**Principal's Report**

**Farewell Mrs Bleeker**

Regrettfully, next Thursday will be Mrs Bleeker’s last day at Guise Public School. Mrs Bleeker has been lucky enough to gain a transfer down the coast closer to where she lives.

Guise has been very lucky to have had Mrs Bleeker’s unique blend of expertise and caring and is one of the most exemplary teachers and executives I have worked with. I personally, and on behalf of the whole school community, thank Mrs Bleeker for the outstanding work she has done and for all that she has contributed to our school.

It is with a sad heart that we farewell her but I’m sure you all wish Mrs Bleeker the best for her future, as we do.

Please find her farewell to the school community on Page 3 of the newsletter.

**Assistant Principal**

We are currently advertising for an Assistant Principal to fill the vacant teaching and executive position left by Mrs Bleeker. Interviews will occur next week.

**Easter Fun Day**

Remember Easter Fun Day is next Wednesday. There will be an Easter Hat Parade at 10.30 and then discos at 11.30 (Infants) and 1.30 (Primary). The cost of the disco, a drink and a lucky dip is $3.00.

Children are invited to wear Mufti clothes for the day.

**Assembly of Excellence**

A reminder that there will be our first Assembly of Excellence next Thursday at 9.30am. Children who are receiving awards will bring home an invitation for their parents. All parents are welcome and it will be the first chance to see our Dance Group perform this year.

**Contact Numbers**

Unfortunately we have been unable in the last few weeks to contact some parents when their children have been sick or not picked up in the afternoon due to incorrect phone numbers for themselves and their emergency contacts.

Please make sure the school always has the most correct information.

Have a great week!

*Debby Meredith*
If you’re away bring a note!! Then your absence isn’t counted!!

Week 8 Award winners

Bronze Awards | Student of the week | Work Presentation | Sport Award
--- | --- | --- | ---
KH | Geoffrey William | Hailey | Jessica | Steven
1T | Jaxon Nate Sharna-Lee | OJ | Logan | Eli
2/3B | Ray Ebony Jade | Benji | Zane | Mary
3/4E | Marlie Achilles Chanel | Ryan | Icaac | Shiane
5/6C | Silvana Prakruthi Glorianna | Imran | Jordyne | Brodie
5/6F | Losaline Ruby Bailey | Dylan | Robbi | Tai-Quaysha

Each week one class will win the Best Attendance Award. This class will have had all/most children at school every day. The overall class that wins at the end of the term will receive a prize for their excellent attendance!!

Week 9 winning class is…………………

3/4E and 5/6F with 98% attendance!!!
Great job!!

Young Leaders Day
On Monday I went to the National Young Leader’s Day because I am Vice Captain.
Firstly, we took a train to central and took a short walk to the Qantas Credit Union Arena to listen about leadership. We listened to famous people speak like author Andy Griffiths, Ita Buttrose, Mike Martin and a 16 year old boy called Coen Ashton who had overcome a terrible illness. It was a great experience to learn about leadership.
My fellow leaders and I will take valuable lessons and advice.
It was a day to remember.
By Bailey King
I first came to Guise PS as a beginning teacher in 1997... It is now seventeen years later and time for me to bid farewell to the community and students of the school. Thus, it is with a sad heart that I wish to inform the Guise community that Thursday the 10th of April will be my last day teaching at the school. I have recently been appointed a position at Woonona PS in the Wollongong region and will commence this position on Friday 11th April, 2014.

I still remember my first day here, feeling an overwhelming sense of nervousness and excitement of what lay ahead. Well those nerves quickly dissipated and I feel in love with a school that showed me kindness, support and a strong sense of community.

Each year my husband would laugh whenever I said 'I just love my new class', he would then remind me that I would say the same thing every year..... truth was I did!!!!!! I did love every class and honestly treasured the fantastic times I had and the wonderful moments I shared with all the students at Guise. The students (past and present) have shown me resilience, perseverance, commitment, kindness, compassion and humour. They have made it a joy for me to come to work every day and it has been a pleasure to teach them over the years.

I have enjoyed having the opportunity to work with and meet so many wonderful families and I will always be grateful for the respect and kind-heartedness you have shown me. Thank you Guise for being such a wonderful and important part of my life for the past 17 years.

All my love Mrs Amanda Bleeker

"Goodbye"

I'm glad I was your teacher.  
I've come to love you so.  
I can't believe the end is here.  
I hate to have to go.

I've watched you learn and grow and change from day to day.  
I hope that all the things we've done have helped in some way.

So it's with happy memories that I leave towards the door with great hope and expectations for what next year holds in store.

Remember all the fun we had in all the things we did, but most of all remember....  
You're a very special kid!
5 Reasons WHY James Meehan High!

1. State of the Art Facilities
   - Commercially Standard Kitchen
   - Connected classroom
   - Language centre
   - Trade Training Centre
   - Updated Science Laboratories
   - Fully refurbished GYM and Library
   - New Canteen
   - Drama and Dance Studios
   - Digital Media Studio

2. Innovative Programs
   - TVET Training at the school
   - Productive Living Skills
   - Beacon
   - Leaps
   - Links to Learning
   - Elective Tuesday
   - In League in Harmony
   - Football United
   - Plan-it-Youth

3. Whole School Approach
   - MindMatters
   - PBIS
   - Super Six – A Comprehension Strategy

4. Extracurricular Programs
   - Student Leadership Group
   - Press Club
   - Debating Team
     - Aboriginal Middle School Program and YARN

5. Transition is KEY
   - Junior Transition – Years 6 – 7
   - Senior Transition – Out into the workforce, Traineeships and Apprenticeships or off to Tertiary Education at University or TAFE

Programs at a Glance!

