Dear Parents/Caregivers and members of our school community,

Yesterday morning I was sorting through my in-tray and found an orange envelope addressed to the Principal and according to the franking, the envelope had started its travels in Dalby. I know people in Dalby as I spent time as Principal of Bell P-10 State School. Perhaps a big end of the year motivational card from a colleague?

Instead the contents was a lovely letter from Jan Bremmer nee Smith telling me that she had come across the enclosed documents when sorting through some paperwork at her father’s home.

Upon opening the first exercise book I started to read the Minutes of the Gowrie State School P&C Association for 22nd March 1965. The handwriting is quite easy to read and the stories held within the minutes are absolutely intriguing. For instance, in April 1966 the P&C approved the motion to purchase two dozen flowering gum trees from the Dalby Forestry at $4.44 each. I would understand that some of the trees currently around the school would have to be some of these.

As we draw towards our end of year events I am reminded that memory and tradition keep us in tune with our heritage and enables us to grow an innovation from a solid and well grounded tradition. We look forward to your company. The theme or our mantra for the closing of our school year is...When you learn you grow. The Year 6 students are giving considerable time to preparing the mural, student leaders devising the speeches and supporting the programming of the Awards Night.

The P&C minutes in April 1968 spoke about the committees plans to purchase fireworks for the school community barbecue and film night. However a working bee would be held in the afternoon to cart sleepers from the railway for the sand pit in the school playground. I will leave these books on the Sign in counter if you would like to connect with our history.

On a completely different note, overleaf in the Parent Corner I have included a conversation around 2017 staffing intentions and proposed classes.

Kind regards, Mandy
2017 Staffing Model

The Staffing Model based on 9.52 FTE (Full time Teaching Entitlement) and indicates approximate class sizes. This model is based on a predicted enrolment of 176 students for 2017. If the school achieves an increased enrolment over this staffing threshold a consequence is a FTE of 10.75.

On behalf of the staff and students of our school, I present the 2017 staffing intention for Gowrie State School.

**Principal:** Mrs Mandy Norton-McNeill

**Teaching Staff:**

**Prep:** Mrs Nadine Fogarty

**Year One:** Miss Hayley Butler

**Year Two:** Mrs Karena Gietzel

**Year Three:** Miss Mel Hewson for the first 5 weeks and then taking maternity leave. The Principal is working with HR around recruitment.

**Year Four:** Co-teaching arrangement with Mrs Linda Cox and Mr Paul Gaggi. The arrangement is a five day fortnight for teaching. Mrs Cox will undertake a teaching and learning role in the other five day a fortnight capacity.

**Year Five:** Mrs Karen Antuar

**Year Five/Six:** Mrs Rachael Winter

**Physical Education/ STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics):** Mr Rob Whittaker. Four days a week.

**LOTE (Languages Other Than English):** Mrs Erin Chavasse. One day a week.

**Music:** One day a week, Miss Debra Burge

**Instrumental Music:** Mr John Clyde

**Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy (STALAN):** Mrs Kristy Aitken. One day a week.

**Special Education Teacher:** Intention is for a two days a week support service.

**Guidance Officer:** Intention is for a one day a week support service.

**Teacher Aides:** Mrs Margaret Pirie, Mrs Cheryl Lambourne, Mrs Naomi Rigby, Mrs Karen Trace, Miss Sharon Winter

**Relief Teacher Aide:** Mrs Michelle Gascoyne and Mrs Kath Moore.

**Administration Officers:** Mrs Sharyn Stanton, five days a week and Mrs Kim McCauley, one day a week.

**Grounds Officer:** Mr Darren Widderick

**Cleaners:** Mrs Patricia Erbacher, Mrs Elizabeth Hadwin, Mrs Helen Hilton

**Reflection Point:** Our 2017 school improvement agenda can be defined as:

Working together-school and community to grow a safe and welcoming place of learning that empowers students to acquire, demonstrate, articulate and value knowledge and skills that will support them as life-long learners and practise the core values of the our Gowrie school community.

Through explicit teaching, strong feedback and rich curriculum connections we will grow capacity and capability of all learners— staff, students and community.

I have shared the conversation around our staffing intentions for 2017 and now I would like to share with you the news that Mrs Stephanie Jones has decided to retire. Mrs Jones transferred on a change of duties status from Cecil Plains State Pre-School Centre and started teaching at Gowrie State School on 19 January 2006.

