Chappy Chat!

As the holidays approach, teenagers have the opportunity to spend more hours online. I receive updates from Michelle Mitchell (Teenage expert/Author/Speaker michellemitchell.org) and believe that this reminder about online safety is extremely valuable and timely.

“When my kids were small, they lived life blissfully unaware of any potential danger around them. They would run onto the road to chase a ball or climb a fence they had no way of getting down from. I worked really hard to keep them safe, and besides a few broken bones (which happened when I wasn't looking!) I think I did a pretty good job.

Now they are teenagers they are faced with new threats, which they remain similarly unaware of. They think they know about cyber bullying, sexting, pornography, identity theft and the like, but they really haven't lived long enough to understand the full impact of any of them. With the same intention, effort and dedication I had when they were young, I am now focusing my efforts on keeping them safe online.

For me, keeping my kids safe online starts with open and continued conversation. Here are five questions that may help you start a conversation with your teen today:

- Have you ever googled your name to see what comes up? I ask my teenagers this question regularly for a few reasons. The main one being to remind them that anything they post online is easily accessible.

- What is your favourite app? Their interests online are constantly changing and it’s literally impossible to keep up without their help. I enjoy being taught about the latest Instagram updates from my 13 year old. He is my best teacher.

- What should we be doing to protect your younger brothers / sisters online? Older siblings are usually much more concerned about their brothers and sisters than we give them credit for. They also notice things we don’t, especially online. Asking for their input gives them the opportunity to use what they have learnt to help others.

- What is the worst thing you have ever seen online? We have to expect they will come across inappropriate content online. It’s not “if” it’s “when”. I think it is important to give teenagers a safe place to talk honestly. Be careful not to over react but work out solutions with them. They should never be punished for someone else’s online choices.

- How do you respond to criticism or hate online? The choices our teens make online determine whether they get more hate or less hate, more pornography or less pornography, etc….you get the idea. How they respond the first time they come across a challenge will make a great difference to where it leads them. Delete, block, report to an adult…three steps every teenager needs to be reminded of regularly.”
And… as we approach the Christmas season, I am reminded that love needs to be our greatest gift to each other. 1 Corinthians includes “Love…. Does not behave rudely.” At times, rudeness and negativity seems to be on the rise in today’s world, and we need to be mindful to focus on hope, faith and love – compassionate, genuine care for each other. “To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world.” (Dr Seuss)

Encouragement is like premium gas. It helps to take the knocks out of living. May this Christmas be one that allows you to reflect on the blessings in your life, special moments that make you inwardly smile, a glimpse of infinite hope and some fun that makes you laugh out loud!

Some fun shots from our girls’ VITAL group yesterday when we worked on our art masterpieces which will be exhibited at the Town Pool! Mrs Randazzo deserves a HUGE thank you for her amazing efforts, dedication and generosity in giving a Year 9 cohort of both boys and girls an unbelievable opportunity to grow and develop in so many positive ways! Karen from Crow Street Creative also gave so generously with her very precious time, energy and resources. As I said in the last two newsletters, it’s because our Gladstone Community is so generous that our youth have so many wonderful opportunities and mentors. Thank you to our Gladstone Community AGAIN!

Chappy Yvonne

Last week I was away helping out with Red Frogs down on the gold coast for schoolies. Red Frogs is a support network that helps school leavers and festival goers party safe by being a positive presence and helping with any situations that may arise. This year has been regarded as the best schoolies ever as the amount of incidents was way down on previous years. This is something I noticed from doing Red Frogs previous years. It was a great experience and something I really enjoy doing.

This Term has gone super fast and I’ve really enjoyed my time here at Gladstone State High. Being able to build relationships with a lot of students as well as being able to run some boys group with Yvonne and our School Based Police officer Andrew has been a lot of fun and a great experience. Next year I hope to be able to continue to work alongside the students and really help them realise their full potential.

