Interact Club Fundraising Success

GIANT TOBLERONE FINDS A HOME!
Thanks very much to all of the Gladstone SHS community members who supported this fundraising endeavour by the Interact Club. We are pleased to announce that it was drawn on Friday 29 April and the winner was CODY H - Year 12. He has received his prize and was surrounded instantly by a large number of people, perhaps Cody’s new friends?

Congratulations Cody!

The Interact Club managed to raise $470 over 2 weeks. The awesome and very supportive Rotary Club of Gladstone - Port Curtis will match this fundraising effort by our Interact Club students which will allow us to purchase 1 shelterbox for immediate use in disaster areas such as Ecuador at the moment.

Thanks once again for your support.

GSHS INTERACT CLUB
Welcome to Gladstone State High School

Gladstone State High School is a dynamic, progressive and internationally accredited school which meets the needs of 21st century learners. Our school focuses on the development of positive relationships with students and the community, diverse and individual pathways for students, quality responsive teaching, improved learning and innovation. We have a strong focus on school improvement and the creation of quality pathways for all.

Our Vision:
Clever, skilled and creative students making healthy choices.

Our Purpose:
To provide students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to maximise their potential enabling them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our Values:
We value and build on our strong traditions of excellence, resilience and inclusiveness in a productive learning and teaching environment, where we are respectful, safe, responsible and engaged.

Red Food Day - Tuckshop

The Tuckshop is holding their first “Red Day” for 2016 on Friday the 13th May.

These “Red Days” are held to raise much needed funds for the P&C Committee who then allocates the profits made into enhancing your child/childrens environment and education at Gladstone State High School.

Please support this fundraising opportunity as it ultimately benefits your child/children.

By holding Red Days this also supports our local community and local jobs as our food is sourced from local businesses, thus in term giving students local jobs.

We appreciate the support and assistance of the Gladstone State High staff and facility in working with the tuckshop to be able to run these days smoothly. Our Red Day businesses are as follows:
- Subway
- Pizza Hut
- Golden Chicken
- Red Rooster
- Coca Cola

The Tuckshop also appreciates the help our lovely volunteers who tirelessly help us on these days. Kaz, Lynda, Deb, Gaye, Cath, Martin and Vanessa, and to Judy who makes our great signs for advertisement. We thank you.

Well done Jarrod!

Jarrod has had a brilliant season and accomplished a lot in the last year, major events which are listed below;

McDonalds QLD Championships – December 2015.
Jarrod broke the 14yr Boys S14 Multiclass QLD Record's in the 400m Free, 200m Free & 200m IM, He won 4 Gold, 1 Silver & 3 Bronze medals. He is the QLD State Champion in 400m Free, 200m Free, 50m Free and 200m IM for his age.

McDonalds QLD Sprint Championships – February 2016
Jarrod swam in the Open Age against the top swimmers including Paralympians. He achieved PB's in all events and as high as 12th place.

CQ Championships – March 2016
Jarrod broke his own 14y Boys S14 Multiclass QLD Record in 400m Free, He won 2 Silver & 2 Bronze medals

GHF Australian Age Championships – April 2016
Jarrod competed in 10 events and finished as high as 4th in 50m Back and 100m Breast. He placed in the top 10 in Australia for his age in all events. He also broke another QLD Record in 100m Free and broke his own QLD Records in 400m Free & 200m IM. This was Jarrod’s first Nationals with Swimming Australia and a truly awesome event for him. He learned so much and handled the pressure well. It was an experience he can build on for future events.

It is now winter season and he’ll be training hard for the next racing season. He trains 3 mornings and 4 afternoons totaling 12.5hrs per week.

The Tuckshop of Gladstone State High School.
Careers Corner

**Work Experience 2016**
The work experience programme for 2016 has been opened and forms are now available from Senior Schooling for students who wish to attend placements. Cost is $40 and students must be 14 years old. Medical and Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited work experience is available also. Forms will NOT be accepted during lesson time or without payment first. Please see Mrs Christopoulos in Senior Schooling.

