

# Grafton Public School

## A Tradition of Excellence



Locked Bag 9024 Grafton 2460 PHONE: Primary - 66421000 Infants - 66422286  
Email: [graffton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:graffton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Term Calendar - [Click Here](#)

Term 1 Week 2: Monday 30th January 2017

School Website - [Click Here](#)



### WELCOME BACK!

#### In this week's newsletter.....

- \* Swimming Trials
- \*Principal's Message

#### Upcoming events

Thursday 9th February: Swimming Trials  
Tuesday 14th February: P & C Meeting



## Welcome !

A special welcome to all of our new Kinder students who have today started "big school" and a warm welcome to all of our new GPS families!

We are hoping that all students Years 1-6 have settled into their new school year well and are looking forward to a year of fun and learning.

Education is about developing our future citizens. We are here for the total being, academic, social, physical, emotional and spiritual. At GPS we realise the need to be competent at literacy and numeracy as well as being a balanced and well rounded person. Our curriculum offers students opportunities in sport, music, dance, drama, the creative arts, public speaking and debating as well as various enrichment programs. We are a busy and dynamic school!

In a school and family partnership, communication is the key to success. If you have a problem or if your child is experiencing difficulties in any aspect of schooling, please see the class teacher. All humans have the ability to read body language and teachers will notice many things yet with twenty to thirty pupils in the class, they don't pick up everything. We do appreciate a note, phone call or email to alert us to changes in your child's state of being, behaviour or your family circumstances. We are approachable and do appreciate being informed early to allow for intervention rather than cure. Please note that if any of your family details change ie address, phone numbers, email address, emergency contacts, child's health etc, it is important that our office is advised ASAP.

## PSSA Swimming Trials

The first event on the school calendar for the year will be our GPS PSSA Swimming Trials to be held at Grafton Pool on Thursday 9th February. The swimming trials are only for competitive swimmers turning ages from 8 years to 12/13 years old in 2017 and will commence at 9.15am. Interested students will be given a note today and must return the note by this Friday 3rd February. Students must nominate the races they wish to compete in. Children successful at these trials will progress to the next representative carnival for all district schools which will be held on February 22nd.

## BEWARE: THE PARKING RANGER AND THE POLICE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT

We have been asked by the authorities to remind all of our parents that the area directly in front of the Infants Campus is a "Drop Off" area only. Between 8.30am -9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm, cars are not allowed to park in this area. Cars are allowed to drop off passengers only.

**A time limit of one minute applies and drivers must stay with their vehicles.** Vehicles must reverse park to let the student/s out but only have the one minute time limit.



Please always abide by road rules and be sensible drivers while dropping off and collecting your children. Stick to the 40km limit in the school zone, watch the crossings and obey the parking instructions. This is just a friendly reminder as we have been advised by the authorities that they will be doing a blitz on school areas in the near future.

## School Fees

School Fees are due at the start of the year and are paid direct to the front office. A general levy of \$10 is owed for each child. Also owed is a family library/technology contribution of \$30 (one child) or \$50 (two or more children at GPS). This family contribution is paid as a tax deductible donation. School fees assist to cover the high costs of classroom resources.

**All families who pay their fees before Friday 17th March, will go into the draw for a Family Dinner at the Village Green Hotel, valued at \$100. A big thankyou to the Village Green for their continued support of our school. This would be a fabulous reward for the family, so please try and pay your school fees as soon as possible.**

## School Banking

School Banking is conducted every Tuesday and will resume for 2017 tomorrow, Tuesday 31st January. If there are any parents who may be able to help with the student banking for a couple of hours every Tuesday, please let the office know. Banking packages will issue shortly to any new students wishing to open accounts.

The first P & C Meeting for the year is Tuesday 14th February, starting at 7pm in the school library. All welcome! The P & C would particularly like to extend an invitation to all of our new parents to come along and learn about what this important group within our school accomplishes.

