ISSUE NO: 06/13  9 May 2013

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Relationships</th>
<th>High Achievement</th>
<th>Meaningful Communication</th>
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</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>
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STUDENT ABSENCE LINE PH: 3372 0560

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 10 May  Mothers’ Day Stall - Final Day – closes at 11.45am.
Sun 12 May  Markets on Grand – 8am – 1pm
Mon 13 May  Boys Inala District Tennis Trials
Tues 14 May – Thurs 16 May  NAPLAN Testing – Years 3, 5 & 7
Fri 17 May  Pirate Show – Prep
Wed 22 May  Year 7 MYAT Test
Thurs 23 May  St Helena Excursion – Year 5
Fri 24 May  Under 8’s Day
Fri 24 May  Starlab Incursion – Year 3
1. HIGH EXPECTATIONS AGENDA

At Grand Avenue State School we pride ourselves on the high standard of behaviour expected from our students. Recently, I have been reminding our students that respect is of critical importance when at school. Respect for adults, fellow students and the school environment is the bedrock on which we operate as a school community.

Although we constantly remind students of the need to be respectful, this is still a behaviour that many students need to practise in a variety of situations. It is unrealistic to expect children to be perfect but it is necessary to set a high standard for our children to aim for.

Generally, the behaviour of Grand Avenue students is very good. There are exceptions in any school, but overall, I find that our students are well spoken, have excellent manners and conduct themselves respectfully. This is no doubt a reflection of our wonderful parents and teachers who work hard to instil these values in our students.

2. STRENGTHENING DISCIPLINE IN STATE SCHOOLS

Recently the government has introduced a new policy focused on strengthening discipline in state schools. The policy states:

“while the majority of students come to school ready to learn, a small percentage do the wrong thing and misbehave, which is why the Queensland Government is strengthening discipline in state schools.

Schools know what works best at a local level – cutting red tape, streamlining processes and increasing flexibility means that principals in consultation with school communities can determine the best range of consequences for inappropriate behaviour.”

I want to reassure parents that Grand Avenue has a very effective Responsible Behaviour Plan. The Plan outlines consequences for mild to major behaviour infringements, as well as positive reinforcement strategies and is applied by school staff consistently and effectively.

Parents and caregivers can be confident that student behaviour at Grand Avenue is of a high standard both in classrooms and in the playground. Of course there are occasions when children make mistakes and strategies are necessary to deal with those situations. Staff are committed to ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment and I am very proud of the school tone at Grand Avenue, which is the envy of many.

3. TEACHERS’ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

This semester, Grand Avenue State School teachers have been participating in regular professional development twilight sessions.

The most recent session involved teachers discussing and preparing assessment, standards and reporting for upcoming student report cards.

Future professional development sessions will deal with our school priority of the teaching of reading.

These two hour after school sessions, are valuable opportunities for teachers to have time to moderate student work to ensure consistency of teacher judgement.
4. 2013 NAPLAN TESTING

Our students in Years 3, 5, 7 will **next week** participate in the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted across the country from 14–16 May. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the [ACARA website](http://www.nap.edu.au/).

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5. ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL – PARK AND STRIDE

Students are encouraged to participate in Park and Stride on **Wednesday 22 May**.

Brisbane City Council will provide a map to all students which will indicate 5 different meeting spots from which students can walk or ride to school on that morning. Parents are asked to park at one of the designated meeting spots a short distance from the school so that students can walk to school thus reducing traffic around the school environs and allowing an active start to the school day.

Warm regards,

**Desley Brassington**

Principal

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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

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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.*
Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will be celebrating **Under 8’s Day on Friday May 24, 2013 from 9.00am until 10.45am.**

This year the theme is -
‘Celebrating Community – sharing music, movement and culture. Think locally!’

The teachers have organised lots activities for students on this day and we invite parents to come and share in the excitement. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation to go towards the cost of the day. There will also be a Sausage Sizzle in support of Chaplain Kathy for ‘Chappy Week’. Sausages in bread will cost $2.

### INCURSION/EXCURSION DUE DATES

It is important that parents adhere to the due dates for incursions and excursions. Please find below the list of upcoming events and due dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Activity</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Final Date for Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td>Pirate Show</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>10 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Author Visit</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>16 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>St Helena</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$27</td>
<td>16 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>Starlab</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>17 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>Gallery of Modern Art</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>11 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Underwater World</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>13 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-29 Nov</td>
<td>Canberra Tour</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>*see below</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Canberra Tour Update No. 2 sent home this week and is available on the school website.*

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

### UPCOMING MUSIC GALA NIGHT

A Music Gala Night will be held on **Thursday 30 May** in the **school auditorium**. The evening will **commence at 6.30pm. Students need to arrive at 6.00 pm**. A gold coin donation will be collected at the door from parents and visitors to help cover expenses for the night.

