ISSUE NO: 17/13  28 November 2013

Vision: The 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Relationships</th>
<th>High Achievement</th>
<th>Meaningful Communication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Respect</td>
<td>• Doing your best</td>
<td>• Understanding and Inclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Care and Compassion</td>
<td>• Responsibility for learning</td>
<td>• Honesty and Integrity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE PH: 3372 0560

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CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

NOTIFICATION OF LATE RETURN - 2014

P&C NEWS

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

FESTIVE FUN AT GRAND AVENUE!

COMMUNITY NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 28 Dec</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Information Night – 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29 Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 Return from Canberra Tour – E.T.A. at GASS - 4.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Dec</td>
<td>FLSHS Orientation Day – Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Show Incursion - Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Dec</td>
<td>P &amp; C Canteen Red Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Dec</td>
<td>P &amp; C Twilight Markets - 5.00pm – 9.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Dec</td>
<td>P &amp; C Christmas Disco - (Prep – Yr 3) 6.00pm – 7.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- (Yr 4 – Yr 7) 7.30pm – 8.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10 Dec</td>
<td>Reports Distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7 Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12 Dec</td>
<td>White Water World – Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12 Dec</td>
<td>Class Break-up Party Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day of School Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

1. Final newsletter for the year

It is hard to believe that the school year has almost finished. This will be the last newsletter for 2013 and it is appropriate to acknowledge the hard work and commitment demonstrated by students and staff alike. Due to a combination of skilful, focused teaching and a desire to do their best, Grand Avenue State School students have achieved our best Naplan results ever as well as an increase in overall achievement for many students. We can be proud of our achievements not only in the academic fields but also in relation to music, sport and cultural areas. Congratulations to all members of the school community on another successful year!
2. **2014 Planning**
Operational planning for 2014 is already quite advanced along with the notional budget process. Grand Avenue has always had a reputation as a well organised and efficient school and I know that current planning will ensure that this is the case into the New Year.

3. **Staffing of classes for 2014**
This process is now almost complete. Students will have the chance to meet their new teacher on Friday 6 December.

4. **Music Gala Evening**
Last Thursday evening, members of the school community enjoyed some wonderful performances in the Auditorium. Congratulations to the music department teachers, Mrs Katherine Zorzetto, Ms Leonie Stiller, Mrs Louise Lanham-Sawyer, Ms Jackie Short and Mr Matthew Hoey. The quality of our young performers in the junior and senior choirs, bands and strings ensembles was excellent and reflected the hard work which has been put into lessons, practice and rehearsals throughout the year.

5. **Transition to high school - Years 6 & 7**
As many of you would now realise, 2014 will be a watershed year with both years 6 & 7 heading to high school at the end of 2014. Due to this special arrangement we have made some changes to our leadership program which will only apply for next year. So that we can give the year 6 students an opportunity to share in the leadership journey in 2014 we have started the identification and nomination process early. For 2014 only, there will be school captains from both year levels next year. The successful candidates will be announced at the year 7 graduation ceremony.

6. **Special Notice – Parking Restrictions! Parents please note:**
On Friday 6 December the P&C will be holding the annual Christmas Disco and Christmas Night Markets. To enable the setup for the markets there will be no parking allowed in the car park facing the Administration Block and Auditorium. Gate 1 will be locked after 10am and no cars are to be left in the area after that time.

Parents should note that parking in the top car park facing the pre-school will be very restricted on the afternoon of the 6 Dec due to the special arrangements outlined above. Everyone is asked to consider alternative pickup arrangements including carpooling or walking/riding home on that afternoon.

We apologise for any inconvenience, but fundraising is essential if the P&C are to raise sufficient funds to continue the air-conditioning program for 2014. Your children will benefit enormously from this one off inconvenience so please be patient on 6 December.

7. **Reports**
Semester 2 reports will be issued to students on Tuesday 10 December. It is important to remember that these documents represent the culmination of assessments that have been carried out over the whole semester by your child’s teachers. I believe that these reports represent the sincere efforts of the great majority of our students and I commend them for that. Please take the time to discuss with them what was good and those areas which might improve with a bit more effort or focus.

To all in our school community, I wish you a safe and happy Festive Season and a wonderful New Year.

I look forward to seeing you back in 2014, with very best wishes, Desley.

Warm regards,

Desley Brassington
Principal
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.

NOTIFICATION OF LATE RETURN - 2014

In 2014, the school year commences Tuesday, 28 January. If you are planning an extended holiday and your child/ren will not be here to start on this date you need to notify the school in writing as a matter of urgency.

It is very important that we have this information in writing as our staffing levels are determined by our enrolment numbers as at Day 8. If we do not have written notification from you, your child/ren will not be counted in our numbers and may result in the loss of a teacher.

Notification of Late Return forms are available from administration.

P&C NEWS

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER!

Canteen Red Day / Christmas Disco / Night Markets

Canteen Red Day
Ice blocks/sweets/cola slushies!

Junior Disco - 6.00pm to 7.15pm
Senior Disco - 7.30pm to 8.45pm
Kauma Hall - $3.00 entry. Canteen will be open.

Twilight markets are from 5.00pm to 9.00pm.

There will be a P&C BBQ with steak burgers and a pizza vendor, jumping castle and animal farm!

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT HOME NEXT WEEK!
A MESSAGE FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT....

I would like to start by thanking everyone involved with the P&C this year. Every bit of help makes things easier for all. What a year of fundraising we have had - over $111,000 so far! With a great fete and monthly markets we have really increased our funds.

This year the P&C has installed 12 air conditioning units into Prep and Year 1 classes. It is our aim to have the school fully air conditioned within the next 2 years, so we look forward to your support of our fundraising events next year. An events calendar is attached. There are 2 new events for next year - a movie night and an Ekka fun day on 13 August.

