2016 IS AMOST DONE!
Just over a week to go of the 2016 school year. It will be a busy week, but in a modern school, what week isn’t busy?!
Classes have outlined their break-up activities for next week and we hope the students enjoy their celebrations. Whilst it is the tradition at GSS to have end of year celebrations on Thursday, we are definitely still open for business until 3:00pm Friday 9th December!

Friday is a free dress day (no donations), but we would appreciate families understanding that students will be involved in cleanup activities for part of the day. Students should still wear runners (no thongs), polo or t-shirts (no singlets) on free dress days. Please ensure your children dress sun smart and appropriately.

DANCE NIGHT
Don’t forget the school concert on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th December. Classes have been practising for this night and the concerts should be fabulous nights as in previous years. Tickets are available online.

LAST PARADE
As our Year 6s have an orientation day at LDHS next Monday, our final school parade as per the last two years is on next Wednesday. With dance practices on Tuesday and Wednesday and swimming / break-up day on Thursday, this is the only time our whole school can be together.

Our last parade for 2016 will be Wednesday December 7th at 9.00am. All welcome.

REPORT CARDS
All report cards along with a note about your child/ren’s teacher for 2016 and booklists will be sent home next Wednesday.

AWARDS EVENING
It was a great night last Wednesday. Thanks to Ms Kemp for her organization and well done to Mrs Topp (choir), Ms Rotar (strings) and Mr Clyde (woodwind/brass) and their musicians for their fine performances. Thank you to invited guests LVRC Mayor Tanya Milligan and P&C President Mrs Amanda Whiting.

Congratulations to our award winners who were recognised for outstanding academic, cultural, sporting and citizenship achievements and our graduating Year 6 students.
ENROLMENTS FOR 2017
If anyone is aware of any families planning to enrol their children with us, please ask them to contact the school. This will help us with planning our classes for next year and is especially true for prep. We have record prep enrolments (beating last year’s record) for this time of the year and need to ensure our preppies are placed in their class for day one.

OUR CLASS OF 2016
My best wishes to our graduating Year 6 students. I look forward to hearing of your success in the future. I am sure that you will reflect on your time with us as having many great memories. To their families, “Well done”. You should be proud of what you have achieved in your child’s journey. If this is the last of your children attending Gatton State School, a special thanks for being part of our wonderful school community.

TO DEPARTING STAFF
Thank you to our three retirees Mrs Fitzpatrick, Ms Dobie and Mrs Pennington and Ms Moore who is transferring to Toowoomba. Your contribution to Queensland education and in particular to our Gatton students and their families has been outstanding. You are examples to all educators!

Will your children be at this school in 2017?
In order to work out approximate class numbers for 2017, we would appreciate your advice as to whether your children will be leaving the school at the end of this year (not Year 6 students!).

This information is simply to assist the school in working out numbers for 2017 classes. If you indicate that your children will probably be leaving and then they end up staying, this will not be a problem - just advise us accordingly as soon as you know one way or the other.

If you think your child/ren will probably not be at this school in 2017, could you please phone the office on 5466 3333 or email admin@gattonss.eq.edu.au.

When we have 2017 enrolment forms for new students we can consider their class placement in our planning which is well and truly underway. Much is taken into account when allocating students to classes and teachers to classes.

Whilst we cannot consider requests for a certain teacher, if parents / carers have ideas regarding including or not including their child with certain peers, twin situations etc please put your thoughts in a note or email to us ASAP and it will be taken into consideration.

KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS
Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.
If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number 131788 and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND THANKS
To all the staff, teaching and support staff, well done for your contribution to the success of Gatton State School. I would like to thank and congratulate the teaching team here at Gatton for their dedication to improved student outcomes. To the support staff, a big thank you for your contribution to supporting teachers and students to make
this the great school it is. To **students and their families**, you are the reason our school exists and we appreciate the determination you show to gain a successful education.

**My best wishes to all for the holiday season.**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

All the best
Vince Burke
Principal

**PREP TRANSITION DAYS**

2017 Prep enrolments continue to come in daily. Currently, we have the largest number of enrolments, at this time of year, for 6 years. The second of our 3 Prep Transition days was held yesterday. Pre-prep students worked with our teachers to get an idea of what happens in the next phase of their education beginning in 2017. All of the children reported that they enjoyed the session, had fun and learned something new. During this time information was shared with parents before having morning tea. The day was enjoyed by all.