It is humbling to be the author of this farewell and best wishes message. From the various and many conversations I have engaged in throughout my short time here at Gowrie, it has become crystal clear that Mrs Jones is a teacher and a lady who has a vision of enabling students to set their sights high, raise their learning determination and respect the growing journey to build a sense of identity and place in our community.

We have extended an invitation to Mrs Jones to be part of our Awards Night.
*Respect * Resilience * Relationships * Rigour * Responsibility* all lead to a great * REPUTATION *

“Genuine Gowrie Grit”

Congratulations Eleisha & Georgina you are our Gowrie Stars for this week.

“Valuing the positive Gowrie State School culture of respect and support for others”

Students of the Week

Artists of the Week

Writers of the Week
The voting is finished and the votes counted. The majority of the children voted to have our end of year break-up party next Monday afternoon the 28th of November. At this stage there is only one space available. We are planning a fun afternoon of games and party food.

For one of our games we need empty tissue boxes so if you have any please recycle them our way. The game promises to provide the children with much laughter.

OSHC accepts bank transfer deposits for account payments. We are a ‘Not for Profit’ organisation so please keep accounts up to date and remember to cancel unwanted bookings. If you require any information please contact us on 46 307 710 between 7:00 and 9:00 am and 2:30 to 6:00 pm. We have 101 message services and routinely check our messages. Bookings - spaces are available each morning and afternoon this week. Next Monday afternoon has only 1 space left.

The OSHC team Lynell, Josie, Sharon and Lirissa truly enjoy working as a team with you and your children.

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**Tuckshop News**

**LAST TUCKSHOP DAY FOR 2016—This Friday 25th November**

**POT LUCK DAY**

No orders will be taken for this Friday. Just bring your money along. Chicken Burgers, Hot Dogs & Sausage Sizzle (Plenty for everyone) Assorted cakes & biscuits and sell out of remaining ice blocks & drinks. Everything will be under $2.00

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**Parent Corner**

**2017 BOOKLIST**

Booklists have been distributed to each child.

Highfields News & Post Office are our suppliers again this year.

- Orders can be done ONLINE or in person at Shop 6, Highfields Village or 55 Highfields Road (Old Bowls Club)
- ORDERS ARE NOT TO BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL

**If you return your order before the 1st December our school receives a benefit from them.**

- Your order will be packed & delivered to the Gowrie School for collection from the ASSEMBLY HALL on **Wednesday 7th December** between 8am—9.30am

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**End of Year Religious Instruction Presentation**

You are invited to attend our End of Year Religious Instruction Presentation.

28th November at 11:45am in the school hall.

A number of our students have given time to organise a short play that was written by our RI instructors.

If you are available it would be lovely for the children to have your support.
If anyone has any vouchers that they would like to donate towards the “Gowrie State School Gardens” we would gladly accept them. They can be handed in at the office. Thank you.

Toowoomba Second Range Crossing Road Works
Nexus will be working on Gowrie Junction Road and Ganzer Road, Gowrie Junction.
The works include:
• permanently realigning Ganzer Road and connecting it to Gowrie Junction Road
• constructing a four-lane bridge for the TSRC over Gowrie Junction Road
• Upgrading a section of Gowrie Junction Road and constructing a signalized intersection with the new Ganzer Road.
Works will be carried out from November 2016 until April 2017, Monday to Saturday 6:30am to 6.30pm.

For more information on road closures and traffic conditions for the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing Project, please visit www.nexustsrc.com.au or phone 1800 198 878.

COUNCIL—FREE PLANT VOUCHERS
If anyone has any vouchers that they would like to donate towards the “Gowrie State School Gardens” we would gladly accept them. They can be handed in at the office. Thank you.

Pegasus Martial Arts and Zen Do Kai QLD
Presents
The Pink Ribbon
Community Come and Try Day

Activities
• Women's Self Defence
• Zen Do Kai Karate
• Muay Thai
• Zeni Fitness
• BJJ

One Size fits all
Pink belt $20
Pink Thai Singlet $20

Contact
Darryl Bartholdt – 0431744567
Grant McDonald - 0439464654

• When - December 3rd
• Time - 9AM TIL 12.30PM
• Where - Gowrie State School Hall,
1 Old Homebush Rd
• Cost Entry - Gold Coin donation,
• Sausage Sizzle, Cake stall and Ice Cold Drinks on sale