Words from our Principal

One of the most important factors that will affect your student’s achievement is attendance. Gladstone State High School works with our students in a number of ways to help promote our 93% target. This attendance target underpins our Eligibility system. This reflects the importance of attendance. Of course, there will be times when absence is necessary. The guideline for authorised absences are clearly outlined by the Department of Education. Absences over 10 days require authorisation for an Exemption from Schooling otherwise they will be listed as unauthorised. Although we can work with students to provide work in situations where students are absent, the best learning takes place in a supported classroom environment. We ask that parents are mindful when planning trips etc to ensure that students are not disadvantaged by absence.

Gladstone State High School has a focus on student welfare. We have a number of staff who work with students in this area.

- Ms Burdett and Ms Randazzo lead this program as the Heads of Department – Social Justice
- Chaplain – Ms Yvonne Kamholtz
- Mr Matthew Wiebusch – Youth Support Worker
- Ms Jess Johnson – Community Education worker
- Mr Andrew Carey – School Based Police Officer
- Ms Lisa Donohoe – Head of Junior School
- Mr Brendan Hooley – Head of Senior School
- Mr Luke Jackson – Guidance Officer – Senior School
- Ms Katrina Dalton – Guidance Officer - Junior School
- The Special Education Program – Headed by Ms Shelley Slade.

These are people who are available to your student to help with matters including school work, readiness for class, social issues in fact in any area your student may require help. These support structures are in place so that students can come to school each day and have a productive day. Students should use these support structures to address any concerns they have. They should certainly use these structures instead of resorting to retaliation or fighting. It is important for students to realise that when they leave school, they will be a part of a community that will expect appropriate behaviour – particularly in the workforce. Gladstone State High School is much advantaged with the level of welfare support that our students have. Our programs would be the envy of many schools who do not have these support structures in place.

Successful students look after themselves in a range of ways- including mind and body. There is a clear research based link that shows that successful students are often those who engage in extra curricular activities. The link between academic achievement and learning a musical instrument for example is well documented. Similarly, participation in sport has a lot of positive impacts on students – keeping them healthy and focussed. I would encourage our Junior School students particularly to take up the many opportunities on offer at State High to add to their development as a student over the next 4-6 years.

This week, two of our teachers have left us – Mr Peter O’Sullivan (Maths) and Mr John Watters (Manual Arts). We wish them well in their new endeavours and thank them for their work at State High. Unfortunately, there is a significant shortage of teachers in these areas in Queensland and we have been unable to secure replacements. We will look at our options for a way forward and appreciate your understanding while we try to ensure we maintain our class offerings with a reduced number of staff. At the moment, the Deputy Principals are taking up teaching load and I am also teaching a year 7 Learning Enhancement class. This may mean that appointments with members of Administration are more limited than we are used to.

Uniform Shop opening hours

MONDAY 8:15-11:15
WEDNESDAY 11:00 - 2:00
FRIDAY 8:15-11:15

Phone Chris on (07) 4976 6193

Order Forms and Pricing Forms can be collected from the uniform shop

The Uniform Shop has great specials on the older style fleecy jumper, going out for only $15.00!!! Sizes available are 4,6,8,10,16,18 and 22. Be quick and dont miss out on this great saving.
Chappy Chat!

Our community supports our students in many ways. Recently, one of our students was nominated to attend a ROTARY RYPEN weekend over Easter. Rypen is a Rotary Youth Enrichment Program which aims to strengthen teenagers’ confidence.

Chappy Yvonne asked Tighe, the nominated student, some questions.

“Tighe, how did you feel at the beginning of the weekend?” 
“Tighe, how did you feel at the beginning of the weekend?” “At the beginning I felt awkward and shy because I didn’t know anyone. By the end of day one with lots of talking and activities, I was happy to sleep at the conference. Some of the beds were creaky. Everyone was really friendly. There was lots of great, yummy food and fruit for whenever we wanted it. On the last day, we had a bowl of chocolates! .