## Brief but Important.....

- \* Our school's Term 1 Calendar is currently being prepared and will be distributed to parents hopefully within the next week or so. On it will be many important dates for the term including parent/teacher evenings and school photos.
- \* We always encourage all students to take pride in our school by wearing full school uniform daily. This includes black shoes (black joggers are acceptable) and a school hat. Weekly awards will be given to children wearing their uniforms and Year 6 students will have to wear their uniform as part of the new Star Award system. Students representing the school at cultural and academic events will be required to wear full school uniform. Students without a school hat on will be directed to play under the shade shelters during recess and lunch.
- \* Please make sure when you enter the school, particularly the Infants campus, that the gates are closed behind you. All our gates must remain closed, not propped open, as they are a boundary for several of our special needs children. We would appreciate your assistance with this!
- \* It is always great to celebrate a birthday with a cake in class to share with your classmates and teachers welcome this practise. However, teachers do ask that you let them know well in advance if you wish to bring in a cake for your child so that they can work it into their daily program. Also, the cake/cakes need to be precut and large enough for the whole class. Patty cakes are ideal! Please keep in mind that we do have some students who need a special diet.
- \* A brief but heartfelt thankyou to all of the families who donated towards our Christmas hampers late last year. The hampers were very much appreciated by five families, making Christmas a little easier for all.
- \* For those of you who may have forgotten or were keeping within the Xmas budget, we do still have a few copies of the 2016 Yearbook left. Copies are \$25 each and contain photos of nearly all GPS students and activities. If you would like a copy, please call into the office.

## Canteen News

The P & C are currently in the process of interviewing applicants for the new GPS Canteen Supervisor's position.

Consequently, there will be no canteen open for at least the first 2 weeks of first term.

We have managed to make arrangements with the Grafton High School Canteen ladies who have offered to make any lunch orders during this time. **Orders must be lodged at the office before 9.30am. Orders must be in an envelope noted with child's name, class and order with correct money enclosed. Only lunches will be catered for, there will be no recess sold and no icy poles.**

The menu is as follows:

Salad Bowl \$2- small \$4- medium

(ham or chicken plus tomato, beetroot, cucumber, carrot, pineapple, potato salad, pasta salad, cheese and egg)

Fruit salad bowl \$2

Turkish bread \$2- a quarter

(chicken/lettuce/mayo or BLAT)

Muffins \$1 choc chip or blueberry

Finger Buns \$2

Sandwiches \$2-50

(ham/cheese, egg/lettuce, vegemite and/or cheese)

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back, Welcome Back, Welcome Back!!! to a year filled with promise and fun. Our calendar is already filling with options for our students from excursions, through to visiting performers and fun activity days. You are an extremely important part of the triangle of growth for our students. This triangle comprising of: the class teacher; the parent/guardian; and the wider community. Everyone is part of the team and achievement is matched against effort and attitude. You only get out what you are willing to put in, with many contributing very generously, as they believe in and show their support for a quality education which will create later life opportunities.

The students seemed to have all settled in well this morning. We had planned for this when in Term 4 last year we held our two step-up sessions late in the year where the students were introduced to their probable teacher for this year. We have several staff around the school who are either returning to the team or are a new long term face at GPS. Welcome back to Mrs Kelly Fletcher (after two years as the Instructional Leader at South Grafton Public School) and Mrs Kelly Gater (after a maternity leave absence). Welcome to new staff: Mr Brendan Taylor (also from SGPS, who will be a new Assistant Principal), Mrs Angela Rediger (from the private system), and Miss Natasha Lentfer, Mr Sam Wicks, Mr Tony Crozier, Mrs Allira Robison and Miss Kelly Nelson (who have all been regular casual teachers at our school in the past).

