Vision and Values

Vision: Grand Avenue State School – A school of High Expectations.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Relationships</th>
<th>High Achievement</th>
<th>Meaningful Communication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Doing your best</td>
<td>Understanding and Inclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Care and Compassion</td>
<td>Responsibility for learning</td>
<td>Honesty and Integrity</td>
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STUDENT ABSENCE LINE PH: 3372 0560

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.10.12</td>
<td>Year 6 Gymnastics begins</td>
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<td>16.10.12</td>
<td>SEP Hydro Swimming begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>24.10.12</td>
<td>Information evening for Canberra Tour – 6:30pm in Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.10.12</td>
<td>Year 1 – Bugs Ed Incursion</td>
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<td>02.11.12</td>
<td>Year 1 – Bugs Ed Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.11.12</td>
<td>P&amp;C Markets in Auditorium</td>
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<td>06.12.12</td>
<td>Prep – Christmas Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>07.12.12</td>
<td>Students meet their 2013 class Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.12.12</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4</td>
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From the Principal

Welcome Back
It is wonderful to see all of our staff and families back for the final term of the year. This is a very busy time with many special events, report cards and end of year activities. Please keep your eye on the newsletter and school website to stay on top of our very busy school calendar.

Can I also strongly encourage all of our families to participate in our school Spellathon fundraiser for this term. Class teachers have sent the form and information letter home. It is not difficult for children to participate, there are some marvellous prizes, even for small donations and the children will be learning as well.

Don't forget our P&C meeting next Tuesday night, 7pm in the staffroom. We would love to see you there.

Prep 2013
On Thursday 13 September, Grand Avenue welcomed prospective 2013 Prep parents at both a morning and evening session. We already have strong enrolments for next year and will continue to enrol all eligible students.

We are however encouraging families to do so sooner rather than later so that we can ensure all necessary arrangements and the least disruption to our youngest students. Grand Avenue offers an excellent learning program, a culture of high expectations and a strong sense of school family. I look forward to all of our new Prep students joining our school community in 2013.
Strong Naplan results at GASS!

Our 2012 Naplan results have been very pleasing overall. There are 5 strands in each year level and the school has shown good progress in thirteen of the fifteen strands. The following is a summary of the data:

Year 3 Reading – Grand Avenue has 97.1% of our students at or above the National Minimum Standard (NMS) compared with 92.8% for Queensland and 93.5% for Australia.

Year 3 Numeracy - an even stronger result, 98.5% of our students have achieved or are above the National Minimum Standard (NMS) and this result is significantly above both state and national scores at 92.8% and 93.9% respectively.

General Comment- overall our Year 3 students have performed very strongly in all strands. 52.2% of our year 3 students are in the top two bands in writing, 38.6% in the top two bands in reading and 43.9% in the top two bands in Grammar and Punctuation.

Year 5 Reading – 90.6% of our Year 5 students are at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading compared to 89.3% state-wide and 91.8% nationally.

Year 5 Numeracy – 91.4% of our students achieved the NMS as compared to 92% in Queensland and 93.9% across Australia.

General Comment - our school has performed strongly whilst the slight dip in results at year five level is comparable to the nationwide drop reflected in all results. It is pleasing to note that Grand Avenue year 5’s achieved significantly higher results in writing and spelling outperforming their state and national counterparts.

Year 7 Reading – 96.2% of our students achieved the NMS as compared to 93.4% and 94.2% across Queensland and Australia. Outstanding results in writing were posted with 97.3% of students achieving the NMS against state and national results at 88.8% and 89.9% respectively.

Year 7 Numeracy - another outstanding result with Grand Avenue students registering 98.3% of students at or above the NMS. This result is significantly above both state and national results at 93.7% and 93.7% respectively.

General Comment - It should be noted that across the country, writing results were down, however Grand Avenue SS has posted very strong results for writing in all three year levels which is against the national trend. Year 7 results were outstanding with three out of five strands (writing, grammar and punctuation and numeracy) registering significantly above the state and national results.