“What was the camp like?” “There were a lot of talks about vision and how powerful it is to have a vision. There were talks about drugs and the work force. It’s never really good to actually take drugs because it’s really dangerous. If you take drugs you’re mostly paranoid or unaware of what’s happening. Then you’re not employable.”

“What sort of activities did you do?” “I liked the activities like sand-castle building contests, sumo wrestling, tug-o-war down the beach and at the end a big game of beach soccer. Speakers spoke about personal stuff they’d had to deal with and how they had to get up the courage to deal with it and it made a difference.”

“What was your favourite thing?” “One thing I really liked was that we got a bag at the beginning and had to decorate an envelope and throughout the weekend, people would write nice things and put them in our envelopes. Some of the things in my envelope said I had a good laugh, was funny and talkative, was a super-cool sumo and someone remembered me from grade one and said I had a great smile.”

“What are some things you walked away with?” “Certain things I’ve walked away with are that I have a stronger vision. I’m more clear on things for the future. I’m definitely clear that I don’t want to use drugs or alcohol. I’ve chosen to eat healthier and do more exercise – but it’s really hard to get out of the habit of junk food. I would like to say thanks to Rotary for this great opportunity. It has made a difference to my life because I believe in myself a little bit more.”

It was a joy to hear that Tighe had benefited from this enriching experience. And it’s incredibly rewarding to know that our students live and study in such a supportive community. Thank you to Rotary for your on-going support of youth.

Perhaps we’ll see you at the morning tea on Tuesday 12th of May from 9-10am?
Quick News

Positions Vacant
Please keep an eye out in the Student Notices for positions that could suit you if you are looking for work. You can also see Mr Hooley or Mrs Christopoulos in K Block for more information on positions, work experience etc.

Thankyou Girls!
Two of our Tech College girls Roimata T and Kelsey J sang the New Zealand National Anthem at the GSHS junior ANZAC parade in the hall on Friday 24th April.

Considering it was impromptu and they sang without backing music, both students did an amazing job.

Well done girls!

Roimata

Kelsey

ARTIE Talk!

Following on from a highly successful Term 1 attendance challenge, which saw over 70% of students receiving rewards, ARTIE students were recently treated to a visit from Brisbane Bronco Lachlan Maranta and Indigenous actor Michael Tuahine. Lachlan and Michael spoke to students about the importance of role models and helped to introduce the Term 2 challenge. Throughout Term 2 ARTIE participants will be encouraged to focus on maintaining school attendance, and achieving high results for effort and behaviour in Maths and English.

In addition, participants in the ARTIE Greats Year 11 Challenge attended a checkpoint excursion on May 1st. Students from Gladstone State High joined those from Mt Morgan, Rockhampton and Toooola State High schools at Sizzler in Rockhampton, along with special guest Jharal Yow Yeh. Students were congratulated on their progress through senior schooling and encouraged to keep up the great work.

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Roimata

Kelsey

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13 & 16 May 2015

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Junior Workshop (Year 8 School Age)
4-6pm, Wednesday May 13
Adults Workshop (Year 8 School Age +)
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Workshop: 10am-4pm, Saturday May 16

BYO device, fully charged & ready to go.
All workshops held at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum,
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RSVP ASAP • LIMITED SPACES
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Email: gcagm@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au
**HONESTY**
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn by your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

**VALUES**
To empower students to reach their full potential through quality learning experiences in a supportive and challenging school environment.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
- Give your best
- Be dependable
- Make appropriate choices
- Be fair • Have a go
- Take your opportunity to lead, otherwise be a good team member

**EXCELLENCE**
- Doing your best
- Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable
- Try hard
- Keep trying and pursue excellence
- Expect high standards

**RESPECT**
- Value yourself and others
- Respect your environment
- Act and speak courteously to everyone
- Be kind to animals
- Foster good relationships
- Foster school pride

**SAFETY**
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practise safe and hygienic habits
- Follow the rules