### **Our staff placements for 2017 are as follows:**

Kinder: *Mrs Brooke Penfold, Mrs Erin Gallagher, Mrs Rebecca Cole, Mrs Amie Stephenson*  
Year 1: *Mrs Sandra McMahon, Mrs Amanda Sullivan, Mrs Kelly Gater, Mrs Nicole Woods/Mr David McMahon*  
Year 2: *Ms Janet Philp, Ms Kelly McRae, Mr Brendan Taylor, Mrs Briony Stevens/Miss Natasha Lentfer*  
Year 3: *Mr Nick Campbell, Miss Season Conklin*  
Year 3/4: *Enrichment Class - Mrs Gail Taylor*  
Year 4: *Mrs Stephanie Harrigan, Miss Sue Buckley, Mr Sam Wicks*  
Year 4/5: *Enrichment Class - Mr Steve Lamb*  
Year 5: *Miss Jane Dowsett, Mr Chris Speirs*  
Year 5/6: *Enrichment Class - Mrs Kate Robertson*  
Year 6: *Mr Tim Keogh, Mr Tony Crozier, Mrs Kate Goodall*  
Support Classes: *Mrs Lindy Johnson, Mrs Maria Bruce, Ms Neeta Fardell, Mrs Maria Rae, Mrs Lindy Craik, Mrs Kait Holloway/Mrs Allira Robison*  
STL/RFF/RR: *Mrs Tracey O'Donohue, Mrs Elycia Hoade, Mr Howard Avery, Mrs Michelle Black, Mrs Elaine Ware, Mrs Cathy McPhee, Mrs Jane Dougherty, Mrs Angela Rediger, Mrs Kimberley McPhillips, Mr Joe Armstrong, Mrs Sue Armstrong, Mrs Elisabeth Brown, Miss Kelly Nelson*  
MultiLit/MiniLit: *Ms Deb Scott, Mrs Trish Winters*  
Library - *Mrs Tracy Avery*  
School Counsellor: *Mrs Terri Jackson*  
Instructional Leaders: *Mrs Kelly Fletcher, Mrs Bianca Rhodes*  
Relieving Deputy Principal: *Miss Michelle McDonagh*

One of our school's values is that of respect and we show this in many ways including direct and positive communication. We try to be available at the earliest possible moment for people yet do require people to make an appointment. It may be immediate yet, if not, we will respond within 24 hours.

Now it's time to settle back, fasten the seat belt and enjoy the ride as this year will progress quickly and we have set a number of higher performance expectations for our students, which we believe they can make.

Have a great week,  
Will Randall  
Principal

## Grafton Physical Culture

Physie is for girls 3 years to adult. Physie is a sport that fuses dance styles such as jazz, ballet, hip hop, contemporary, aerobic dance and even yoga! Our innovative choreography changes annually and is designed for maximum variety and fun. Classes are held Tuesdays at the Grafton Primary School Hall.

**Registration Day: Thursday 2nd Feb 2017**

**Venue: Grafton Primary School Hall Bacon St**

**Time: 4pm to 6pm**

**Classes commence Tuesday 7th Feb**

For further information visit our website [www.graftonphysie.com](http://www.graftonphysie.com) or call Justine on 0431 470 552 or email [graftonphysie@bigpond.com](mailto:graftonphysie@bigpond.com).



Log on to play.  
[www.playnrl.com](http://www.playnrl.com).  
Enter your postcode to find your nearest club

### GROUP 1

#### Secretary

John Wall

Ph. 6662 7028

E: [grouponejuniorrl@bigpond.com.au](mailto:grouponejuniorrl@bigpond.com.au)

#### N R L DEVELOPMENT

Garry Stevenson 0429 834 204

Kelvin Menchin 0407 069 101

Mike Donnelly 0418 621 259

COME & TRY SKILLS CLINIC WITH THE N R L GOLD COAST TITANS & LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STAFF .

WHEN : THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2017. @ 4PM – 5PM  
WHERE : JABOUR PARK , SOUTH GRAFTON.

Contact : Kel Menchin NRL GDO mob. 0407069101.  
E. [kmenchin@nrl.com.au](mailto:kmenchin@nrl.com.au)

We are very excited to have some of the Titans here for our morning assembly on Thursday morning at the Primary Campus.

 **South Grafton Rebels Juniors** 

**COME & SIGN UP WITH THE  
REBELS IN 2017!**

All players are WELCOME, U7's to U16's

**WHERE:** Grafton Shopping World  
New players just bring a copy of your Birth Certificate.

**WHEN:** Saturday 4th & 11th February

**FEES:** \$90 per player

Includes a Rebel Club Polo courtesy of GJ Gardner Homes.  
New players receive shorts and socks.

**TRAINING STARTS:** Thursday 2nd March,  
at JJ Lawrence South Grafton at 4:00 pm  
then every Tuesday and Thursday TBA.

**CONTACTS:** Jaime Livermore: 0487081980 or  
liv80@live.com.au Georgia Jabour: 0417 435 261 or  
ajabour@bigpond.com Erin Gallagher: 0428241974 or  
ez1010@live.com.au

**SIGN ON ANY TRAINING DAY!**