These very pleasing and improved results have been achieved by the collective efforts of every teacher, the administration team and support staff at our school. I am extremely proud of the improvement our students have demonstrated in 2012 and believe that these results are evidence of the high expectations and strong commitment to learning which we have committed to at Grand Avenue State School. I would also like to acknowledge the support of our parents in working with us to ensure that your children take their learning seriously and work hard to do their best every day.

2013 Class Consideration Parent Requests

During the early half of Term #4, the school will undertake a complex process to allocate students to classes for the 2013 school year. This task involves many hours of deliberation between class teachers, learning support staff and administration to form comparable, balanced classes where all students’ learning needs are respected and optimised.

As Grand Avenue has a strong parent partnership philosophy, the importance of inviting parents to contribute to the class allocation process is acknowledged. Parents are therefore invited to submit in writing to Ms Tobin, Mrs O’Brien, Ms Almond, Mr Thorne, or myself, any special considerations you may wish brought to the school’s attention to encourage the smooth transition of your child from one year level to the next. Special consideration may involve the separation of students whose behaviour is detrimental to another’s learning.
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE WILL THE SCHOOL ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WHERE PARENTS MAKE A REQUEST FOR THEIR CHILD TO BE INCLUDED IN OR EXCLUDED FROM AN INDIVIDUAL TEACHER’S CLASS. ANY LETTERS WHERE A TEACHER’S NAME IS MENTIONED WILL BE DISCARDED AND NOT CONSIDERED IN THE ALLOCATION PROCESS.

In the last fortnight of the school year, after teachers are assigned to classes, students will be advised of their 2013 teachers. After class allocations are made, no changes will be considered. I have the greatest respect and confidence in the professional abilities of our entire teaching team. Mindful that every teacher has individual strengths and weaknesses, if a difficulty arises between a child and teacher the issue will be resolved collaboratively at a professional level that maintains the dignity of all parties.

With parental input (if you feel it is necessary) combined with the school’s comprehensive internal placement processes, the allocation of pupils to classes for next year will be smooth and thoughtful ensuring that the success of all students is maximised.

THE DEADLINE FOR PARENT REQUESTS IS FRIDAY 19TH OCTOBER

Please note: - A request for special consideration must be submitted every year. Previous requests do not automatically carry over.

Warm Regards
Desley Brassington
Principal

NO TRESPASSING

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.

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Chaplain’s Corner

Greetings All,

I hope you were all able to enjoy some good family times together over the holidays.

THANK YOU, Grand Avenue, for a wonderful effort for Operation Christmas Child, 2012.

Around 120 boxes, several bags of extra items and over $400 towards transportation were received in total. It was great to see them all piling up at the full school assembly on 20th September. The School Captains and Student Councillors can feel very satisfied with their contribution. Their commitment and enthusiasm were essential in achieving this great result. A special Thank you to Chloe Allen for her article on p11 in The Lake News.

Also in this month’s edition of The Lake News, I recommend a look at Ps Mark Mackay’s column on p31, especially if you did not attend any of our recent Girls in the Media presentations.

I may be contacted by mobile or email and welcome ideas for my column – Chaplain’s Corner – or queries about my work.
Enrolments for Prep 2013 Open

Grand Avenue State School

ENROL NOW FOR Prep 2013

Children born between 1st July 2007 and 30th June 2008 are eligible.
To the cool kids of Grand Avenue State School,

I’d like to say how sorry I am for not being able to visit your school during Book Week. I would have loved to be there and share stories, ideas and laughs but unfortunately I couldn’t make it. I hope I’ll be able to visit you in the future so we can have lots of fun!

Keep up the reading and writing. My new book is called My Totally Awesome Story, and I hope you get to read, write and live your own totally awesome stories too.

Very Best Wishes

Pat
Students in Year 1 and Year 2 had the pleasure of working with Peter Carnavas this term. Peter’s presentation was wonderful - informative and entertaining.

