A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have begun to prepare the school for a major change to the way we manage our financial transactions and student enrolments. These changes are gradually being rolled out to all schools across the state. It is a very significant change and while we hope it will all go without any disruptions at all, the reality is that we will all be learning a new way of doing things and there is likely to be a few little hiccups along the way.

The first thing you may notice is that, over the weeks leading up to the changeover on 16th May, our School Administrative Manager, Joanne Crompton, School Administrative Officer, Rachel Ross and I will be spending a lot of days at training courses. On these days, our Deputy, Kevin Lane, will be holding the fort for me and School Administrative Officer, Elaine Blake, will be managing the office, but there will be less people on site at the school to deal with administrative matters. This may mean that you have to wait longer for the phone to answer, wait a few days for a receipt, wait a little longer to get an appointment to meet, etc.

The following page is blank so that you can keep the information to refer to as the changes come into effect next term. You will note from this letter that there will be a few days during which deposits, payments, etc cannot be made or receipted by the school while the actual changeover to the new system takes place.

There will, of course, be some inconveniences, but we hope that they will be minimal.

We have amazing families at Glenvale and we know that you will support us and be understanding if we make a few mistakes or things take longer than usual, for example, while we learn to navigate our way around the new system.

Regards,
Gwenda Williamson

Stepping Stones Triple P supports families with special needs

Supermarket meltdowns? Mealtime tantrums? Bedtime battles? When you’re the parent or caregiver of a child with a disability, sometimes life can be extra challenging.

That’s why the Stepping Stones Triple P Project is currently offering parents in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales free parenting support.

Stepping Stones Triple P gives you tips and strategies to manage the big and small problems of family life. It helps encourage behaviour you like, cope with stress and teach your child new skills and it is returning to Glenvale. Two courses - one each at Narara and The Entrance North are coming up soon. Details are on Page 9 of this newsletter.
ENCOURAGING INCLUSIVENESS THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SPORT  FRIDAY 18 AND SATURDAY 19 MARCH

HUNTER DISABILITY SPORTS EXPO

WHEN:  Friday 18 and Saturday 19 March
        9am - 3pm
WHERE:  University of Newcastle -
        Callaghan Campus
        The Forum
COST:   Entry by Gold Coin Donation

INCLUDING: RUGBY TRACK & ROAD
           FENCING CRICKET BASKETBALL
           LAWN BOWLS HANDCYCLING
           ARCHERY TENNIS
           BOCCELLA
           NRL

A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR ALL

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

NSW Government

ABILITY LINKS
New Door Passes

ACHIEVE Australia
building extraordinary lives

Scia
Specialised Information and Access

Hunter Water

AASC All Ability Sports Coaching

Catholic Community Services NSW/ACT
Catholic Healthcare

Northcott
Supporting Choice and Opportunity

Social Services Hunter-Manning

Caring For People

Caring For People
Dear Parents and Carers

Glenvale School will transition to the new NSW public schools’ finance system and a new bank account on 16 May 2016.

To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept parent or carer payments.

1. **Direct deposits**: As of 10 May 2016, we will no longer accept direct deposits into our current school bank account as we prepare to close this account and transition to the new one. Any payments made into our account after this date cannot be properly allocated to a student’s account in a timely manner. Please ensure you have made any outstanding direct deposits before 10 May 2016.

2. **Cash and cheque payments**: Between 11 May 2016 and 17 May 2016, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash or cheque as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding cash or cheque payments before 11 May 2016. From 17 May 2016, cash and cheque payments will be accepted as before.

3. **Online payments**: As of 16 May 2016, we will begin to accept online payments using the Department of Education’s Parent Online Payment (POP) system. A button to access this online payment system titled ‘$ Make a Payment’ will be visible on the utility bar on the front page of our school’s website at www.glenvale-s.schools.nsw.edu.au. By selecting this link, parents and carers will be taken to a secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page, from which they can make online payments.

   *Please note: As a Westpac-hosted solution, cardholder and account details will be held securely helping to protect the school and its customers from fraudulent transactions as well as assisting in meeting the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) compliance requirements.*

4. **Cash amounts for student learning programs**: To enable our students to continue to learn to use money when on community based outings or at the school canteen, for example, it will be important that some payments are made in cash. Any consent forms sent home next term will give details of this.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. We are hopeful the addition of an online payment facility will prove of benefit to families. If you have any further questions, please contact the school on 4325 7783 or 4325 2325.

Regards,

Gwenda Williamson
8 Key Strategies for Schools and Families working together.

1. Team work is the key to achieving desired outcomes. We are all on the same side. We all have the best interest of your child at heart. When we have the attitude that we are all on the same team, the child’s team, we view everything differently.