**CONCERT NIGHTS 2016**

**Concert Nights – Please note: the concert nights will be split over two nights to accommodate anticipated numbers.**
Doors open at the Gatton Shire Hall North Street at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.
Years 4-6 – Tuesday 6th December.
Years P-3 Wednesday 7th December.

**2016 CONCERT NIGHT TICKETS**

This year’s concert nights will be held on Tuesday 6th December (Years 4-6) and Wednesday 7th December (Years P-3).

Tickets for this year’s concert nights will have allocated seat numbers and can be purchased online.

**Online Ticket Purchases**

Tickets may be purchased online any time from Monday 14th November. The web address to access online bookings is [http://www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com) and search Gatton State School

*Please note: Online ticket purchases require a credit card and attract a 30c booking fee per seat.*

**Ticket prices per night are as follows:**

Adults $4.00
Students (Primary or Secondary School) $3.00
Children (5 years and under occupying a seat) $2.00
Family (2 Adults and 2 Children/Students) $12.00

Students who are performing on the night will be seated with their class and **will not** require purchased tickets for the night of their performance.

**P&C NEWS AND TUCKSHOP**

Last day for Tuckshop is Friday 2nd December.

Tuckshop will re-open Wednesday 1st February 2017
The tuckshop will open Monday 16th January through till Friday 20th January 2017 from 9am till 12noon for uniform sales, remembering we now have EFTPOS available for tuckshop and uniform purchases. Phone orders are available for Credit card purchases Wednesday – Friday, please call 07 54663314.

Christmas Raffle tickets have been distributed to families; anyone wishing to sell more tickets can pick up an extra book or two from the office.

The P&C ask if any families would like to make a donation of a gift towards our Christmas raffle, items may be placed in your child’s tuckshop basket or left at tuckshop. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

**ANNUAL AWARD’S AND YEAR 6 FAREWELL NIGHT**

The annual Award’s night for Years 4 – 6 was held on 23 November in the school hall. Academic Awards were presented to students from Year 4 to 6 for academic performance and encouragement. Awards are also presented in other areas – Jagera, Cultural, Sports, Rippa Attitude, EAL/D Encouragement, Vera Robinson Reading and Citizenship. This enjoyable evening included performances by our Choir, Strings Ensemble and the Concert Band who all performed confidently.

The second part of the evening farewells our 2016 Year 6 students. Class teachers, Mrs Karen Stuhmcke, Mrs Linda Ruthenberg, Mr Andrew Harris, Ms Sandy Mantova and Ms Chris Robin introduced each student who received their certificate from our principal, Mr Vince Burke. Students performed ‘Good Time’ lead by Mrs Bec Topp for the audience. Cutting of the cake was followed by a very well received pictorial Slide Show of their 2016 year.
### Year 6 Awards 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Academic</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jordyn Sticklen, Travis Poole, Kayne Jackson, Chelsea Cavell, Mitchell Christensen, Maddison Cooke, Adam McFarlane, McKenzie Reid, Jackson Wieland, Tavyna Cartes, Michael Robeck, Natasha Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouragement</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alex Dionysius, Radouan Abaker, Darcy Arthur, Michael Raphael, Isabella Derbesy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Language</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Travis Poole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Adam McFarlane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tavyna Cartes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Holley Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mitchell Christensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cooper Liston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Maddison Cooke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tavyna Cartes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Adam McFarlane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tavyna Cartes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ellora Smithson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mia Nuttall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jagera</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ashtyn Mylrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dux</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Adam McFarlane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rippa Attitude</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Charlotte Pieper, Ellora Smithson, Holley Black, Tony Farley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jake Taylor, Daniel Alt, Chris Mann, Jayden Wallace, Mason Liddicoat Hill, Katelyn Shaw, Amanda Wilson, Emily Stapleton, Zayda Ball, Nate Kowaltzke, Toby Anderson, Kalum Brown, Nate Kowaltzke, Janae Freeman, Boyd de Langen, Braiden Hilan, Blake Purvis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shaun Karapen</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAL/D Encouragement</td>
<td></td>
<td>Milly Tei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vera Robinson Reading</td>
<td></td>
<td>Travis Poole</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 5 Awards 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Joshua Ilka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encouragement</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Valeska Ceidel, Amelia Whiting, Hayden Bassingthwaite</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Year 4 Awards 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Stuart Hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouragement</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nisa Khaerunnisa, Ellen Marsden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To finish the year we are focusing on “I celebrate achievements”. One of the ways we do this as a school is to hold reward celebration days for those students who have achieved a positive behaviour level. For our “A” level students in the upper school, we had a trip to Wivenhoe Dam to participate in the “Play it Safe” water education day put on by SEQ water.