**Work Experience June/July holidays**
The closing date for June/July holidays is Monday 9th May. Any students who are 14 years and over who wish to do work experience during June/July holidays must return their forms by Monday 9th May. Forms need to be paid for and filled out correctly before they will be accepted. Please return forms to Mrs Christopoulos in Senior Schooling (K Block).

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**Physics in Flight**
Year 7 students have the opportunity to participate in a ‘Physics in Flight’ competition by Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy. Students will have the opportunity to work with industry representatives and teachers to design the most aerodynamic paper plane that can stay in the air the longest period of time. After competing against each other to finalise a school team, they will compete against other schools in the area. If finalists, they will have the opportunity to attend the ‘Throw off’ to try and win the ultimate ‘Physics in Flights Trophy’ against other schools! Meetings will be in the notices next week.

See Mrs Pines, Science Building J Block for more information.

**Write4fun Competition**
In the recent ‘Write4fun’ online writing competition, GSHS had over ten students progress past the first stage of judging. For this amazing effort, we received a certificate of excellence! Well done to all those who participated in this competition. Winners will be announced on 25th May on the website www.write4fun.net

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**Certificate of Excellence**
Awarded To
Gladstone State High School
For Outstanding Student Achievement in the Write4fun 2016 Schools Writing Competition.

Julia Woods
MANAGING EDITOR
write4fun.net
Quick News

NAPLAN TESTS NEXT WEEK
NAPLAN is here! Next week, our students in Year 7 and Year 9 will be sitting the NAPLAN tests on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We are looking forward to seeing the progress our students have made over the past two years. A free barbecue breakfast will be available to all Year 7 and Year 9 students on the days of testing, starting at 8am. The tests will then commence at 9am. It is important that on these three days students are punctual to school so that they may begin the tests as scheduled. If parents need to make appointments for your children next week, please avoid these times. Make up tests will be run on Friday, May 13, for students who miss any earlier in the week.

Importantly, students need to make sure they have all the equipment required to complete the tests: pencils; black or blue pen; eraser; sharpener; and a calculator. Note that mobile telephones are not allowed in the test area, not even if they are turned off. Students will be required to leave their mobile telephones in their bags for the duration of the tests if they bring them to school on the testing days. If you have any questions in relation to the NAPLAN tests, you are welcome to contact Melissa Daniels on 4976 6190 or mdani61@eq.edu.au.

This weeks PBL Mission
Winter is coming!

NAPLAN testing days. If you have any questions in relation to the NA-PLAN tests, you are welcome to contact Melissa Daniels on 4976 6190 or mdani61@eq.edu.au.

Chappy Chat

Another really busy week! I’ve completed a SafeTALK facilitator training course which will enable me to help deliver the programme to students over 15 years of age and to community groups. Rotary Club of Gladstone (Port Curtis) - Project We Care in conjunction with the Gladstone Port Corporation has provided the funding for the training. SafeTALK will sit under the umbrella of ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) which is also provided by the Rotary Club of Gladstone (Port Curtis). Personnel in many schools and many businesses have already received empowering training as a result of this initiative. SafeTALK complements ASIST, ensuring that persons with thoughts of suicide are identified and linked to suicide intervention caregivers. Whilst ASIST trained personnel complete the process of support for those thinking of suicide, SafeTALK helps start, providing life-assisting, suicide first-aid intervention. SafeTALK empowers participants to have the confidence to listen in an alert manner, to ask the question (Are you thinking of suicide?) and then connect them to trained caregivers for further support. It is not about solving difficult issues – just recognising that someone is crying out for help – and then acting on that by connecting them to trained people with appropriate skills. It’s a practical and helpful first step in providing assistance to someone at risk.

Research clearly demonstrates that people who attempt suicide don’t really wish to kill themselves, but wish to stop the pain. Statistics show that there are more suicides than road deaths. Road deaths have decreased due to information and education. It is essential that we create a climate for open and direct talk about suicide to promote practical support and to preserve life.

