnerships at Guise PS. See me if you are interested in further information.

Many thanks to Mrs Trill for organising another performance opportunity for our Pacifika Kids and their Polynesian Dance group! A busload of us travelled to University of Western Sydney last week for the UWS Bring Your Family to Uni Night. Our kids rocked an auditorium of nearly 200 spectators and did so promoting a very worthy cause. Woo hoo!

### Woolies - Earn and Learn

Mr Neilson has entered the school in this great event. Please bring your stamps to the front office for collation. We stand to earn plenty of teaching resources if we can collect a bunch of stamps by September 8th.

### School Beautification

I know that you'll be as proud of the way that the school is looking as I am. The sporting fields, improved gardens and paths, playground upgrade (ongoing), our farm and our soon to be delivered signage all contribute to the school experiencing a real lift!

### Autism Classes

I would personally like to thank the wonderful Miss Sheryn Capps and Miss Emma Crichton who leave us this Friday! These two professional educators will be missed at Guise PS. Their tireless work has meant that all of the students in our Autism classes have had a marvellous 2015. Both Sheryn and Emma go with our blessing and should enjoy long and successful careers in service of children in NSW schools.

### Staffing

Ms Maria Quevedo who is currently on 3/4H will be with us for the remainder of 2015. She is our sixth classroom teacher and we are currently designing a timetable that will have the maximum positive impact on students in 2/3C, 3/4H and 5/6M.

Mrs Sally Mullen remains on leave and will now be replaced in her shared teaching role on 5/6M by Miss Samantha Wild

### Mark Diamond - Principal

#### You Can Do It (YCDI)

During this week's YCDI lessons students have been exploring Resilience. They have been involved in many activities that develop their understanding of how to "bounce back" when things get tough and how to show "grit" to achieve our goals. With your continued support of our home-school partnerships, we can continue to build within our students the lifelong skills of Confidence, Resilience, Persistence, Organisation and Getting Along.

We have already seen some amazing examples of students demonstrating the 5 YCDI foundations in both the classroom and playground. These students have received a YCDI raffle ticket that are being given out by teachers during recess and lunch breaks. Students collect these raffle tickets and place them in a draw that is held each Friday morning during assembly. The lucky winner receives a \$5 school voucher. Keep your eyes open for the new YCDI signs coming to our school playground in the near future.

### Mrs Davies—Assistant Principal

## **TEN—Targeted Early Numeracy**

Guise Public School is currently involved in a wonderful numeracy initiative as part of the Early Action for Success reform. Targeted Early Numeracy (TEN) is an early intervention initiative which aims to ensure that all students are on track with their numeracy development by Year Three. TEN complements the daily mathematics program and involves teachers providing students with short, focused and frequent teaching activities designed to enable them to efficiently solve addition and subtraction problems. The TEN model includes the use of;

- small group instruction
- short, focused, frequent numeracy sessions
- strategically targeted activities focusing on early arithmetical strategies
- explicit and systematic teaching
- five-weekly monitoring of student progress to identify and plan future instruction.

We currently have a number of teachers who are engaging in high quality professional learning with a number of other schools. Our wonderful students are the beneficiaries of this teacher learning.

Have a look at students in 2/3C engaging with the TEN program. They absolutely love developing their numeracy strategies using hands on materials and 'game-like' activities.



## **Book Week**

A reminder that Book Week is in Week 7. We will be holding our Book Character parade on Tuesday 25th August at 10:15am. Start thinking about your costumes! We will also be holding our Book Fair which will be open for purchasing on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th August from 8:30—9:30am and then again from 2:30—3:30pm both days. We hope to see you there!

**Mr Nathan Neilson**

**Deputy Principal**





# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





### **My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### **What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### **What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

### **Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

**Policy, information and brochures:**

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/goto/school/a-z/attendance.php>

**The school leaving age:**

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving-school/index.php>

**Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

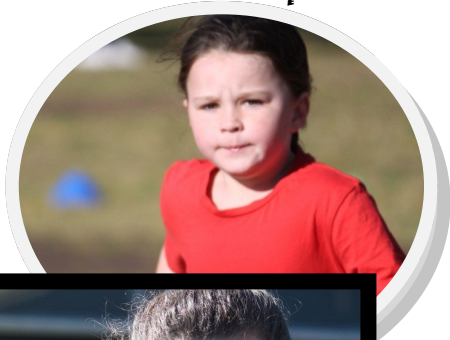
[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities



All the fun and competition at Guise PS Athletics Carnival 27th July 2015





*Acknowledging Grandparents at Guise Public School Wednesday 29 July 2015*

