For all of the latest and greatest news of what’s happening in our wonderful school, like us on Facebook.

Look for this profile picture:

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...

Hello Gympie East Community,

What a great start to the year! Our school has continued to grow and we now have 114 students. This is an increase of 11 students from this time last year. It is great to see our school community grow and receive recognition for the learning environment that we are all working together to provide. Teachers have spent the last three weeks in classrooms building great learning routines and I have been amazed at how all of the students have settled into their new year levels. I have also been blown away by some of the work that our students are producing. It has been great to hear the common language from all students when we talk about reading. Our school has done a remarkable job of sharing a united approach to reading improvement. The school has continued in 2017 to commit funds, with over $50 000 invested to explicitly teach reading skills on a daily basis. I would also like to thank the many parent helpers who have committed their time to helping in the classroom. Your dedication is greatly appreciated and assists teacher in delivering the best reading and learning programs available. It is very exciting to see the whole school community continuing to embrace our goal of improving all students reading comprehension skills.

Daily Rapid Reading (DRR) has continued in 2017. This program focuses on each child and their own reading level. Ms Michelle and Mr Watson have continued to take each Year 3 and 5 student for a 15min session which has focused on children reading out loud, comprehension strategies and NAPLAN preparation. This focus on each individual student continues to inform teacher’s delivery of English lessons and help to track student’s misconceptions and improvement. Spelling Mastery starts on Monday. Due to the commitment of Teachers and Teacher Aides at Gympie East, all children are receiving individually prepared Reading and Spelling lessons on a regular basis.

On Friday, February 17, we are having our School Leaders Badge presentation. This will take place at 9.15am as part of our parade. All members of our school community are invited to celebrate our school leaders. Thanks for your continued support.

Cheers
Josh Seaniger

Worm Winners – Corbin (Yr 2), Kayla (P/1), Zac (5/6), Olivia (P/1), Ban-Joe (Yr 2), Lucas (Yr 2)

**Dates to Remember**

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<thead>
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<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>SCHOOL BANKING</th>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td>Pass the Poetry Please</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Pizza Night</td>
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<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM @ 6.30 PM</td>
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<td>Mar 8-16</td>
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<td>Term 2 Starts</td>
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<td>Anzac Day Holiday</td>
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**TELEPHONE** – We are experiencing some intermittent problems with our school phone. We are unable to put the phone on night switch at the moment, therefore parents are unable to leave messages. If for some reason the phone is not answered in a timely fashion it means we are on another call or out of the office.

**Reminders** - If you wish to speak to any staff it is preferred that an appointment be made to discuss any issues. This can be done by contacting the teacher or the office.

Also a reminder that it is advisable that children do not come to school (if not by bus), **until 8.30** as this is when supervision commences.

**Car Park/Bus Area** - When parking on the school side of the car park please be aware of the bus times and collect your child quickly to avoid congestion. Any students waiting for parents should be at the bus shelter to allow easy sight and quick departure. I would like to ask all parents picking up children to use the crossing which will also teaches students good road safety.

**Student Absences** - All student absences need to be reported to the school, whether it is by phone call or a written note to the class teacher. If you would like to take your child out of school for more than 2 weeks (10 days) for eg. on a holiday, you must apply for an exemption to attend school. This form is available from the office.

**Early Departure & Late Arrival** – If your child is late to school they must come to the office first to be signed in. The reverse applies for early departure if you would like to collect your child early you must do so through the office.
SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS
8.30 am – 3.15 PM – Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday
8.30 am – 3.00 PM – Wednesdays
Finance times for office 8.30 to 3.00 pm.

Library News!

Book Fair

Book Fair is on again soon. It will be on from Wednesday 8th to Thursday 16th March. Brochures will be sent home soon.

Robogals at the Gympie Library

The Robogals are coming to the town library next week. If you have a child who is interested in robotics there will be sessions on Thursday (16th) afternoon after school. You need to register your child for them to attend. If you are interested contact the library on 54810859.

I hope to see you at the Book Fair.

Helen Bailey
Teacher-Librarian

Year 4/5 are raising funds to have a class reward activity at the end of term.
We are having a Super Smoothie Sell-a-thon!
THURSDAY 23rd February - 1st lunch break.
3 yummy flavours made with real fruit for only $2. Choose from banana, mango or strawberry.
Order and pay by Monday 20th using the order form with this Newsletter. (any fruit donations gratefully received before the day)

Chappy News

A big hello to everyone. And a big welcome to our new students and their families. I look forward to getting to know you. We are well into the term and Brekky Club has started again. Brekky Club is now on Tuesdays from 8.30am to 9.00am. Many of our wonderful students are regular helpers which we value so much. Rosina and I couldn’t make brekky happen without them. They help set up, prepare the food, serve it and clean up. We have fostered a lovely community spirit where all our students and staff can come and eat together and enjoy each other’s company.

We love parents supporting our brekky club. Victory Care Services supply us with bread, milk, fruit and sometimes yogurt for free. We therefore have to purchase items such as cereals, spreads, yogurt, and juice. Many wonderful school families have donated supplies as well which is very much appreciated. Unfortunately, our brekky club funds don’t last forever.

So, we have prepared a list in the tuckshop of regularly used items that families can donate at any time for our brekky club if you would like to help. We’ve put the list together to make it easier and to ensure we don’t get too much of the same thing at once. If you can’t make it in to the school yourself just ask your child to go to Rosina in tuckshop or myself and we can tell them an item from the list. We really appreciate your support and look forward to sharing brekky with your children again this year.

