Vision: Grand Avenue State School community strives to be a learning environment where students can achieve their potential and become valued members of society.

Key Values: These key values are the foundations that drive the Grand Avenue State School vision. They underpin the relationships between students, staff, parents and the community.

- Quality Relationships
  - Respect
  - Care and Compassion
- High Achievement
  - Doing your best
  - Responsibility for learning
- Meaningful Communication
  - Understanding and Inclusion
  - Honesty and Integrity

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE PH: 3372 0560

ISSUE NO: 02/13 28 February 2013

GRAND AVENUE STATE SCHOOL
OPENED 1999

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PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

1. Active School Travel at GASS

Recently I attended our first Active School Travel committee meeting at Grand Avenue State School.

We now have a wonderful group of teachers, a P&C rep (we always need more) and Lea Gamble, our BCC support person all working together to ensure that Active School Travel is happening at our school.

Next Wednesday 6 March is our first Walking Wheeling Wednesday. Every student is encouraged to walk or wheel to school on that morning. Even if you park a block or two away and walk your children a short distance to school this will be a big help. Every child who participates will receive a raffle ticket and will go into the draw to win either a scooter or a new bike.

A big thank you to the P&C committee which donated the scooter and to our local Federal MP, Mr Bernie Rippoll who donated the bike.

Last Thursday we launched our Active School Travel initiative at GASS.

Special presenters entertained the children and encouraged them to participate in Walking Wheeling Wednesday. Please see the article below.

2. School Resource Hire Scheme

Please ensure that you have paid your $50.00 School Resource Hire Scheme by this Friday. This is a much needed payment as the school is committed to the implementation of the National Curriculum. We want to make sure that every child has all the necessary materials and texts so that they are able to fully engage with all the...
learning on offer. For families that choose not to make this payment we will be providing you with the list of resources that you will need to purchase independently so that your child has everything they need.

Thank you to the many parents who have already organised their payment in 2013.

Desley Brassington
Principal
00.01.2013

SCHOOL SECURITY
If you suspect trespassers or persons are deliberately attempting to damage school property, please phone either:

• School Watch Program................. 13 1788
• Crime Stoppers ......................... 1800 333 000
• Forest Lake Police Beat............... 3372 5834
• State Govt Security Service....... 3224 6666
• Forest Lake Rangers.................... 1300 731 735

PLEASE NOTE
It is school policy that any person on school grounds during the school day MUST first report to the school administration office and be issued with a school badge for security and safety purposes.

LIBRARY

Author Visit Year 2:
Tracey Roper and Lisa Hollier

Students from Year 2 are invited to a presentation by visiting author/illustrator duo Tracey Roper and Lisa Hollier.

Their first book is Hullabazoo.

Ashton Scholastic Book Fair
13th March - 25th March

Book Fair is coming in March!

Once again, we are preparing for our major fundraising effort in the Library.

Books generally cost between $10:00 and $15:00; posters are $5:00; there are novelty items such as diaries, and notebooks, and all sorts of stationery items ranging from $1:00 for an eraser, $2:00 for a Clickit pen, or a lunch box of erasers, to fibre optic pens for $4:00.

The children will be able to fill in a Wish List to give you an idea of what they would like....

Children and parents are welcome to visit the Library from Wednesday 13th March to Monday 25th March at any time between 8:15am and 3:30 pm to make purchases from Book Fair. (There will be no preview periods this year)

Orders (with money, or credit card details) will be taken for items that are sold out, and these orders will be delivered to your child's classroom within a week of the Book Fair.

We would be very grateful for your support of this venture.

BUYING: Wednesday 13th March to Monday 25th March

From the Penguin website

These illustrations are what dreams are made of: the detail, the colours, the realism... This first – yes, first! – picture book by sisters Lisa Hollier and Tracey Roper is astounding. Kids Book Review

And from the blurb:

It's a perfect day for a trip to the zoo. But Lochlan and his dad haven't counted on a cage of clever crocs and their cunning escape plan.

Before anyone can stop them, the crocs are out, wild animals are everywhere and the zoo keepers are helpless! It's up to Lochlan to save the day – but now? What can put an end to the hullabaloo at the zoo?

This visit has been postponed to March 11 to allow time for parents to pay.

Many thanks to parents for encouraging your children to attend activities such as the author visit.

Invitation to participate in World Read Aloud Day

Dear Parents and Carers:

March 6th is World Read Aloud Day, a day about taking action to show the world that the right to read and write belongs to all people.

