Unveiling of the Loris Corowa Memorial Room

On Wednesday 28th of May Gladstone State High School came together with family and community to attend the naming of the Loris Corowa Memorial Room.

Aunty Loris Corowa was the Community Education Counsellor at Gladstone State High School for 21 years. In that time she worked tirelessly in assisting, encouraging, motivating, supporting and mentoring anyone that walked through the door of the room formally and fondly referred to as ‘The Murri Room’. Aunty Loris’ role was to work with Indigenous students to support them with their schooling and form connections between school and community. Regardless of her role, Aunty Loris was there for everyone – Indigenous, non-Indigenous, staff, student or family.

Earlier this year, Aunty Loris lost her battle to cancer. This news was shocking and devastating to everyone who had the pleasure of knowing her. Aunty Loris touched upon and made a difference to the lives of many staff and students within our school community. The fitting day of 28th May was chosen to honour Aunty Loris as it was the first State of Origin clash of 2014 – an event that was much loved by Aunty and one of her favourite times of the year.

The Community Education Counsellors room or ‘Murri Room’ is now officially the Loris Corowa Memorial Room. We will always remember and celebrate the life of Aunty Loris and we are grateful for the time we had with her.

Thank you to everyone involved and in attendance.
Nurse’s News

Autism Awareness

Characteristics of Autism

Autism impacts all areas of a person’s life and how they cope in everyday situations. Although incredibly variable, some of the challenges that may be experienced by the person with Autism could include:

- difficulty understanding what you say;
- difficulty with eye contact and other nonverbal body language such as gestures and facial expression;
- difficulty telling you what they want or need;
- difficulty making conversation;
- tendency to take things literally;
- being awkward and ill at ease in a social situation;
- unusual responses to sensory input including intense interest in or intense aversions to certain textures, sounds, movements, tastes or visual patterns or lights;
- unusual or challenging behaviours in response to their confusion and stress;
- significant learning difficulties;
- outstanding skills in certain areas;
- preoccupation with certain objects, topics, etc;
- repetitive behaviours (such as hand flapping, body rocking, or finger flicking);
- always wanting to do certain things the same way or to keep things the same;

While all people can exhibit some of these characteristics at some point or another, it is the pattern of behaviours, their intensity, and the fact that they persist beyond the typical age that leads to a diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Source: Autism Queensland  
www.autismqld.com.au

More Information:
Contact: Autism Queensland
Telephone: (07) 3273 0000
Email: admin@autismqld.com.au
Local contact, Email: austismsupport4680@hotmail.com / ph: 49792777
Marisa Farlow
School based youth health nurse

Quick News

Year 12 QTAC Interviews
Students in year 12 who are wishing to apply to university, will have the opportunity this term to meet with our Guidance Officer, Brendan Burke. These QTAC interviews are commencing earlier this year as some students are ready now to have this conversation. Parents are welcome to attend these interviews if required. An information session on the application process for year 12 students and parents will be held in term 3, once this year’s QTAC Guides arrive.

GSHS P&C MEETINGS:
The GSHS P&C monthly meeting takes place in the GSHS Administration Building, Dawson Highway starting at 7pm. We welcome new and existing families to come along, and we look forward to seeing you there. P&C meeting dates for 2014, They are as follows-
- 23rd June
- 28th July
- 25th August
- 20th October
- 24th November

Events Participation Funding for Students:
The Gladstone State High School P&C is pleased to offer an “Events Participation Fund” which is designed to support Gladstone State High School students participating at a regional, state, or national level in sporting, cultural or academic fields. We encourage all students who qualify to apply for the funding. The application form is attached to our GSHS website and it also provides an assessment guide for assistance.

Congratulations Andrew McLean

TJ Ryan Memorial Highly Commended Award Recipient

Congratulations to Andrew McLean for being a recipient of a 2014 TJ Ryan Memorial Medal Highly Commended Award. The TJ Ryan Memorial Awards recognise students who demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities and academic excellence during their senior years at high school. Andrew was Gladstone State High School Captain and Dux in 2013. Andrew is presently studying a dual degree, Bachelor of Exercise Science/Pre Physiotherapy, at Griffith University.

As well as undertaking his university studies, Andrew has just come back from the Swimming Age Nationals in Sydney where he won two Bronze medals in the freestyle and medley relay team events.
School Wide Positive Behaviour

All members of the school community have the right to feel a sense of belonging and security and be comfortable at home, school and in their community. No one can be allowed to deny any person this right and it is important that all students have a real awareness of harassment and what constitutes it, whether as a victim or as a perpetrator. Harassment in any form cannot be tolerated.

The capacity to build relationships, learn collaboratively and have empathy for others are desirable lifelong capabilities and habits that need to be nurtured in our children. The presence of harassment in any environment can have a debilitating effect on the acquisition of these personal attributes and qualities.

There are many forms of harassment, including, physical, verbal, electronic, emotional, sexual, etc., which must be addressed immediately they occur; they won’t just go away and may escalate into bullying. Also, the harassers need assistance to raise their self-awareness of their unacceptable behaviours in order to become self-correcting to modify how they treat people. At times we may have to explicitly teach certain students how to treat other people appropriately because they have had no positive role models in their lives to learn from.