Students are required to wear the black and white uniform with black shoes. Junior choir students may wear either the black and white uniform or formal school uniform. Parent helpers will be required to help with vest changes.

A letter will be sent home to instrumental/choir students this week.

**ALL WELCOME!**
Hi everyone. My name is Kimberley Drice and I am teaching Year 4E this year. This is my first year at Grand Avenue, having come from Mt Crosby State School, where I taught from 2008-2010.

For the 2 years prior to coming to Grand Avenue I lived in Toronto, Canada. During my time there I was lucky enough to experience living and working in another country and got to travel to many amazing places in Canada and the USA. The highlight of my travels was my trip to Disneyland in California.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first Semester here at Grand Avenue and feel very lucky that I get to come and work with such wonderful students, parents and staff each day.

ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2014

Children born between 1st July 2008 and 30th June 2009 are eligible.

Collect your Enrolment Package from the administration office.
**Active School Travel – Park & Stride**

You’ve probably heard of ‘Park and Ride’, but what about ‘Park and Stride’?

Active School Travel encourages students to walk, ride, carpool and catch public transport to and from school, but some parents still need to drive their children to school as part of their journey to work or other activities. Alternatively, you may live a long distance from the school and can’t actively travel all the way from home.

Even though you might need to drive your children to school, you can still make a difference to the traffic congestion around our school by Parking and Striding to school.

Just drive to a Park and Stride point, park the car and walk with your child the rest of the way to school.

Our school is having dedicated Park & Stride day where we’ll be encouraging parents and carers to walk with their children to school on **Wednesday 22 May**. Students who are the eldest in the family will receive a map indicating the meeting places.

If you do the Park and Stride on 22 May your child will receive an extra stamp in their AST passport and get great rewards faster.

So don’t miss out on Walking Wheeling Wednesdays, try the Park & Stride to feel alive!

**Did you know?** - 10% of all journeys people make are 1km or less and 50% are under 5km. Consider walking or riding your bike for short journeys. It’s easier, better for you and saves on petrol!

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**MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC SUPPORT GROUP**

The Music Support Group has had a great start to the year and would like to thank everyone for their support of both the Easter Raffle and the Bunnings BBQ. Together these events raised over $3,000 which would have not been possible without the fantastic support from parents and the Music Staff.

The next event on the music calendar is the **Music Gala Night** on **30 May**. Entry will be by gold coin donation. Don’t miss this opportunity to see the various school music groups perform.

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**UNCLAIMED SCOOTERS**

On occasion, a bike or scooter is left in the bike lock-up and is stored for later collection. There are currently a few scooters that remain unclaimed.

If your child is missing a scooter, please call into the office or phone 3372 0555.
Greetings All,

**RED SHIELD APPEAL – Friday 31 May**

Once again we will be participating in the Salvation Army’s Red Shield Appeal with the help of the Student Council. *Students are encouraged to wear an item of red clothing with their uniform on this day and to bring a gold coin.*

**Free Dress Day in Term 1**

As announced earlier, our Free Dress Day last term to raise money to help flood-affected students at Bundaberg East S.S., was very successful.

Last Monday, I had the pleasure of presenting $1,200 on behalf of our school, to the Principal, Mr Doug Ambrose, and School Chaplain, Mrs Kelly Giles, at a full school assembly. The funds were very well received, with sincere thanks as there is still ongoing need.

Every part of the school had water (*and mud!*) through it and half the families had water in their homes. The Prep classes had to be held in the hall for many weeks. Mr Ambrose showed me some photos (below) and told me how the school was almost permanently closed when the flooding occurred but thanks to a wonderful effort by over 200 members of the local community getting involved in a HUGE clean-up, the school was able to be saved!

**RE Parenting Seminar – Prof Paula Barrett – NEW DATE to COME SOON**

Because of an administrative error, Paula Barrett’s Parenting Seminar, which was to have been held at Pallara State School on May 28th, is to be re-scheduled at a later date.

Please accept my apologies if this will inconvenience anyone.

Blessings,
Kathy Williams
School Chaplain
Email: chaplain@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au
Mobile: 0419 342 055
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CASUAL TEACHER AIDE, SEP (Repeat Notice)**

Grand Avenue State School Special Education Program is seeking people who are interested in working in a casual capacity as a special education teacher aide to replace permanent staff when they are absent.