Over the upcoming school holidays the P&C will be building a shade structure on the oval. It will have house coloured concrete, seating and water fountains. We are all very excited about this.

Thank you all again for your support and I look forward to seeing you all at next year’s P&C meetings - the first is scheduled for 18 February. Please check out the calendar below.

Regards,

Gavin Rook
P&C President

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FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP....

Retraction for early printed Prep Order Forms – form states that uniforms can be collected up until 9.00am December 18th. Last day for collection should read **9.00am, Thursday December 12th.**

Final day of trading for 2013 is Thursday 12th December – 8.15am to 9.00am
Uniform Shop 2014 Opening Hours:

Thursday 23rd January 2014 - 9.00am to 2.00pm
Friday 24th January 2014 - 9.00am to 2.00pm
Saturday 25th January 2014 - 9.00am to 12 noon

Just a reminder that these dates are extremely busy and long waiting periods can occur.

Alternatively you can order online through www.flexischools.com.au whereby your order can be collected in an express queue on the open days.

We will not be open on Monday 27th January as it is a public holiday.
The uniform shop will operate on the first day of school, Tuesday 28th January 2014 from 8.15am to 9.30am. Flexischool orders return to normal for delivery to teacher pigeon holes from this date.

FROM THE CANTEEN....

A REMINDER THAT THE CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED FOR CLEANING ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM, 13TH DECEMBER 2013. WE WILL NOT BE TRADING AT ALL THAT DAY.

WE WILL ALSO BE CLOSED ON THE FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 2014. OUR FIRST TRADING DAY WILL BE WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY.

Don’t forget RED Day next Friday!

WE WISH YOU ALL A LOVELY HOLIDAY AND A HAPPY AND SAFE FESTIVE SEASON.

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

Greetings All,

LAPATHON FOR CHAPLAINCY:

Another Thank you to all who supported this event. More money has come in and so now the total raise is over $1500. The Class Prize for the most students participating goes to Prep D. There is a tie for the most money raised by a student – Megan and Kyle Helwig will each be receiving a prize. Congratulations to all prize winners!

SUMMER CAMPS with Scripture Union for Years 5 to 7:

There are several different camps these coming holidays suitable for students in upper primary. Just go to www.sucamps.org.au to have a look.

CHAPLAIN KATHY’S NEWS:

For anyone who missed the last Chaplain’s Corner, I announced my up-coming plans to retire at the end of this term. The new School Chaplain will be starting at the beginning of the new school year. School families who wish say Farewell, are invited to come to a High Tea, put on by the Grand Avenue S.S. Chaplaincy Committee. It is from 3.00pm till 4.30pm on Wednesday, 4th December, in the SEP grassed area.
The Committee would appreciate an RSVP at the School Office by Dec 1st, and also a contribution to the food if possible. *This may be left at the Office in the morning.*

**Thank you** to all who have supported me over the years. I leave with many happy memories.

Blessings,
Kathy Williams, School Chaplain.
Email: chaplain@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au
Mobile: 0419 342 055

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FESTIVE FUN AT GRAND AVENUE!

- Decorations in class 5D
- Mrs Cera at the front desk
- Teacher Aide, Mrs Simpson
- Prep Christmas Concert
At the end of November, RSPCA Qld will be playing host to some exciting free community events at our Animal Care Campus, located at 139 Wacol Station Road, Wacol.

We would like to warmly invite Grand Avenue State School students to attend these events!

**Friday 29 November** – we will be hosting an outdoor movie night, screening a child friendly movie *(to be confirmed)* on an inflatable screen located in one of our training fields at the Wacol campus. There will be food and drinks available for purchase and as a free event, this presents a great opportunity for the local community to enjoy a movie with their families and friends.

**Saturday 30 November** – RSPCA will play host to Christmas markets where there will be food & drink stalls, children’s entertainment, craft stalls, pet advice, tours of the animal hospitals and much more!
Have you thought of joining your local Cricket Club?

Our club runs an exciting entry level In2Cricket program and we’d like **YOU** to come and join us. The program runs in school terms – 4th term and 1st term and we still have places for new players. The program runs from 6 – 7.30 pm on Friday night at CJ Greenfield Sporting Complex, Freeman Rd, Richlands/Inala. Why not come along and give your local club a try for your summer sport.

**Contact**

Secretary: Ellen Ferris  Phone: 3376 9545 or 0414 871 461 or go to the website:  
Back to School Book Packs will be delivered to your nominated address during the week ending **19 January 2014**.

You can still order online by 31 December 2013 to guarantee delivery before school commences.

Any queries, please contact OfficeMax on 1800 004 427.

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**2014 Sign-On Days**

Players (Boys & Girls) from Under 6 to Senior Men’s & Women’s, Over 30’s & Over 40’s.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT** on MEMBERSHIP and UNIFORMS will apply if you sign in on either of the two sign in days!

**SIGN ON DAYS AT MIDDLE PARK SHOPPING CENTRE**
- Saturday 1 February 2014 8.30am-3.30pm
- Saturday 8 February 2014 8.30am-3.30pm

**Enquiries**
If you have any queries about joining the club, please contact:

- **Senior Registrar U9—Men’s**
  - Jim Robins
  - Mobile: 0416 107 351
  - Email: reg@stcats.org.au

- **Junior Registrar U6—U8’s**
  - Chad Ryan
  - Mobile: 0409 610 155
  - Email: chadwick.ryan1@gmail.com

**Home Ground:** Peter Lightfoot Oval, Horizon Drive, Middle Park

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**Merry Christmas**

**We wish all families a joyous festive season and a safe and happy holiday.**