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Term 1 Week 6 Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we enter Week 6, I want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of kindness and collaboration within our school community. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for attending the parent/carer/teacher meetings last week. Your participation and engagement are vital to the success of our students and our school community. I know that these meetings were highly productive, providing valuable insights and fostering strong connections between home and school. This week, let's focus on how we can work together to solve any challenges we may face. Open communication is key; I encourage all of you to share your thoughts and ideas, whether in the classroom or through our various school platforms. I would also like to acknowledge our dedicated and caring teachers who go above and beyond to support our students. Their commitment to fostering a positive learning environment doesn't go unnoticed, and it plays a vital role in our students' success. Our school community is truly supportive, and it is heartwarming to see everyone come together to lend a hand and uplift one another. Whether through group projects, peer support, or simply offering a kind word, remember that each act of kindness contributes to a stronger, more connected community. Let's make this week a reminder of the power of working together and supporting one another. Thank you for being an integral part of our school family. Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead.

Warm regards,

Gina Baker

Relieving School Principal

SCHOOL PHOTOS



Gilgai Public School photos will be Thursday 13th March. Photo envelopes went home last week. If you would like a sibling photo, please come to the office and collect the sibling envelope. Students will need to be in full

summer uniform; school short sleeve shirt, shorts, blue socks and black school shoes. Thank you.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 13th	School Photos
March 21st	Harmony Day– wear orange today
March 28th	Food Bank 'Food Fight'
April 1st	Principal's Award Assembly at 12:45pm in the school hall
April 9th	Easter Hat Parade 12:30pm in the COLA
April 11th	Last day of Term 1
April 25th	ANZAC Day service at Gilgai and school leaders also attend the Inverell ANZAC Day ceremony and luncheon

FOOD BANK FOOD FIGHT



On Friday, March 28th, Gilgai Public School will have a 'Food Bank Food Fight'. This event is like a fun slime and colour run to welcome everyone to 2025.

Students can donate money to the Food Bank, who provide food for our Breakfast Club, and there will be prizes for donations given. More information will be shared soon.

READING VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in becoming a 'reading buddy', please contact the office and drop in a copy of your working with children check.

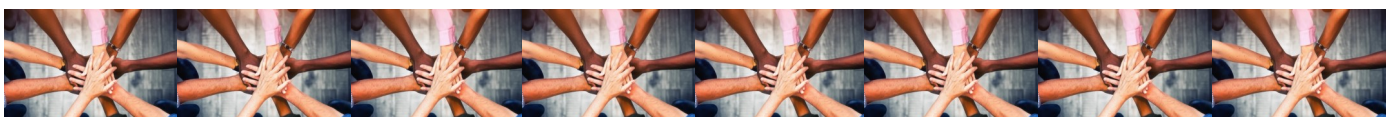


CONTACT THE SCHOOL

If ever you have any concerns about your child or school related issues, contact the office to make an appointment to talk to school staff and together we can find a solution or ask for further assistance.

CRUNCH AND SIP TIME

Every day after morning fitness, students have fruit and water before they start their lessons — Crunch and Sip, to help build healthy bodies and healthy brains. Thank you parents/carers for sending fruit in a **separate container** for easy access. Please ensure your child has a water bottle each day so they can stay hydrated.



GILGAI PUBLIC P & C SCHOOL CANTEEN

flexischools

School life simplified.

Easy ordering and cashless payments for school canteen, uniforms, fundraisers, and events



Thanks to Molly and her team of helpers from the P & C for creating yummy lunches for Gilgai Public School every Friday. There is an app for parents/ and carers to order lunch and uniforms online.

When you go onto the app, go to Gilgai Public School. There is a transaction charge added on to online orders. You can still order lunches using the brown bag system and cash through our school office.

3/4/5/6 LEARNT HOW TO PERFORM CPR LAST WEEK



K/1/2 INVESTIGATED EARTHWORMS IN SCIENCE WITH MRS AITKEN



THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

1.Academic Success: Regular attendance is directly linked to academic achievement. Each day in the classroom builds on the last, and missing even a small number of days can create gaps in understanding that may be hard to fill.

2.Building Habits: Attending school every day helps establish a routine and instils the importance of commitment and responsibility. These habits are not only vital for academic success but also for future endeavours in work and life.

3.Social Connections: School is not just about learning academics; it's also about building relationships with peers and teachers. Daily attendance fosters these connections, creating a supportive and collaborative environment.

4.Engagement in Activities: Being present allows students to participate in a wide range of activities, from classroom discussions to extracurricular programs. These experiences enrich their education and contribute to personal growth.

5.Support and Resources: Schools provide essential support and resources that can be invaluable for students. Regular attendance ensures that they are leveraging these opportunities to their fullest potential.

NSW Department of Education

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

More information

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

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

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.



ALERT: GET READY FOR THE FUNNEST, MESSIEST DAY EVER!

Gilgai Public School Families,

We're holding a Food Fight to raise much needed funds for Foodbank Victoria with a target of \$200 and we're asking all families to pitch in. Foodbank provides free food for Gilgai Public School's daily Breakfast Club which provides breakfast and lunch for students who need it.

We are super excited to announce that we will be holding our event on Friday 28th March 2025 from 12pm.

What is the Foodbank Food Fight?

Who doesn't love the idea of a Food Fight? Here's the chance for our entire school to engage in the naughtiest way yet* to boost school spirit and help raise vital funds for Foodbank Victoria. It's just like a school colour fun run, but so much more fun.

The Food Fight fun happens at school and the fundraising happens at home. You get to create your own online profile, set your fundraising target and then choose your target prizes. In your profile you will have a unique cyber safe link to share with your family and friends so they can donate and help get you close to your target.

Money raised will go to Foodbank Victoria so they can continue to feed 57,000 people in need, every day!

*No ACTUAL food will be harmed in the making of this event.

What do we need you to do?

All we need you to do this week is create an online profile at foodfight.com.au. The class with the most profiles by Thursday 27th March will all get an icy pole!

This is an inclusive fundraiser we would love you to be a part of! If you would like to come down and watch your kids run, we would love to see you on the school oval from 12pm.

Thank you all in advance,
Gilgai Public School Staff

School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with Our Plan for NSW Public Education.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- Communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- Professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat each other with **respect**

We **prioritise** the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work **together** with the school

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.



We create
collaborative
learning
environments

We
all play
our part

We work
in partnership
to promote
student
learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process:

education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



**Collaborative.
Respectful.
Communication.**

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au