Expressions of interest are invited for the position of (casual) Teacher Aide. If you wish to be considered for a casual position please provide a current CV (maximum two (2) A4 pages) and attach a brief resume including the names of two referees. Please mark it for the attention of:

Private and Confidential  
Head of Special Education Services  
Grand Avenue State School  
PO Box 4126  
FOREST LAKE   Q   4078

The suitable applicant will be required to hold a Blue Card (Working with Children Check) or be eligible to apply for one.

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**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

All Prep winter orders are available for collection from the Uniform Shop. Winter uniforms are also available for purchase with the cooler mornings upon us.

![Uniform Shop Image]

**Notice Regarding Second Hand Uniforms**

Due to a high supply of second hand uniforms and limited display space, no second hand uniforms will be accepted for re-sale from the 1st June until the end of Term 3 – or until current stock is depleted. If you are looking for a spare set of uniforms, come in and take a look – there is plenty.

Thankyou,  
Tracy & Nikki

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**SAM AND HANNAH COMPETE AT BMX AUSTRALIAN TITLES!**

Over the week of the 1st - 5th of May, both Sam Girdler (2D) and Hannah Girdler (Prep C) competed in the 2013 Australian National BMX Championships. Riders of all age groups battled it out, ranging from 5yrs old to the best of Australia’s elite and Olympic riders.

Hannah was one of the youngest riders competing, at 5 yrs old she rode in the combined 5 - 7 year age group and still managed to pick up 4th and 5th places in some of her races.

Sam certainly had his work cut out for him, with a total of 55 riders in the highly competitive 8 Boys class. He raced against some of the quickest 8 yr old riders in Australia and finished overall in 30th place based on race points.

Both Sam and Hannah are members of the Ipswich and West Moreton BMX club, and love to spend as much time as they can on their bikes. Whether it's riding to school, or racing on the track.
READY READER PROGRAM

FREE - “HOW TO ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD’S READING” WORKSHOP

Education starts at home and parents and families are their children’s first teachers. With this in mind, the free Parent Ready Readers training program provides parents and carers of children in Prep to Year 3 with some key strategies to use at home to support their child’s reading and to develop a love of books prior to developing their reading abilities.

The training runs for approximately 90 minutes and consists of four modules:

- What is literacy?
- Understanding the reading process
- Stages of reading
- Listening to your child read and reading to your child.

Participants receive a Parent Ready Readers booklet with training notes, reading activities and additional resources, which will help to build a lifelong love of reading.

**Ready Reader Session Times for 2013** - you may attend any venue that is convenient to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 June</td>
<td>9.30am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Belmont State School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19 July</td>
<td>9.30am – 11.00am</td>
<td>West End State School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 August</td>
<td>9.30am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Newmarket State School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16 October</td>
<td>9.30am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Warrigal Road State School – Eight Mile Plains</td>
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</table>

Come along and find out how you can help your child enjoy reading!
Children are welcome to attend with their Parents/Caregivers.
To reserve a place please email sharlene.emanuel@dete.qld.gov.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

DON’T FORGET TO COLLECT YOUR EARN & LEARN STICKERS!

Preparing Catholic Children for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion

An invitation is extended to Catholic children who are 8 years old and above. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the parish web page: www.stmarksinala.com or you can contact the parish office by phone on 3372 5658 or by email at stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au. There will be a Parents Information session in Mercy Hall on Wednesday 15th May at 7:00pm.
GET ACTIVE AND FEEL THE EXCITEMENT OF DANCE!
Jazz, Hip Hop and Cheerleading Classes!
FOREST LAKE DANCE STUDIO – MONDAY & THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

BRAND NEW HIP HOP AND MINI CHEERLEADING CLASSES

Grand Avenue State School, SEU Room.
Forest Lake Community House, Alpine St & Forest Lake Blvd, 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 enquiries phone 3273 6367
www.fitnessanddance.com.au

MARKETS ON GRAND
SUNDAY, 12TH MAY
8.00AM — 1.00PM

Your Heart... Their Home
Become a Foster Carer
Children throughout the Greater Ipswich area, Brisbane, and the Southern Downs need caring adults to give them a nurturing home.
Foster care can be for a few nights, a few weeks or sometimes until a child reaches independence.

Care to join us? Find out more:
www.mercyfamilyservices.org.au or
Logan and Southern Brisbane - 3340 5600
North Brisbane - 3257 9070
Goodna - 3280 8000