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Term 1 Week 3 Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2025 school year! I am thrilled to be back at the helm of Gilgai Public School this term and have been truly impressed by the growth of our students; they all seem taller and older than they were at the end of 2024. I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and had a great start to the new year. I recognise that some families have faced loss recently, and I want you to know that you are in our thoughts. Please take care of yourselves. The sports program is off to a lively start with upcoming trials and knockout competitions to sign up for. Miss Muggleton will once again be leading sports at Gilgai Public School this year. Hearing the joyful play of our students in the playground and seeing their excited faces has made for a fantastic beginning to the year. This year, teachers had additional days to prepare their classrooms, enhance student learning experiences, update school policies, review student files, and ensure they are ready for a term filled with active learning.

2025 TEACHING STAFF

K/1: Mrs Madison Richards
2/3 Literacy Hub: Mrs Andrea Aitken
2/3/4/5/6: Miss Elise Muggleton
Library: Thursday with Mrs Rebel Bright
Learning Support and Wellbeing: Mrs Andrea Aitken
Release from Face to Face: Mrs Baker and Mrs Bright

Student Learning Support Officer: Mrs Sandra Mercer
 Mrs Gina Baker will continue as the Relieving Principal of Gilgai Public School for Term 1 only.

We have been brainstorming creatively with our green hat approach to establish three classes for part of the day. Each day, students from Year 2 and 3 will join Mrs. Aitken for the morning session, concentrating on explicit literacy and numeracy skills. This is an exciting new initiative and learning opportunity for our students. We are very close to forming a third class, and if we receive a few more student enrolments throughout the year, this class can be created. There may be some flexible class arrangements for a few weeks as we assess our enrolment numbers.

2025 OFFICE STAFF

School Administration Manager: Mrs Mandy Gallagher
IT & Office Support: Mr Keith Purves.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 14th Valentines Day SRC event
February 18th Parent / Carer / Teacher Interviews
March 13th School Photos
March 21st Harmony Day– wear orange today
April 1st Principal's Award Assembly at 12:45pm
April 9th Easter Hat Parade from 12:30pm
April 25th ANZAC Day service at Gilgai and school leaders also attend the Inverell ANZAC Day ceremony and luncheon

SMALL SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Small Schools Swimming Carnival will be held next Monday, 17th February at the Bingara Pool. The carnival will start at 10.15 a.m approximately.



The pool canteen will be open on the day to purchase hot chips, drinks, etc. Please fill in the expression of interest form below. Transport will be by parents.

SMALL SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Students must be 8 years or older and able to swim 50 metres to participate in the competitive races. Across the pool races will run on the day as well.

Name:

Class:

Age:

The 50m event / events I wish to participate in are

Freestyle

Backstroke

Breaststroke

Butterfly

COMPLETED BUILDING

Over the Christmas holidays, Gilgai Public School was an active building site. We now have a classroom ramp that is to code, a smoother walking area and easier access to the school office. Gilgai Public School now has a disabled parking space, located on the creek side of the school, which can be used by all vehicles displaying a mobility parking sticker. It has been completed for use this week. We hope everyone enjoys these improvements. Our school hall will be renovated in the middle of the school year.



BACK TO SCHOOL DAYS 2025 and A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS



FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN 2025



Safety Rules when Travelling on a School Bus

What Must I do when travelling on a School Bus.

- **I must wear a seatbelt.**

Refusal to wear a seat belt may result in the student being refused Travel.
Seatbelts are a legal requirement and must be worn.

- **I must Stay seated.**

I must stay seated and wear my seat belt and only get up when I am approaching my stop.

- **I must listen and follow the Bus Drivers directions.**

If a student continues to not listen to the Bus Driver and act in a disruptive manner the Bus Driver will put you on report which may result in the student being refused Travel.

- **I must Show the Bus Driver my Bus Pass each time I Travel on the Bus or when requested and I will have it ready to show the Bus Driver before getting on the bus.**

You **MUST** be deemed eligible to Travel from Home to School and School to home. If you are not eligible or refuse to apply for free Travel, you must pay a Fare or purchase a Term Pass.

- **I must NOT Swear, Yell, Scream, Name call or Argue whilst on the Bus.**

Bad language, Bullying and Disruptive behaviour may result in the student being refused Travel.

- **I must NOT ever Hit, Push or Spit whilst on the Bus.**

Violence is not tolerated and **will** result in the student being refused Travel.

- **Do NOT tamper with or interfere with Equipment fitted to the Bus.**

Any Tampering with equipment fitted to buses will Not Be Tolerated and may result in student being refused Travel.



Note: All Misconduct Reports are investigated by Cavanagh Bus & Coach Managers and Contact made to Parents/Caregivers and Schools regarding the outcome of the investigation.

How To Apply for a Bus Pass, visit

<http://www.cavanaghbus.com.au>

Click on the **Bus Pass** Tab at the top of the page,

Select [School Student Transport Scheme \(SSTS\) website link](#) or **Contact our Office**

All applications **cannot** be done on a mobile phone and must be done on a computer / Laptop.

For Further Information regarding **Pick Up** and **Drop Off** locations

please contact our Friendly Staff on **0267 223 598**

REMEMBER: CAVANAGH BUS & COACH BUSES ARE FITTED WITH CCTV CAMERAS, WHEN A COMPLAINT IS MADE BY A DRIVER, PARENT OF A STUDENT OR A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, THE FOOTAGE WILL BE REVIEWED TO CONFIRM THE COMPLAINT, AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MANAGER.



Transport NSW Code of Conduct: <https://transportnsw.info/student-code-conduct>