Chappy Jarek
**Quick News**

**Enrolments 2016**

We are currently looking at numbers and forming classes and lines for 2016 so it is imperative that families in our catchment area enrol their children as soon as possible.

Gladstone State High School is enrolment managed. Only families living within our enrolment catchment are eligible to enrol. Please see the Catchment Map [http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/). If you are unsure or need assistance with this please contact the school office on 4976 6111.

We are asking families who have not already enrolled their child for 2016 to please come into the office to enrol as soon as possible. IMPORTANT: Please bring with you proof of residence; this can include Electricity Invoice, current Council Rates Notice or a lease agreement. If you do not have any of these items please contact the school for further advice.

Upon receiving your completed enrolment form you will be contacted to arrange an enrolment interview. Interviews take approximately 15 minutes.

Should you have any queries in relation to enrolling at Gladstone State High School please feel free to contact the school.

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**BYOx Device 2016**

**Minimum Device Specifications**

In order to provide a consistent experience for students, it is important the device meets the minimum standards outlined below, this will ensure the device is able to connect to the School network, printing systems, and ensure that digital content used in the classroom is compatible with the chosen device. Please do not purchase a device unless you are sure the device meets the following specifications.

It is required that all BYOx devices have some form of protective casing to minimise damage whilst at school.

Laptops must have the minimum standards in order to operate efficiently within the school network. As such, ensure your device has:

- 4GB RAM
- 11.6 inch screen (measured diagonally)
- 320GB Hard Drive
- Processor Speed 1.8Ghz
- 6+ hour battery
- Wireless Modem - 802.11g or higher
- USB port
- Headphone port
- Built in microphone/speakers
- Webcam
- keyboard
- Windows 7 or later (apple, Mac, iOS, iPad, Android, Windows RT, Chromebook are NOT supported)
- Office 365 (provided through school)
- 3 year warranty

**Australian Volleyball Schools Cup Melbourne 2015**

This year our school is taking 45 very excited girls to Melbourne for the Australian Volleyball School's Cup. The tournament is held over a week every year in December and this will be the first year that we will be taking year 7s.

Gladstone State High will field five teams at this year’s tournament and our senior team will again be competing in the elite Senior Honours Division where teams must qualify to gain a place in the draw. Our senior team, made up of mostly year 11 students have excelled this year playing in the open seniors division and although they will be playing against girls who are one or two years older they expect to be very competitive in Melbourne.

A real time score board is being kept by Australian Volleyball this year and it can be found at [http://www.avsc.org.au/event-info/results-live](http://www.avsc.org.au/event-info/results-live). You can also keep up-to-date with our posts on the school's Facebook page.

Girls leave school on Saturday 5 December and return at around midnight on Saturday 12 December. We wish all the teams and their coaches the best of luck.
Quick News

Start date 2016!
The Department has changed the start date for the 2016 school year. With the number of students at Gladstone SHS we will again have a staggered start.

Wednesday 27 January
Yr7, 8, 11, 2016 Yr10 Peer Mentors and Yr12 School Leaders (Captains, Vice Captains, House Captains and Executive Committee)

Thursday 28 January
Whole School

Please find attached the link to the Departments Start Date change for 2016

ARTS News

During Term 4 the Senior Visual Art students created artworks from the concepts of My Space, My Time and Reaction. The artworks ranged from works in 2D, 3D with paint, watercolour, acrylic, spray paint and in digital media using Photoshop. Students from years 7-12 were vetted and showcased during the awards night celebration with our annual alfresco gallery. Our year 12 Visual Art cohort finished their final pieces with top student Carlo S receiving a VHA8 and was handed-picked to become a sample to be used for professional development for visual art teachers around the state. On behalf of the Arts staff we wish all of our year 12 students every success in the future.

Cristie Lolo & Katelyn McCulloch (Visual Art Teachers)

Deadly Choices Leadership camp
The Deadly Choices Pathways to Success Program are having a Youth Leadership Camp, from 10th-13th December at Chaverim for years 7,8 and 9 students.

