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The Eastern Endeavour

25 January 2024

Hello Gympie East parents, carers and community,

Welcome back to students and families! A special welcome to families new to Gympie East, we hope you have a great time at East and your student settles in quickly. As I walked around the school on the first day greeting students and popping into each class to talk to them, I was overwhelmed by a sense of calm and quiet. That has continued all week with plenty of happy smiling faces...even if the humidity and heat has been pretty hard to stand, at least our classrooms are nice and cool!

With Cyclone Kirrily threatening North Queensland, schools and local areas are being vigilant and we are prepared to enact our emergency response plan if required. Hopefully, everyone will be safe and there will be no need to enact any disaster plans. However, please stay aware, check phones and emails for information and if we do receive any flooding remember, if it's flooded, forget it.

School Leader Badge Ceremony

Next Friday, we will present our 2024 School Leaders with their badges from 2:30pm. This will be followed by our normal parade. We are still finalising the training for our Peer Skills Leaders, then we will present them with their badges.

Meet & Greet

We have our annual 'Meet & Greet' for all Staff and Families on Thursday 8th February from 5pm – 7pm for \$10 per family. Our P&C will be putting together pizzas and garlic bread for Mr Coombs to cook them in our wood fired pizza oven in the Garden. This is a great opportunity for families and staff to get together for an informal chat in a relaxed atmosphere. In this newsletter, you will find a letter with an RSVP slip at the bottom. Please return to the Office, so the P&C know how many to cater for. We have also sent home a paper copy.

PBL

This week's PBL focus is to 'Build Friendships'. As we begin school and meet new faces, we have been reinforcing ways to make friends and how to build positive friendships. Next week, the school will be focussing on 'Keeping hands and feet to yourself.' Next week's focus is a key reminder to use our words and not hurt others. Students make mistakes, especially in the younger years and explicit teaching is the best way to approach this. For our older students, dealing with frustration, so no one gets hurt when emotions get elevated.

Clubs

Below we have our Clubs roster which starts next week. This is at first break only, except for basketball which will be on before school after students are released from the undercover seating area. There is no need to sign up, just turn up with a good attitude and ready to have fun.

FIRST BREAK ONLY

Club	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Drama Club	Miss Young				
Computer Club					Mr Watson
Library Club			Miss Megan	Miss Megan	
Art & Craft Club					Miss Bailey
Basketball					Mr Elson 8:30-9am
Nature Play		P-2 Mrs Blackburn		3-6 Mrs Blackburn	
Garden Club			Mrs Blackburn		
Chess Club	Mrs Riley				
Bible Kids Club		Mrs Schofield			

Tuckshop

Our Tuckshop will open next week. Huge thankyou to our wonderful convenors, Carolyn and Meidiana for taking it on, but we need helpers. If you are available on Wednesdays, please offer your help. The tuckshop cannot operate without your help. Reminder that QKR Tuckshop orders need to be in by 9am Tuesday. Next week, it will be menu only, no specials sorry.

Fishing Shirt for Levi

On Wednesday 31st January, Gympie East will be holding a 'Wear a Fishing Shirt for Levi'. Students can wear a fishing shirt to school that day in memory of Levi. We are asking families to please donate a gold coin with all proceeds going to purchasing Levi's memorial bench that will be installed at Mullins Creek Park and also to help donate funds to Gympie Junior Devils who were Levi's footy club. Please support this worthy cause.

Dates to Remember

	Term 1, 2024
Jan 26	Australia Day
Jan 30	P&C Meeting 5:30
Jan 31	Fishing Shirt for Levi
Feb 2	School Leaders parade
Feb 8	Meet & Greet

STUDENT ABSENCES – We are understand parents are busy but emailing your child's teacher to say they are absent or will be absent is not a reliable source of communication, sometimes these messages do not get passed on to the office. Teachers are unable to mark the reason students are absent except that they are absent. If all parents could please ring the absence line (no need to talk to office staff) or email admin it would be greatly appreciated.

All students who are intending to be out of the school for more than 10 days for eg. a holiday an exemption form must be completed prior to the leaving date & the exemption approved by the Principal. Please see the office for this form.

PLEASE NOTE OUR OFFICE TIMES

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

8.30 am – 3.15 PM

Except Thursdays – 8.30 – 3.00 pm

Finance times for office

8.30 to 3.00 pm.

QKR App – a huge thank you to the parents who are now using this app. This is our preferred payment option or BPoint.



Just a reminder if you are unsure whether you have paid for something or not, please check your receipts.

You can do this by opening the app & click on your profile – it'll be the 3 lines at the top left-hand corner. Your receipts are all stored in there.

Also, when invoices/notes etc are issued always check all areas of the app as your particular excursion/activity will not always appear immediately.

You can also pay camps off as part payments at any time. You choose what amount you would like to pay.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held next Tuesday the 30th January from 5:30 in the Library. All welcome.

Gympie Queens Park Tennis Club - will be supporting professional tennis coach, Jason Cheel, who will be moving to Gympie in January 2024 to provide coaching services for residents of the Gympie District. Jason was a top 10 Queensland player in his teenage years and comes with good coaching credentials from a number of tennis centres in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. If you have an interest in tennis and would like your children to be involved in coaching, please email gptennisclub82@gmail.com so your details can be passed on to Jason on his arrival. Jason will be contacting schools in 2024.

Please help us make Levi's bench a reality!

LEVI'S MEMORIAL BENCH
"Forever Fishing"

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE DIRECTLY TO
ACC Name: L HANNA FUNDRAISER
BSB: 063 097
ACC: 9052 5033

Any over funding will be donated to Levi's footy club 'The Gympie Devils' and Presented as a cheque by the local Commonwealth Bank Branch Manager