It was an awesome day with heaps of great food, swimming, canoeing, fishing and displays. Santa paid us a visit and we even got to be part of the show “Creek to Coast” who were out there filming too.

Well done to all of those students who attended. The day was fantastic and we can’t wait to see more students join us next time.

A AND B BEHAVIOUR REWARD DAY

On Thursday we celebrated the students who have achieved an A or B behaviour this year by having a reward day at the Pool and Games in the Hall. It was great to see so many students there and especially to see some new faces. Congratulations to everyone who made it along. You have all made a great effort to follow our three expectations:

Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible
Break Up Day – Swimming

On the Break Up Party Day, Thursday 8\textsuperscript{th} December, the pool has been booked so that all children will have one hour swimming. \textbf{NOTE:} Children who have not attended swimming lessons will not be permitted to swim on this day. 

\textit{Every child} is to bring his/her swimming gear and $2.00 on Thursday 8\textsuperscript{th} December. This will pay for pool hire. To guard against sunburn all children should wear 30+ sun screen.

\textbf{Note:} Mark 8\textsuperscript{th} December as a swimming day on your calendar as the school will not be ringing parents of children who have forgotten their togs.
About the School Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) and communicating with you by email

The School P&C is a great place for families with students to meet others, join in a range of community activities and even get support from other parents at times. We aim to keep it a friendly, community-oriented atmosphere where everyone is welcome.

ALL parents and carers of children at the school are eligible members of the P&C and are encouraged to be involved.

The role of the P&C includes helping people come together, making suggestions to/asking questions of the Principal, getting to know each other, feeling that you can contribute to the school & having fun during this precious time of your child’s life. The more members we have actively participating in the P&C association the better we can achieve our objectives.

Please consider coming along to the first P&C meeting of the year and getting involved – it’s a great way to meet new people and really contribute to your child’s school experience.

Our plan for 2017 is to also use email to communicate with parents, it is essential that we have an accurate and up to date email contact list of parents. Opting for PC email is great way to engage with activities, issues and useful information for parents in your school even if you can’t make it to meetings.

So please complete and sign the below form and return it to the school or to the P&C. Your email address will be kept confidential and only used for authorised P&C/school communication purposes.

Name: ___________________________________________________

Email address:_____________________________________________

Contact phone numbers:_____________________________________

☐ YES I’m interested in being part of the P&C.

☐ YES I would like my name to be added to the list of helpers for P&C events.

Signed:__________________________________   Date: __________________

Please return to the School Reception or send to the P&C at PandC@gattonss.eq.edu.au

Many thanks
Wivenhoe Dam – Behaviour Reward Day

At 8:30 in the morning all the ‘A’ level behaviour students, from years 3 to 6, went to Wivenhoe for the day. The activities were fishing, swimming and canoeing which all the students, not only Gatton State School but the other schools around the area, really enjoyed. Everyone got a sticker on their hand that told them when to put a new coat of sun cream on, ‘A’ students got a card that gave you 2 ice-blocks and 2 sausages on bread, as well as pies and sausage rolls. Gatton had to leave at 2:00 for the hour drive ahead. In the year 5-6 bus, at the back of the bus, there was a choir singing some songs that came on the radio. It was very interesting to listen to these songs. Everyone had a GREAT Day!!!!!!
**Changes to the Back Gate entrance due to I Block refurbishment**

Commencing 24th November I block is being refurbished. They are starting before the holidays so that, all being well, the building will be available again from Term 1 2017. This will impact on the small number of families who have permission to access the back bus gate. There will be a fence along the bottom side of the footpath so all traffic will have to come straight along the footpath. We ask that you please take extra care during this time and only use this entrance if you absolutely have to. At this stage we anticipate the small buses will still be able to access this gate. There should be no impact on swimming groups.