You are invited to celebrate literacy and the fact that children in our country have the right to enjoy reading and writing, while around the world there are 793 million people who cannot yet read.
Please join us on this day designated World Read Aloud Day [http://litworld.org/worldreadaloudday/] by spending some time reading a favourite book with your child, or giving a gift of a book.

Helen Mackintosh  
Teacher- Librarian

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**CHAPLAIN’S CORNER**

Greetings All,

This term our Prep students are enjoying the Fun Friends program which helps build emotional resilience and improve social skills. The ideas presented can help people of all ages. For example, this week we are focussing on relaxation which is important for everyone!

We can all benefit from making time each day just to relax and unwind. You could spend some time enjoying a favourite, quiet activity or give yourself permission to just do nothing for a while. (I am actually talking to myself here too, as I know I should do this but don’t always!)

Prof Paula Barrett (the program’s author) says it is really important for children to have such quiet time straight after school every day. Her suggestions include spending some time outdoors, even if the little ones are active there, it is beneficial. This can actually be simply walking home from school. (Another benefit of the Active School Travel program) Taking children straight to a busy shopping centre after school is not recommended.

[The next paragraphs are a repeat from the last newsletter for the benefit of anyone didn’t receive it.]

**Mentoring Program**

*Partnering with Purpose: making time for kids*

We are entering the third year of our very successful and highly valued mentoring program. This program is available to help support children who are finding the school environment challenging for various reasons. We currently have 15 adult volunteers who give a child an hour of their time each week, taking a special interest in them in order to help them to feel more valued and supported, and encouraging them to be a more active participant in the classroom situation. A caring adult who gives a child one hour a week of their undivided attention can make a real difference in that child’s life.

Half the hour is spent on schoolwork and the other half on games, art or craft activities. Each mentor aims to build a positive relationship with the child to help improve their self confidence and overall resilience.

**Maybe you (or someone you know) would be suitable for such a worthwhile program. Please contact me by mobile if you would like more information about joining our great team of mentors.** There are always students on the waiting list. Male mentors are especially welcome!

**Christian Lunchtime Program:**

This year we are planning on having weekly Christian lunchtime clubs for Prep/Yr 1, Year 2 and Year 3. Membership is with mandatory parent/caregiver permission. If you would like your child to receive a permission note, please contact me (see below).

Blessings

Kathy Williams  
School Chaplain

**NEW email address:**

chaplain@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au  
Mobile: 0419 342 055

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**ALLERGIES**

Dear Parents

Peanuts are a common allergen that can cause severe reactions when people who are allergic to peanuts come into contact with them. This year we have a number of students throughout the school who are allergic to peanuts and can experience a life threatening anaphylactic reaction.

In order to prevent any incidences that might threaten the lives of these students, could you please not include peanuts and peanut butter in your children’s lunches.

There are many products that contain peanut extracts in small amounts. Nutella is also a nut based spread that can cause an allergic reaction. Many are everyday items.

The students who are severely allergic to peanuts and peanut products are aware of these products and will not knowingly eat them.

We are asking for your cooperation in this matter to ensure the safety of all students in our school.
GIRL TECH

Girl tech is starting for 2013. Over the last four years the girls have enjoyed participating in the project.

This project has been designed to recognise and support girls in ICT and encourage interest in technology. The skills girls engage in as part of the project include animation, photography skills, editing photos and creating avatars.

Participants of the GirlTech project will have the opportunity to engage in extended learning experiences using ICT.

The group meets once a week on Wednesdays during the first lunch break, and will work on a variety of different technology related projects. The GirlTech project is designed to increase confidence and competence in technology for girls who have an interest in the area.

Active School Travel

Roadstar Launches Active School Travel

Active School Travel’s colourful character ‘Roadstar’ and his friends ‘Red’ and ‘Green’ were special guests at assembly on Thursday when they launched Active School Travel.

Students found out how they can actively travel to school this year by walking, cycling, scootering, carpooling or catching the bus more. They also saw some of the great rewards they can earn as they get stamps on their Active Travel Passports.

Look out for the launch of Walking Wheeling Wednesday on 6 March when you can win a scooter and think about how you can actively travel to and from school this year!

2013/2014 CANBERRA TOUR

2013

An important aspect of the Grand Avenue Year 7 curriculum is a Study of Society and the Environment unit on democracy and civics education which features a study of levels of government and citizenship. For the past six years, to consolidate students’ learning on government, the school has led an educational tour to Canberra.