2. Share information, brainstorm ideas and learn together.

3. Ask questions. You should never be ashamed to ask questions. We are all there to help your child through life.

4. Brain storm ideas. Remember not every strategy works for every child so it is good to have a few ideas to try.

5. Keep it real. Be brave and honest about your child and their requirements.

6. Remember the child may act differently at home and at school.

7. Respect each other. Be appreciative of each other’s efforts.

8. Ensure the child and family develop a good relationship with the school, including the Principal. An informed Principal can support staff, student and families. They can be a good mediator when issues arise at school and find resolutions whether it is funding, behaviour or breakdown in communication.

Adapted from The Ultimate Guide to School and Home by Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans

Dates to Remember

Easter break - Friday 25th March - Monday 28th March
Term 1 ends - Friday 8th April
Anzac Day - Monday 25th April
School resumes Term 2 - Wednesday 27th April
School Photo Day - Thursday 12th May
Castle Transition

Invites you to join us for an information session on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Find out how to obtain the supports to reach your goals

Thursday: 21st April 2016
Time: 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Castle Personnel Office at the Lake Haven Shopping Centre

Participants from the Hunter who have transitioned to the NDIS will be there to help answer your questions

For further information, please contact Wendy Jurd-Hill on: 4926 3700 or 0407 297 700
Week 5

Narara

Room 1: Esther Egwutuoha
Room 2: Keiarna Whitmore
Room 3: Nicholas Passeri
Room 4: Ashleigh Collins
Room 5: Nimalan Sritharan
Room 6: Harry Maharaj
Room 8: Ayden Wilson
Room 9: Bethany Harris
Room 10: Madison Harden
Room 11: Trinity McFawn
Room 12: Maxx Brock-Fenton
Room 13: Ayden Wilson
Room 14: Jordan O’Sullivan
Room 15: James Cernjul

North Entrance

Room 1: Riley Nowland
Room 2: Jarred Chandler
Room 3: Max Reid
Room 4: Stephanie Brennan
Room 5: Brian Ford
Room 6: Amelia Caesar
Room 7: Emily Willoughby

Week 6

Narara

Room 1: Jake Anderson
Room 2: Ajay Grimes
Room 3: Crystal Challita
Room 4: Eternity Wilson
Room 5: Mahalia Serrano
Room 6: Brock Davis
Room 8: Zac Kennedy
Room 9: Lachlan Burkwood
Room 10: Kingsley Bennett
Room 11: Lucy Louger
Room 12: Lochlan Hennessy-Garvey
Room 13: Ewan Lowden
Room 14: Jeffrey Somerville
Room 15: Justyn Stewart

North Entrance

Room 1: Nicholas Gallagher
Room 2: Zac Bryant
Room 3: Paki Tongia
Room 4: Jasmin Murdoch
Room 5: Sam Tyson
Room 6: Sam Leeson
Room 7: Hannah Fidock

Playground

Narara:

Tristan Kane

North Entrance:

Nicholas Gallagher

Our Playground stars of the week. Congratulations!

James

Paki

Tristan

Nicholas
Voluntary School Contributions

Every public school asks for a small contribution towards the many costs associated with education programs. At Glenvale we ask that parents contribute $35 per child each year. This has not changed for many years and is a very small contribution by comparison with other schools even though our costs can be much higher. Please consider sending in the $35 as soon as you are able to do so. Many thanks to those who have already done so.

All donations to the school over $2 are tax deductible as Glenvale is registered with the Australian Tax Office as a deductible gift recipient.
Stepping Stones Triple P supports families of children with special needs aged 2-12 years

What is Stepping Stones Triple P?
Stepping Stones Triple P (SSTP) is part of the Triple P parenting program, and has been specially tailored for parents of children with a disability. It doesn't tell you how to be a parent. It's more like a toolbox of ideas. You choose the strategies you need. You choose the way you want to use them. It's all about making it work for you.

What does Stepping Stones Triple P do?
The three Ps in "Triple P" stand for "Positive Parenting Program", which means your family life is going to be much more enjoyable.

Stepping Stones Triple P helps you:
- Raise happy, confident kids
- Manage misbehaviour so everyone in the family enjoys life more
- Set rules and routines that everyone respects and follows
- Encourage behaviour you like
- Take care of yourself as a parent
- Feel confident you're doing the right thing
- Take part in community events
- Develop plans for tricky situations

One of our staff members is a trained Triple P presenter and will be running a course for parents at our Narara site on 30th March and at The Entrance North on 6th April.

Parents must register via the Triple P website on
http://www.triplep-steppingstones.net/au-en/home

If you wish to come along and have trouble registering, let us know and we can help you to do it from a computer at school.
Remember to send in your old mobile phones. Every phone, whether working or not, is worth money to the school. Your old phones have already raised much needed funds for Glenvale.