Our school captains, Hayley Rush and James McLeod took part in the Centenary of Railways celebration at the Gloucester Railway Station on Monday.

Hayley read a report written by Christine Bolton who was “one of the train kids” about travelling to school by train in the 1950’s.

The morning trip was by Goods Train and they were frequently late for school. The return trip was by the Kempsey Mail which meant they left school before the last period.

James spoke about the Railway Gate Keepers who lived alongside the railway line and were employed to open the gates for road traffic to cross. At night you opened and closed the gate yourself.
Welcome back to 2013 and a warm welcome to all our new students and their families.

I would like to thank our school community for the very warm welcome to Gloucester and Gloucester Public School. My family and I are settling in and are appreciative of the support.

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of representing our school with our two school captains James McLeod and Hayley Rush at the Centenary of Railways at the Gloucester rail station. It was lovely to hear our captains and students from other local schools speak at the ceremony and to learn about the significance of rail to the Gloucester township.

Last Tuesday (29th January) was Staff Development Day. Staff undertook professional learning on the Code of Conduct, mandatory anaphylaxis requirements mandated by the Department of Education and Communities in January this year, child protection awareness training and the social media policy.

Our school will start engaging in conversations about social media and responsible digital citizenship this semester, establishing a set of school community expectations and understandings. It is important to:

- establish programs for students needing additional support to develop communication, social and relationship skills for digital citizenship;
- work with you to create clear, well publicised policies addressing the use of technology, and preventing, reporting and managing cyber bullying;
- encourage parents/caregivers to use their discretion in overseeing their kids' internet use when at home; and
- build safe spaces and a school community that understands how to manage information and be internet savvy – using an online presence to grow and shape our world in a safe, creative way and inspire others to do the same.

With the swimming carnival this week and with many events in 2013, please be aware that if you take photos of your child/ren and other students are in the photo, you need the verbal permission of those parents/carers, before posting the photo/s on the internet or any social media sites such as facebook. Please respect the privacy of others and the right not to have pictures of their child/ren on social media. Promoting dignity, fairness, respect and integrity is an important part of being a responsible digital citizen. I look forward to seeking your opinions and feedback regarding social media this semester.

Thank you again for the warm welcome over the last week. I believe in an open door policy. Please feel free to come and chat to me, introduce yourself or discuss anything with me. I look forward to working with you.

Leanne Wakefield
Principal.
**Kindergarten Best Start Assessment 2013**

The 2013 Best Start process is just about completed and our new Kindergarten students will have their first day of school on **Wednesday 6 February.**

All Kindergarten families were sent an information letter that explained the *Best Start* process and indicated the starting time for their Kindergarten child.

We would ask that you keep to this time; not arriving earlier, or later. Please try to keep to the time set down on the information letter.

This is important for each child, helping them to not feel overwhelmed and confused when arriving to their new classroom.

Thank you to all families for supporting their student’s *BEST START* to school.

**Alison Clifton, Assistant Principal**
**Early Stage One Supervisor**

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**Stage One (Years 1 and 2)**

Teachers of Stage One (Years 1 & 2) will send home information and welcome notes next week. This week students are settling into their classes and getting to know their teachers, their new classmates and classroom routines. If you have any enquiries regarding your child please ring the office to make an appointment to see his/her classroom teacher, or call in to see me.

**Stage 1 classes and teachers are:**
- Mr Warner – 2S
- Mrs Howland – 2D
- Mr Thorne – 1/2N
- Ms Davis – 1L
- Mrs Green – K/1E

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**TO BRING UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO...**

... *TRAVEL THAT WAY ONCE IN A WHILE.*
Happy Birthday!!

Rachael Smith, William Dwyer, Ryan Boorer, Charlie Roy, Shania Richards, Jayden Hardy, Shaylee Ellis, Arlia Gambrill.

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Smart Packs
Smart Packs are available for purchase again this year. The costs are as follows:

- Kindergarten: $60.00
- Years 1 & 2: $40.00
- Years 3-6: $35.00

These packs contain everything your child will require for the year e.g. pens, pencils, glue sticks, exercise books, textbooks etc. Please pay for the pack as soon as possible at the office. We would appreciate it if you would make this a priority.

Thank you to the many parents who have already purchased their Smart Packs. These will be ready for distribution shortly.

Melissa Seale.

Voluntary Contribution:
Voluntary school contributions will remain at $30.00 per child this year. These funds are used to assist the school to purchase items used in teaching and student welfare. Such items include expenses relating to each of the learning areas such as art supplies, equipment, sports gear, library books, take-home readers, paper, cost of photocopying and texts etc.