Information letters have already been given to each Year 7 student.

2014

An important letter and survey is being sent home for parents of Year 5 and 6 students regarding the anticipated 2014 Canberra Tour.

All letters/surveys are individualised with your child’s name and it is critical that all of these are returned by the nominated due date.

GENTLE REMINDERS

I realise that I may have overwhelmed you by highlighting so many protocols that surround our school. However effective communication is the key to the success of any organisation and I believe that when parents and the school have a shared understanding then our students benefit immeasurably.

CASH COLLECTION DAYS

The school accepts payment for excursions, incursions etc each day. The payment window is open from 8.15 – 11.15 am. Parents and students may make payment either via the payment window or by students handing payment envelopes to their teacher each morning. A receipt will be issued. Your assistance by ensuring all payments for extra curricular activities are made prior to the advertised due date.

CLASS TEACHER/FIRST CONTACT

If parents have concerns about their child’s learning or school welfare, the class teacher is the best first contact to resolve an issue. For teachers and parents, if there is a need for further support or intervention, the school administration is available to assist.

STUDENTS IN SICK ROOM

Parents of children who report to the sickroom complaining that they are unwell will be contacted to take their child home. The school relies on the honesty of children to assess whether parents should be contacted. In most cases where a child is legitimately “off colour” in the morning, it is best to keep them at home for the day to recover, rather than attending school where their condition may worsen.
CHANGE OF FAMILY DETAILS
It is essential that the school has current home address, phone numbers, custody and health details for all children. If changes have occurred since you enrolled please inform the school immediately.

MEDICATION
The school is able to administer medication to children if parents have signed the “Medical Authority Form” and only if the medication is correctly labelled (Chemist sticker) or is accompanied by a doctor’s letter. Education Queensland does not allow schools to administer non-prescription drugs eg. aspirin, panadol etc.

VISITORS
All visitors to the school (including parents), must first report to the school office to sign the “Visitors Book” and obtain a visitors badge.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is held every Wednesday. Kits to assist parents open new accounts for their children are available on request from the office.

SUN PROTECTION
The NO HAT, NO PLAY policy is strongly enforced – broad brimmed hats ONLY.

STARTING TIME
The first bell is rung at 8.40am so classes can commence at 8.45am SHARP. Student punctuality is essential to ensure a smooth start to the school day for all classes.

BANNED ITEMS
Apart from the obvious dangerous substances and items eg. (alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, knives etc) that are banned from all schools, mobile phones, skateboards, CD players, scooters and pokemon cards are not permitted at Grand Avenue. Consequences of dangerous substances (eg cigarettes) being brought into the school is automatic suspension. Skateboards, scooters and pokemon cards will be confiscated.

PARKING IN SCHOOL GROUNDS
Parent parking within the school grounds or in the staff car park is not permitted. The dropping off and picking up of children within the school precinct creates a host of obvious safety issues. Also with the large number of wheelchair students attending Grand Avenue, disabled parking is a premium. Please respect our physically impaired students’ right to access disabled parking at all times.

ABSENCES
The school requires explanatory notes/phone call advising of reasons for children’s absence. It is school policy that after three days of an unexplained absence parents/caregivers will be phoned by the school for details.

Student Absence Email: studentabsence.grandavenue.eq.edu.au
Student Absence Line: 3372 0560

CENTENARY STORMERS SOCCER CLUB
2013 SEASON SIGN-ON DAYS
SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY 9.00AM – 12.00PM
SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2.00 – 4.00PM
All ages wanted: 4 – 16 years

For more information please visit our website www.centenarystormers.org.au or contact
Alan Wilkins on 0407 038565 or email: president@centenarystormers.org.au
Sean Piper on 0410614266 or email vicepresidentjnr@centenarystormers.org.au
GET ACTIVE AND FEEL THE EXCITEMENT OF DANCE!
Jazz, Hip Hop and Cheerleading Classes!
FORESTLAKE DANCE STUDIO – MONDAY & THURSDAY AFTERNOONS
BRAND NEW HIP HOP AND MINI CHEERLEADING CLASSES
Grand Ave Primary School, SEU Room.
Forest Lake Community house, Alpine st & Forest Lake Blv Forest Lake
Ages 3 years and up
Classes $9.50 each, Pay as you Go!
The FAD dance program has a focus on fun and fitness through dance
New Students always welcome for enquires
phone 3273 6367
www.fitnessanddance.com.au