For further information, check out the following link: http://www.livingworks.com.au/

Our lunch-time Sewing group has now completed 2 skirts for Operation Christmas Child boxes. We’ve received a generous donation of lace and some unopened gift soaps towards this project. If you have some cotton fabrics or lace that you are happy to give, please drop them off at school marked “For Chappy Yvonne”. If you have any new items that you would like to include in these shoe boxes such as Something to wear, Something to play with, Something for school, Something to love, Something special or Something for personal hygiene, we would love to accept them in preparation for later this year.

The GSHS Youth Health Nurse and I will soon begin a “Girls’ Talk” group. It is hoped to be a casual, open chat around nibbles or crafts, depending on those in attendance. Hopefully, there’ll be lots of laughter!

Jarek and I are still planning activities for Chaplaincy Week which will be Monday 16 – Friday 20 May. We have our Combined School Chaplaincy Service at 6pm on May 29 at Shed 19 – all are welcome. The lively service usually finishes within an hour, shares real local stories that have made a difference in the lives of our youth and concludes with a light supper. It’s a really inspirational evening.

So that’s all GOOD news. However, if you have been following the latest budget proposals, you will have noticed that School Chaplaincy will no longer be funded AFTER 2018.

The Australian newspaper this morning reported that the Turnbull government has axed the school chaplaincy program and that chaplains ‘have lost taxpayer funding’.

It is very important that we let our local politicians know about our strong support for school chaplaincy - and the vital work we perform.

There are some important points to make about this news report:
1. Most importantly, it is very clear that school chaplaincy funding continues for the rest of this year, and for the full school years of 2017 and 2018. The news article is not correct in claiming funding has already been axed.
2. Last night’s budget papers clearly show the current year’s funding continuing, and the future budgeted amounts remaining unchanged for the next 2.5 years of the program - i.e. for the government’s fiscal years of 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Stay strong because Winter is coming!
Chappy Chat continued

3. This will mean the federal government will make its last payment to state and territory governments under the National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) in 2018, to carry to the end of that school year. At that point, the NSCP will be completed according to its terms - it was a four year program and, from its outset was slated to conclude at the end of 2018.

In the same way, we hope that a new chaplaincy funding program will be put in place in the May 2018 budget, to commence early in 2019. But we need your help to make that happen.

If you see the need for school chaplains, please voice your opinion that our schools and children need their chaplains to continue in 2019 and beyond.

You could contact our local MP: Ken O’Dowd MP at his Gladstone office address: 76 Goondoon St, Gladstone QLD 4680 or Phone:(07) 4972 5465.

The following link enables you to explain how concerned you are about the announcement that school chaplaincy funding is ending. You might like to explain what a vital service our chaplains perform for school students and how we can’t afford to lose them. https://www.pm.gov.au/contact-your-pm Or you can call the Prime Minister’s office to register your concern. The number is (02) 6277 7700. You won’t need to speak to the PM - just explain how concerned you are about the announcement that school chaplaincy funding is ending. You might like to explain what a vital service our chaplains perform for school students and how we can’t afford to lose them. There are 2 200 schools supported by School Chaplaincy. EVERY WEEK chaplains have 18,535 formal conversations WITH STUDENTS, STAFF & PARENTS. EVERY TERM chaplains deliver 37,460 program sessions. These programs cover issues including relationships, grief and loss, family breakdown, bullying/harassment and school disengagement.

School chaplains promote social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing through role modelling, mentoring, pastoral care and structured programs. These dimensions of care enhance a school’s overall wellbeing strategy and contribute to the achievement of a school’s educational goals.

Half of the activities that chaplains are involved in relate to social, emotional and spiritual support of students, staff and parents.

The 2015 National Chaplain Census took place during term 3, 2015 when 1179 chaplains took the survey with 1023 completes.

More than 1 million school students and their families depend on their chaplain for social, emotional and spiritual support.

School Chaplaincy is building hope and resilience in future generations to come.

Jarek and I sincerely thank you for your support here at GSHS and we believe that as part of the support team, we have made a real difference in the lives of many students, staff and parents.

Have a great week,

Jarek and Yvonne.