Payment of these fees would be very much appreciated.

Swimming Carnival for Years 3,4,5 & 6
This Thursday 7th February, we will be holding our annual swimming carnival. The cost of entry into the pool is $3.00 (or card). Please ensure that your child has a hat, sunscreen, recess and lunch. House colours can be worn (Bradman – green; Dobell – red; Flynn – blue; Parkes – yellow).

No singlet tops please!

Buses will deliver and pick up from the pool. All students who do not catch buses will need to be at the pool by 8.45 for a 9.00am start.

Thank you – Julie Groves & Mark Howland.

P&C Meeting
The first P&C meeting of the year will be held this Thursday 7th February commencing at 7.00pm in the school library.

All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

After-school Activities
The Active After-School Communities (AASC) Program is a free Australian Government initiative delivered nationally by the Australian Sports Commission. It is run in around 3270 schools and after-school care centres across the country and provides primary school children with the opportunity to experience more than 70 different sports and up to 20 other structured physical activities.

Our AASC Program starts again next week and will run for 7 weeks. It is held on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 3.00pm – 4.00pm and pick up is from the top playground. A healthy afternoon tea is provided free of charge.

If you would like your child to participate in this program please see the front office for a registration form. The form will need to be returned to school before your child can start.

An Active After-school Communities program overview is attached to this newsletter.

Further information can be obtained by visiting ausport.gov.au/aasc.

Please see me if you have any queries.

Melissa Seale, AASC Coordinator.
Welcome back to another exciting year in the library!

Library Bags: Please ensure that your children have their library bags with them NEXT WEEK. I am unsure at this stage what day each class will have library, so if library bags are in their school bags ready, they will be able to borrow a book. Remember NO BAG- NO BOOK!

If you wish to purchase a library bag, they are available from the library at a small cost of just $3.00 each.

Book Club: Issue one will go home on Wednesday. The orders are due back Thursday 14th February. Please ensure the order form and correct money are placed in an envelope/zip lock bag AND that your child’s name and class are on both the order form and envelope/bag.

Have a great term,
Leanne Simes, Teacher Librarian

A BIG thank you to the P&C for the fantastic bench that has been built beside 3/4 H’s room. No more dirt and mud and a great area for reading and quiet time.

3/4H has really liked it at recess and lunchtime, so thank you very much.

Apparently Mr. Green was the main instigator, so an extra thank you to him as well.

Mr Howland and 3/4H.

GLOUCESTER GYMNASTICS CLUB

Classes resume Wednesday 13th February.
3.15 – 4.00; 4.00 – 4.45; 4.45 – 5.30.
New students are most welcome.

Come down between 3.15 and 5.15 and find out more about our club. Gloucester Gymnastics is a non-competitive activity that promotes balance, flexibility and motor skills. All children are welcome from ages 4 and up.

Registration $65.00.
Concession for families.
Weekly classes $7.00.
New students receive one free lesson before signing up.

Phone Noeleen 0448815453
Marrisa 0422742510

BUS TRAVEL

Don’t forget that if your child has gone from Year 2 to Year 3 this year and is eligible for free bus travel, a new Application Form must be completed.

Uniform Shop

Opening Hours 8.30 – 10.00am
Every Friday.
Kids look to you to keep them safe...

Know the signs.
Know the rules.

**SCHOOL ZONE**

8-9:30 AM
2:30-4 PM
SCHOOL DAYS

40km/h School Zone
The 40km/h school zone speed limit must be observed during school zone operating times.

**Bus Zones**
Stopping is not permitted during the times shown on this sign.

**No Stopping Zones**
Stopping is not permitted at any time.

**No Parking Zones**
Drivers may drop off or pick up children during the times shown, but note:
- The maximum stopping time is 2 minutes
- The driver must remain within 3 metres of the vehicle.

Fines and loss of demerit points apply.

A road safety initiative of Gloucester Shire Council
BLUELIGHT
Kindergarten – Year 2
FRIDAY 8th FEBRUARY
Entry $3.00
5.45pm – 7.15pm
Goolgowi Soldiers Club
Entertainment – “Party Professionals”

BLUELIGHT
Year 3 – Year 6
FRIDAY 8th FEBRUARY
Entry $5.00
7.45pm – 9.30pm
Goolgowi Soldiers Club
Entertainment – “Party Professionals”