In today’s society, school is very often the most stable and safe environment for many students and maintaining this must be a high priority within the school community. Developing children’s preparedness to realise that it is their right to speak up if they are being harassed or bullied is essential in building their lifelong resiliency.

Initiating frank and proactive dialogue, both at school and at home, on this destructive issue and supported by immediate and decisive action will see harassment diminish.

“Throwing mud is losing ground.” Saying

EQIP Information

Parents, how do you help your teenager make the biggest decision in their life? Deciding which career path to take is not easy. Education Queensland and Industry Partnership (EQIP) supports your child to remain in school while exploring options for future employment and career opportunities. What could be a more perfect scenario?

EQIP is conducting an information night for parents and students on Wednesday 11th June 2014 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm (doors opening at 5.30pm) at the Gladstone Technical College, 4 Boles Street Gladstone. The night will provide information regarding the options open to students in grades 10, 11 and 12 attending Toolooa State High School, Gladstone State High School or Tannum Sands State High School.

Providing an alternative pathway for students to complete their secondary education, while also preparing them to enter their chosen career, the 6 EQIP programs have committed and passionate teachers providing ‘job ready’ skills and support, to students.

The six EQIP Programs include:

- EQIP Doorways to Civil Construction (ED2CC – Year 10)
- EQIP Business & IT Skills Centre (EBITS – Years 10, 11 & 12)
- EQIP Engineering Skills Centre (EESC – Years 11 & 12)
- EQIP Technical College Gladstone Region (TCGR – Years 11 &12)
- EQIP Process Plant Operations (Years 11 & 12)
- PREQIP (Year 10)

These 6 programs include work experience in construction; engineering; resources; professional and support services; hospitality and retail; and health and community sectors with the opportunity to enter into school based traineeships and apprenticeships.
National Collection of Data on Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of all students in schooling on the same basis. All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with a disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools will participate and all schools will be collect data from 2015. Our school will be involved in the nationally consistent collection of data from this year.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide another organisation with data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you. While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:

Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me.

Regards,
Glen Donald
A/Principal

Murri Moments

ARTIE PROGRAM – Achieving Results Through Indigenous Education

On Friday 16th May the ARTIE Academy returned to Gladstone State High School to present prizes to students who have achieved in the areas of attendance, effort and behaviour.

A big congratulations to 34% of Indigenous students who achieved at a gold level for Term 1. The challenge was for students to achieve:

- 90% physical attendance
- VERY GOOD or above for effort and behaviour in maths and English

Students who achieved this received an ARTIE hoodie and half a ticket to ARTIE camp which will be held later in the year. Students who received silver or bronze – between 80 – 90% attendance and at least SATISFACTORY in effort and behaviour – were awarded with an ARTIE hoodie for their Term 1 efforts.

Term 1 has resulted in Gladstone State High School being rated the second top school in the ARTIE Academy which is a Queensland wide initiative. Well done to both students and staff!!

Term 2 students face the same challenge as Term 1 with prizes including Johnathan Thurston head gear, Indigenous designed headphones and speakers as well as the second half of the camp ticket for our gold level students.

Well done to students so far! Just remember that the challenges don’t stop so keep up the hard work!

Thanks
Miss Polglase
### Year 8 Performing Arts Class

The Year 8 Performing Arts Class (PAC) has begun working together this term to build their skills in the arts and also to come together as a group before they undertake the immense task of putting on the PAC Junior Musical. The students have been doing afternoon workshops in Music, Visual Art and Drama, discovering and developing their skills. The PAC students have also been lucky to be mentored by past PAC students, now in Year 9 and 10. They will have three more weeks of workshops and then it's time to get ready for auditions! We're all enjoying the time we have to play.

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### Dates to Remember

- **2nd - 6th June**
  - Year 10 Work Experience
  - Block 3

- **3rd June**
  - MABO Day

- **4th June**
  - ICAS Science Competition

- **5th June**
  - Korean Wave

- **6th June**
  - Fan Fair

- **9th June**
  - Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

- **10th June**
  - Year 10 and 11 Subject Selection Evening

- **16th June**
  - ICAS Writing Competition

- **17th June**
  - ICAS Spelling
  - Year 8 Mini Carnival

- **18th June**
  - Year 9 Mini Carnival

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### PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCES

If your student is away for any reason there are several ways of notifying the school.

- Phone on 07 4976 6158
- Email on absentees@gladstonshs.eq.edu.au
- Use the notification slip in the Newsletter each week
- Use the slip in your student's diary
- Text absences on 0407096034

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

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### UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

- Monday: 8:15am-11:15am
- Wednesday: 11:00am-2:00pm
- Friday: 8:15am-11:15am

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### GSHS CORE VALUES

#### 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

#### HONESTY
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn by your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

#### SAFETY
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practice safe and hygiene habits
- Follow the rules

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### Student Absence Notification

| Student Name: | ____________________________ |
| Care Group: | ____________________________ |
| Date: | / /  |
| Reason (Circle): | Sick | Personal | Family | Other |
| Date: | / /  |
| Reason (Circle): | Sick | Personal | Family | Other |
| Date: | / /  |
| Reason (Circle): | Sick | Personal | Family | Other |

Parent’s Signature: ____________________________