Chappy Di 😊

TUCKSHOP DISH UP!!

Tuckshop days have changed this year from Tuesday to Wednesday. Fridays will remain unchanged. If you would like to order please put order in a brown paper bag with your child’s name and class clearly marked. ORDERS MUST BE IN BY TUESDAY, 9.00 AM for Wednesday and THURSDAY, 9.00 AM for Friday. (Or alternatively you may like to order the week’s tuckshop at one time. We also require some help in the tuckshop. You would only be required to help with preparation. If you are able to give a few hours it would be appreciated. Please fill in the slip below & return to school.

All $2.00 each

Wednesday – 15 February – Chicken & Salad Wrap
Friday – 17 February – Chicken Stir fry & Noodles
Wednesday – 22 February – Nachos with sour cream
Friday – 24 February – Homemade burger

Items below are available Wednesday’s only
Poppers of Juice or Flavoured Milk - $1.00
Jelly Cups – 0.50c

Items below are available Friday’s only
Popcorn made to order – 0.50c
Paddlepops - $1.00
Quelch Fruit Juice Ice Block – 0.50 c
Poppers of Juice or Flavoured Milk - $1.00
Fruit Muffin – 0.50c
Jelly Cups – 0.50c
Fruit Salad - $1.00
FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT
We are holding our Family Pizza Night on Friday, February 17 @ 5.30 pm. This is a P&C Event all pizzas are provided.

Come and meet new people, catch up with friends, feast and relax in our beautiful Pizza Garden. Soft Drinks will be available for sale.

Please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and return to the school office by Wednesday, February 15. PLEASE NOTE: This is an alcohol free event.

WE WILL NEED HELPERS TO HELP WITH THE PREPARATION FOR THE PIZZA NIGHT. IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO LEND A HAND IN THE AFTERNOON THAT WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED. PLEASE LET ROSINA KNOW IN THE TUCKSHOP.

P&C NEWS – AGM will be held on Tuesday, February 21 @ 6.30 pm. All positions will become vacant so we will be looking for people who would like to be involved in their child’s schooling. The P&C is an integral part of the school community. If you would like to be a part of this great school and take up a position on the committee, come along and have your say on Tuesday, February 21.

Positions are:-
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Fundraising Committee

MYCP
Do you have children aged 2-6 years whose behaviour is difficult to manage? If so you may be interested in the Management of Young Children Program.

This program is has been developed and is run by staff from Education Queensland.

MYCP is an individual parenting skills training and support program for parents of children with challenging behaviour. It takes a practical approach aimed at restoring the parent-child relationship.

On the Sunshine Coast this program costs participants in excess of $1000. Through the support of all Gympie schools we are able to offer this program free of charge!

If you are interested and would like to know more please contact Wayne Bahr 0408701039.

Commonwealth School Banking
The 2017 Commonwealth School Banking Program began again last Wednesday, with this year’s focus being on a “Saving journey into the future.”

As ‘Future Savers’ Students join the Dollarmites on a journey to reach ‘The Savings Hover Park’ an amazing playground up in the clouds of a hi-tech metropolis. In doing so, students are encouraged to develop strong saving habits and learn valuable money skills, with the incentive of great reward items for your deposits and a chance to win the Future Savers grand prize.

By Participating in the School Banking program your children are learning great saving habits but also Gympie East benefits from financial incentives that contribute to our school fundraising.

You can open a Youth Saver Account online at commbank.com.au/Schoolbanking or pop into your local Branch. Alternatively you can contact Kym in the office for details or pull me up as i pass by.

Younger siblings not yet enrolled at Gympie East are welcome to participate also.

I look forward to seeing all the Gympie East Commonwealth School Banking Students and welcome our new families to Gympie East also.

Thank you for all your support of the School Banking Program and best of luck to all our Gympie East School Bankers on their futuristic savings adventure.

Shona Sengstock

Uniform News...
Our Holiday Uniform Shop will be OPEN THE 1ST & 3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH IN 2017
2.30 pm till 3.00 pm
Please remember
Cash or Cheque only on the day.
Please pop in for a look,
we have a great variety of stock on hand-
Shorts & Skirts, pants & jackets, hats,
pencil cases, backpacks,
library, sports & chair bags.
*all available at competitive prices*
We sell at cost or with a small profit.
*Shop at School*
ART STARS SESSIONS
We look forward to a new year of fun for kids with ART STARS creative sessions for kids starting on Saturday 4 February at the Gympie Regional Gallery. Two sessions: 10am-12noon for children aged 5-9yrs and 1pm-3pm for young people aged 10 years and up. Costs $2 to cover materials. Simply turn up. Facilitated by Sandra Ross. Also Tiny Tots Artplay for little kids with their parents begins on Friday 24 February from 10am-11am for littlies aged between 18 months and 3 years. Facilitated by Sabine Gaber. Please book for this one as numbers are limited. Phone 5481 0733 for any further information.

Sandra Ross
Education and Public Programs Officer
Gympie Regional Gallery
39 Nash Street (PO Box 155)
Gympie Qld 4570

Monday 6th & 13th Feb
Netball Courts
3:30pm-6:30pm

Get a team together or sign up as an individual or we'll find you a team.
We cater for juniors and seniors as well as our Net Set Go program.
Season starts February 27th.
For more information phone 0431259961 or watch our facebook page Gympie and Districts Netball Association.

PIZZA NIGHT – February 17

NAME _______________________________

__________ Adults

__________ Children

Able to help out on the day    Yes/No