Pre-ordered TONKAS
If you have ordered a Tonka for 2015, they are ready for collection at the office at break times.

Arts Alumni Performer Hayley Marsten
Hayley graduated Gladstone State High School in 2011. During her time at GSHS she performed in a number of situations, her debut was on the year 9 camp with her guitar, which was received with a rousing applause. A lead in the school musical Aladdin as Jasmine soon followed and ensured in the minds and hearts of us all that she should pursue performing as a career. Since graduating, Hayley Marsten has gone on to attend QUT University to study a Bachelor of Creative Industries, majoring in music and entertainment industries. She has also started to build a name as an emerging Country Music artist. In 2014 she worked with Bill and Nash Chambers to record her debut EP ‘Even’, on which she wrote all five songs. ‘Even’ was released earlier this year to two sold out launch shows and the lead single ‘Storm in a D Cup’ reached top 40 on the Australian Country Radio Charts. Hayley is currently finishing her degree for graduation next July, penning her first full length album, planning a national tour and trying to find time to sleep. We wish Hayley all the best with her tour, congratulations for all of your achievements in such a short amount of time.

Arts Alumni Performer Paul Black
Paul graduated from Gladstone State High School in 2011. He was an prominent member of the instrumental music program and dabbled in musical stage work in the school musical Aladdin – playing the Sultan. Since graduating Paul has completed a Bachelor of Music at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. Paul keeps himself busy playing a number of brass instruments from trombone, bass trumpet to euphonium. A member of the Brisbane Brass 2, the band competed at the Australian National Band Championships this year and placed 3rd in Australia. Just this year alone Paul has also played with the Queensland Trombone Quartet, Queensland Philharmonia Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra and has been labelled as one of the ‘talented and hip brass boys’ playing on Ocean Leaves latest EP. Congratulations on your achievements and journey so far Paul can wait to see what you achieve next.
Legal Studies 11 and 12 2016

2016 will be an exciting year to be in Legal Studies in year 11 and 12. Legal Studies students will be able to join us for a planned trip to Brisbane in Term One. The excursion will be conducted in conjunction with Senior Korean and Urban Design classes.

The excursion will give students a chance to tour the Supreme and District courts, the police museum and a University Law school. This opportunity will also give students the chance to talk to industry professionals and gain insights into possible career pathways. For many students this is a great chance to view the law that they are studying in action and to assess whether it is an avenue for further study after school. Hopefully we have some budding legal eagles in our Senior cohort!

Keep an eye out early in 2016 for more details. Some of the activities scheduled are below:

Monday 15th February
- Depart Gladstone for Brisbane
- Arrive at Brisbane City YHA
- Dinner, bowling and laser tag at Strike Bowling in Queen Street Mall.

Tuesday 16th February
- Morning walk (optional) – Roma Street Parklands
- Breakfast at YHA
- Travel via bus to University of Queensland St Lucia Campus – campus tour
- Presentation by UQ Law School
- Dinner with whole group at Korean Restaurant

Wednesday 17th February
- Morning walk (optional) – Brisbane River-way
- Breakfast at YHA
- Visit Magistrates Court
- Visit and observe proceedings in District and Supreme Courts
- Visit Queensland Police Museum
- Free time/activities
- Dinner – Greek Banquet at Greek Club West End

Thursday 18th February
- Breakfast at YHA Brisbane City
- Visit Mt Coo-tha lookout and Brisbane Botanical Gardens
- Depart Brisbane for Gladstone

**Please note this is a rough guide to provide information about the activities that have been planned so far, they may be subject to change depending on final numbers. A more detailed itinerary (including times) will be provided early next year.

Vietnam Memorabilia

The Resource Centre has seen its fair share of displays, although this year we were very honoured that Mr. Trevor Davis kindly loaned his Vietnam memorabilia.