Lawyers Encouraging and Assisting Promising Students (LEAPS)

James Meehan High School has an ongoing partnership with the law firm Minter Ellison. Minter Ellison provides leadership support to students and staff in a large number of ways. For example, the firm helped the school acquire our school bus through the Variety Club in 2004.

Minter Ellison has also been involved in mentoring our students through the LEAPS program. LEAPS is a program in which young people in disadvantaged areas are mentored by staff from large city law firms.

It brings the students into the workplace to show them the types of jobs that exist in large businesses. Volunteers from Minter Ellison are trained to mentor each student. The students are also trained in workplace behaviour. The mentors visit the school to meet the students and their families to be matched. Both mentors and students sign commitment statements.

Students in the program travel to Sydney once a fortnight to spend an hour doing structured activities with their mentors. These activities include study skills, goal-setting, ethics and work skills.

PBIS

A PBIS school incorporates the Choose Respect Initiative to encourage and motivate our school and the wider community to foster a culture of respect. While no one can be forced to respect another person, we can make the choice to treat others with respect.

PBIS puts these principles into a set of guidelines for students and staff to follow. The school launched PBIS as a whole school priority in July 2007.

MindMatters

MindMatters is an Australian Government funded project that supports the mental health and welfare of students, teachers and communities. It provides resources and training for schools and health care agencies throughout Australia. James Meehan High has used the MindMatters framework to plan our welfare and student support strategies.

Our school has been nationally recognised by MindMatters for its innovative programs in student wellbeing and mental health.

Extra-curricular Programs

Student Leadership Group

Like an SRC the Student Leadership Group is built from identified leaders and positive role-models from each year group. It allows our students to experience democratic processes and to develop effective problem-solving strategies.

Press Club and Debating Team

These were originally interest groups and are now permanent extension activities. The Press Club is dedicated to producing a student created, edited and designed newsletter. The Debating Team performs and competes with other school across the Region. Both enhance and utilise high literacy skills.
Who: Mixed Teams (6 a side, min 1 girl per side, 2 reserves)
12-16 Years Competition
17-25 Years Competition

When: Wednesday 23 April 2014
Where: Rosemeadow Reserve
Dickens Road, Rosemeadow
Time: 10.00 am-2 30 pm

Come on your own or register a team

Note: In case of wet weather we will use Koch Centre (YOTS) 89 Parliament Road, Macquarie Fields

For more information call:
Danny (MTC Australia) – 0408 618 053

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OZTAG Youth Sports Tournament

Who: Mixed teams (8-10 to a team, min 2 girls on field)
(12-16 years competition)
(17-25 years competition)

When: Monday 14 April 2014

Time: 10 am-2 30 pm. Free healthy Lunch

Where: Monarch Oval, Fields Road, Macquarie Fields

Note: In case of wet weather we will use Koch Centre (YOTS) 89 Parliament Road, Macquarie Fields

Come on your own or register a team on the day!

For more information call:
Josh Bell – Muru Nanga Mai on 0451 463 893
Minto Indoor Sports Centre YMCA

April School Holidays
Sports & Games

2 Day Multi Sports Fun Camp
Experience 2 fun filled days of sports games and activities in a safe and enjoyable environment. A selection of the following sports will be on offer – Basketball, Soccer, Cricket, Dodgeball, Footy, Frisbee, Netball, Tee Ball, Hockey and Handball.

Date: Wednesday - Thursday 16 + 17th April
Time: All Day 9.00—3.00pm
Age: 8 years +
Cost: $50 for 2 days, or $30 per day.
Bring: Lunch, morning tea, water bottle, sports shoes, and sport clothes

2 Day Basketball Skills Camp
Want to improve your game? This 2 day camp coached by local Representative players will work on your overall game to give you that edge. Suitable for beginners to rep players.

Date: Monday - Tuesday 14th + 15th April & Tuesday - Wednesday 22nd + 23rd April
Time: All Day! 9.00—3.00pm
Age: 8 years +
Cost: $50 for 2 days, or $30 per day.
Camp MVP award & Prizes!
Bring: Lunch, morning tea, water bottle, sports shoes, and sport clothes

Learn to Play Basketball
Fun introduction into Basketball. Come along and learn skills, rules and play developmental games. Fun for beginners.

Date: Both Tuesday 15th April & 22nd April
Time: 9.30—11.00am
Age: 5—10 years
What to bring: Comfortable playing cloths and a water bottle

Call 9820 1377 or email admin.minto@ymca.org.au to book your child’s place now! Bookings are essential!

2 for the Price of 1 For the 2 Day Multi Sport Camp!
That’s 2 kids for $50! Simply bring this flyer to the stadium on Day 1. Enrolments are essential! To enroll call 9820 1377 or admin.minto@ymca.org.au

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<th>Timetable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>2 Day Basketball Skills Camp 9am—3pm</td>
<td>2 Day Basketball Skills Camp 9am—3pm</td>
<td>2 Day Multi Sports Fun Camp 9am—3pm</td>
<td>2 Day Multi Sports Fun Camp 9am—3pm</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>April 14th—18th</td>
<td>Learn to Play Basketball 9.30—11.00am</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
<td>2 Day Basketball Skills Camp 9am—3pm</td>
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<td>April 21st—25th</td>
<td>Learn to Play Basketball 9.30 - 11.00am</td>
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