In addition MHK will be moving across to the Prep area for the last two weeks of the term. This is a big move for the students and staff in this area. Thank you to everyone for your help at making this as successful as possible.

**LITTER LESS LUNCH**

On the 29th November we had litter less lunch. The winning class was 6S with 9 pieces of rubbish and the losing class had 64 pieces of rubbish. The school community looks forward to getting good results in 2017. We should all keep our school clean and try to bring less rubbish in 2017. Thank you from 5S.

**CHAPPY’S CORNER**

The Dads4Kids ‘Good to Great’ Fathering Course is primarily a fatherhood course, but it is also a relationship course, marriage course, self-development for men course, leadership course, how-to-be-a-great-husband course, men’s health course, sexual integrity course and a how-to-have-fun-with-your-children course.

The Dads4Kids Good to Great Fathering Course is all about inspiring and equipping fathers to go to the next level as a dad. Every young child believes that his or her father is the best dad in the world. The Dads4Kids Good to Great Fathering Course is about preparing fathers to prove their children right, one family at a time.

**Course content:**

keys for success, goal setting, love & marriage, building relationships, building values, listening /communicating, conflict resolution, unconditional love, fun & laughter, secret of forgiveness, learning lessons, learning to say sorry, humour & health, exercise & food, key to friendship, spiritual foundations, honour and respect, equality, servant leadership, lifelong mentoring, power of praise, rites of passage, sexual integrity, mystery of fatherhood, time management.

Dads4Kids is pioneering this innovative advance in fatherhood training. Only apply if you dare. For more information about courses and dates and to make application go to: www.dads4kids.org.au

**Next Course in Gatton early 2017**

**Contact:**

Tim – 0400 816 939, timo@chappy.org.au  
Gary – 0427 012 126, gary_roll6208@hotmail.com
Some art work from Prep F

Eboni PF – Once upon a time there was a little girl called Rapunzel. She had lots of kids and the kids escaped from the castle. Rapunzel ran away and tried to catch them. The kids ran to the beach. Rapunzel found them at the beach and they all had a great time and then they went back to the castle.

Nani PF – One day three girls made funny faces. They went into a little cave to see if they could find the dragon. They went through the trees and then the dragon scared them. Then they ran back home. The dragon followed them to their houses and the little girls came out and they had fun with the dragon. Then he went home.

Gatton State School

Playgroup

Gatton State School P&C Association In conjunction with Camp Australia

Invite families with children aged 0-4 years

TUESDAY MORNINGS

9.00AM – 11.00AM

COST $2.00 PER VISIT

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea Camp Australia Building (access from Jensen Street)
Welcome to Term 4 Week 9 at

Camp Australia Gatton State School

What we’ve been up to in the past fortnight...

This past fortnight we have been creating some lovely Christmas crafts as it gets to the end of the school year. Our Christmas wall is coming along with Reindeers, Letters to Santa, Christmas Colouring In, Paper Chains and Santa’s Elves. We will continue to provide alternative activities for children not wishing to participate in Christmas Crafts over the next week.

With the end of the school year rapidly approaching, sessions for Holiday Club are open for enrolment and filling up, so jump online and check out all the fantastic themes for each day of the School Holidays Program. Our SENSATIONAL SUMMER of Fun will begin on Monday 12th December. If you would like more details, please come and see us in the OSHC room (located near the Prep Buildings) or call our wonderful Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343.

We would love to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our wonderful families for their support over the past year. We hope you all have a very happy and safe Holiday Season and we hope to see you all back here next year!

For more information on general bookings, please call our friendly customer service team on 1300 105 343 or alternatively you can drop by the OSHC room during our service hours 6:30-8:45am or 2:30-6:00pm or call our service direct on 0450 256 510 & chat to Kathleen - we’d love to help you out.

MERRY CHRISTMAS - HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OSHC SOON!

Camp Australia – Gatton State School Team