He explained to the children, through illustration, “The Five Wonders of Reading”:

- that you never know what might happen
- that you can become somebody else and do things you’ve never done before
- that you can escape to other worlds
- that you don’t know where you’ll end up
- that when you read you become smarter

Peter also walked the children through the art of changing a picture into an illustration. He reminded them that if you can draw a line, a circle and a dot – you can draw anything! From this starting point he guided the children in drawing a shark- just a picture- which they then turned into an illustration - by adding a frightened little fish being chased by the shark, and then by adding a huge monster closing in on the shark.

Visit this website, the Book Chook to find a guest blogpost by Peter Carnavas, describing how he tells stories with words and pictures.

Peter’s own website has heaps of information about the author/ illustrator, including roughs for some of his books, and a link to the publisher if you would like to buy your own copies.

There are, of course, multiple copies of books by Peter Carnavas in the Library at Grand Avenue.

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Peanut Allergies

Peanuts are a common allergen that can cause severe reactions when people who are allergic to peanuts come into contact with them. We have a number of students in 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, peanut butter and nutella in your children’s lunches.
There are many other products that contain peanut extracts in small amounts. 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.

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**Are Your Contact Details Correct?**

It is **very important** that your contact details, i.e. phone numbers, address, email address, are kept up to date. We have had situations where students have fallen ill at school and are left waiting for long periods in the sick bay. Please notify the office as a matter of urgency if any of your contact information has changed.

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**P & C**

**School Banking**
We now have two new banking co-ordinator's Rachel and Jane.

We have opened an email address to be contacted on.
GASSschoolbanking@yahoo.com.au

We are in desperate need of small and large boys shorts for when small accidents happen. If you are able to donate any shorts to the office it would be greatly appreciated.

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**Community News**

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**WESTERN DISTRICTS BASEBALL CLUB INC**
"HOME OF THE BULLDOGS"
ABN 89 832 510 708

Attows Park
Westcombe Street
Darra
PO Box 188
Sumner Park Q 4074
www.wests.baseball.com.au
JUNIOR and SENIOR
PLAYERS WANTED

at

ATTHOWS PARK,
WESTCOMBE STREET, DARRA

We have positions available for all age groups from U10 to Masters.

Register to be part of the exciting new Aussie T-Ball program launched in Australia last year. This program is aimed at children under 10 years of age and will run from Friday 12 October to Friday 7 December from 5.30pm-6.30pm every week.

For more information please contact our Club Secretary, Nicki Allardyce at banjam1@oputsnet.com.au or telephone 0409 811 704

FOREST LAKE LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB

For Family, Fun, and Fitness

ATHLETES 5 YEARS Upwards
Boys & Girls

A Family Club in Forest Lake, here for the enjoyment and development of our children.

Bring Proof of birth to Sign On
Forest Lake Car Park opposite the lake on boulevard
Or
Contact Melissa
forestlakelittleathletics@gmail.com
Free Movie in the Park
6.30pm - Saturday 20 October
Elizabeth Bruce Park, Japonica St, Inala

Alvin & the Chipmunks-Chipwrecked

Animated/Family, G, 87 Minutes
The Chipmunks and The Chipettes go on a cruise trip with the Chipmunks' owner/manager/father figure, Dave Seville. During the cruise, the Munks and Ettes turn the ship into their personal playground, causing trouble and running amuck.
Eventually, their chaotic behavior gets them shipwrecked on the Isles of Scilly, everyone getting lost in the process. As Dave sets out to look for the lost Chipmunk trio, the six find a new castaway on the island who turns out to be more than a match for the trio.

Time: 6.30pm
When: Saturday 20 October
Where: Elizabeth Bruce Park, Japonica St, Inala

Sausage sizzle and drinks available from 5.30pm
Please bring a blanket or chair

For more information call 3407 1211

Email Ricklands.ward@bc.qld.gov.au or visit Ricklands Ward Office, Inala Library Building.

Brought to you by the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund and the Councillor for Ricklands Ward.