Mr. Trevor Davis is a Vietnam Veteran. At the young age of 21 years he was drafted into the army two weeks before he was married. Then two weeks prior to his deployment to Vietnam his son was born. While serving in Vietnam he did patrols as a gunner and was stationed at Headquarter Battery 12 Field Regiment with the Royal Australian Artillery.

Mr. Trevor Davis’ display consists of: Australian Military Forces pocket book, slouch hat, zippo lighters, lapels, personal identification tags (dog tags), handbook on Equipment and Ammunition, water bottle, key ring, pamphlet- Guide to Selected Viet Con equipment and explosive devices, buttons, booklet of Military Uniforms of Seven Allies and various other items. These items are held in a glass cabinet for easy perusal by students and staff. Also displayed are conference notes of daily notices and a photo of Mr. Trevor Davis as a young soldier.

Mr. Trevor Davis served eight months in Vietnam and his remaining National Service in Australia. Once leaving the Australian Army he continued his trade as a carpenter and is now working at Gladstone and Toolooa State High Schools as a Teacher Aide in Manual Arts.
Career Corner

CQ Ice Works
We are looking for 2 truck Jockeys for the Dec/ Jan School holidays. The position would include assisting our delivery drivers with their deliveries over the busy Christmas time. It would include weekend work and the successful application would need to work Christmas day and the public holidays surrounding Christmas. Please see Mrs C in K Block for more info.

Thanks from Senior Schooling
As we are approaching the end of the school year quite quickly, Mr. Hooley and Mrs Christopoulos would like to wish all Gladstone State High School students and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year break. We would like to extend our thanks to those students who have participated in the work experience programme and all other Senior Schooling activities throughout 2015. We look forward to working with students and families once again in 2016.

Do you like to work outdoors?
EQIP Technical College will be providing student the opportunity of gaining their Certificate I in Construction. This qualification will provide you with an entry level skills and knowledge to work in the building and construction industry. You will learn a broad range of skills to help you decide which area of building and construction you wish to follow, for example, bricklaying/blocklaying, carpentry and joinery, and painting and decorating.

This qualification provides an introduction to the construction industry, its culture, occupations, job roles and workplace expectations. The units of competency cover essential occupational health and safety requirements, the industrial and work organisation structure, communication skills, work planning, and basic use of tools and materials.

For further information contact Karen or Natasha at the Technical College on 49766175

EBITS News!
Congratulations to the students of Gladstone State High School who celebrated the completion of their Certificate I in Business at the EBITS Centre. Students were treated to a smorgasbord style lunch kindly donated by Boyne Smelters Ltd. During their time at EBITS, students have not only completed their certificate, they have been exposed to a world class Aluminium Smelter and experienced the necessary Workplace Health and Safety requirements. From studying onsite, they have witnessed first-hand the requirements of working at the Smelter and have gained a better understanding for choosing future career paths.

These students should be congratulated on a wonderful past six months, and we look forward to seeing many of these students return to EBITS in 2016.
Urban Design, North Keppel and Outback Safari

Urban Design students tackling real world problems in 2016

Urban Design is an elective that has been offered to year 9 students for the past four years. It requires students to examine all aspects of the built/urban environment including: landscapes, architecture, parklands, civil engineering and urban/town-planning, with the overarching theme around 'creating places for people'. It is a brilliant subject as it encompasses a range of skills across multiple disciplines, as well as allowing students to develop their critical thinking and problem solving skills in the context of 'real world' issues.

For the first time in 2016, the year 9 Urban Design class will be travelling to Brisbane City for four days to discover what makes our state's capital one of the world's most liveable cities. During their stay in the CBD they will be able to experience the best of what Brisbane has to offer including world class shopping, galleries, recreation, transport, parklands and multicultural dining. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in an exclusive Q&A session with Brisbane City Council's urban design team; see first-hand an array of Brisbane's urban renewal projects; attend an architectural design workshop at the University of Queensland's St Lucia campus; and investigate urban living from a young person's perspective by attending a lunch hosted by university students.

Once back in Gladstone, the Urban Design class will be applying what they have learnt to create an urban design proposal for Gladstone City. This is an exciting opportunity for students to think creatively and outside-the-box on a project for their local community.

Students are set to depart in week 4 of term 1. This will be a joint excursion with the senior Legal Studies and Korean classes. Expression of interest forms have gone out this week to interested year 8 students, with some places still being available.

Year 9 North Keppel Elective

The popular year 9 North Keppel elective is going ahead in 2016. Students who were successful in their written applications will be heading to North Keppel Island Environmental Education Centre to immerse themselves in one of the seven natural wonders of the world: the Great Barrier Reef. This environmentally themed subject is aimed at developing a deep understanding and appreciation of Gladstone's unique geographical position on the doorstep of one of Australia's most valuable natural assets, along with the complex environmental issues that exist in the region.

During the week long sojourn on the tropical island, students will have the opportunity to go snorkelling, reef walking, camping on the beach, sea-kayaking, bushwalking, boating and much more. Once back at school, each student will be diving in head first to tackle a local environmental issue of their choice. The class will hold a stall at the popular Eco-Fest held at the Gladstone Botanic Gardens in 2016, presenting their message to the local community.

The North Keppel Island camp will be occurring in week 8 of term 1 and the Eco-Fest will be happening in term 2. Applications for this subject have already closed, with the successful applicants being notified in the coming weeks.

Year 8 Outback Safari

In 2016, a group of approximately 55 students will be heading out on a weeklong road trip to central Queensland, with the destination being Carnarvon Gorge National Park.

Students will have many opportunities to push their limits as they trek through the unparalleled beauty of Carnarvon's tropical rainforest, take in the panoramic scenery from the top of the gorge, view ancient Indigenous rock art in one of the world's oldest galleries and visit a number of other significant educational sites along the way including: The Stockman's Hall of Fame, QANTAS Museum, Waltzing Matilda Centre & Age of Dinosaurs Museum.

This camp cuts across many of the year 8 curriculum areas including: Geography (landforms and landscapes); Science (geology); and English (indigenous perspectives); making this adventure an invaluable learning experience, not to mention a whole lot of fun!
Dates to Remember

11th December - Last Day of Term 4 for years 7-9
28th January - Boys Cricket 15 - 19 Years
28th January - Boys & Girls Swimming 10 – 12 Years

Awards Day/Night photos

Congratulations Award Winners

Did you know you can go on-line to view and buy your official photos?

www.stephenmills.com.au

Allow 4 working days AFTER the event IS COMPLETELY FINISHED and ALL AWARDS have been presented in the School and enter the following details...

Login name: gladstone
Password: awards15

You can view, order and pay for your images on the secure site. Allow approximately 15 working days for orders to be despatched DURING THE ORDER PERIOD. If experiencing difficulty please phone 0417198690

NOTE; Offer available until March 30th 2016 after which this OFFER WILL EXPIRE and prices(delivery times and postage may vary. Images may be removed from the site.

Happy viewing and Safe Holidays.

Uniform Shop opening hours 2015/2016

The Gladstone State High School uniform is available on site through the P & C Uniform Shop. This shop is located on the ground floor of D-Block, directly in front of the main stairs leading up to the administration building. Uniform Shop contact number is (07) 4976 6193.

Normal opening hours:

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

Last week of school 7th – 11th December:

- Monday – Friday 8:15am – 3:30pm

Year 7 Transition days 1st and 2nd December 2015 - 8:15am to 3:30pm

Week before school commences:

Monday 18th January 2016 to Friday 22nd January 2016, between 8:15am and 3:30pm

First week back for Term 2, 3 and 4

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

Term 1 2016 27th, 28th and 29th of January - 8:15-3:30pm

Happy viewing and Safe Holidays.