Final newsletter for the year

As we near the end of the school year it is important to acknowledge the wonderful work and commitment shown by both staff and students throughout the year. We are very fortunate to have highly skilled teachers and staff coupled with Grand Avenue students who are diligent, respectful and motivated to do their very best. Our 2014 Naplan results again reflect this excellent combination. As this is the last newsletter of the year it is also important to acknowledge our achievements not only in the academic fields but also in relation to the music, sport and cultural areas. Congratulations to all members of the school community on another successful year!
Retirement Plans

It is with great sadness that I announce my retirement as Principal of Grand Avenue State School at the end of this year. I cannot speak highly enough of this wonderful school – staff, students and parents. It has been an absolute privilege to lead Grand Avenue over the past four years and of course I am very proud of what we have achieved during this time. Having our school placed in the top 3% of state schools at the 2014 Teaching and Learning Audit was definitely a highlight for us all.

A state-wide Expression of Interest has been posted to identify an Acting Principal for Semester 1, 2015 after which a permanent appointment will be made.

2015 Planning

Operational planning for 2015 is well 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 in the New Year.

Staffing of classes for 2015

This process is almost complete. Students will have the chance to meet their new teacher on Transition Day which is scheduled for Friday 5 December.

Special Notice – Parking Restrictions! Parents please note:

On Friday 5 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 5 December 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.

Reports

Semester 2 reports will be issued to students on Tuesday 9 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 community, I wish you a safe and happy Festive Season and a wonderful New Year.

Thank you all for your wonderful support and goodwill over the past four years.

With very best wishes,

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.

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PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION - OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS

Before School: Supervision in Junior Court, Monday to Friday from 8.00am – 8.15am
After School: NO Supervision Provided

Parents/guardians/caregivers are responsible for supervising their children at all times except between Monday to Friday from 8.00am – 8.15am in Junior Court. The school cannot accept responsibility for students during unsupervised times before and/or after school.

NB. The collection of students at the end of the school day by parents/guardians/caregivers will result in those parents/guardians/caregivers assuming responsibility for those students while on school premises or while using the playground equipment.

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Useful Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Administration</td>
<td>3372 0555</td>
<td><a href="mailto:enquiries@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au">enquiries@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform Shop</td>
<td>3879 8695</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gasspandc@hotmail.com">gasspandc@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Absence Line</td>
<td>3372 0560</td>
<td><a href="mailto:studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au">studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>3372 0563</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Program</td>
<td>3372 0537</td>
<td>OSHC 3278 9830</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please check our website regularly – www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

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SPREAD THE WORD – FREE MICROSOFT OFFICE SOFTWARE FOR STUDENTS’ PERSONAL COMPUTERS

All state school students from Prep to Year 12 can now download multiple free copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite to their personal home and mobile computer equipment.

Students who want the free software will need an active Managed Internet Service (MIS) login, school email account and password - those who don't have these should contact their school's MIS Administrator or class teacher. The administrator will help students activate their MIS login.

Currently, MS Office Suite 2013 is available for students' personal equipment only - not equipment which is part of a school network.

Negotiations are underway to potentially permit staff access to the same suite early in the new year.

Find out how students can download their free copy of Microsoft Office 2013 Suite. (https://mishelp.eq.edu.au/studentadvantage/Pages/default.aspx)

Please note that the initial login page requires a MIS email address and password with the following authentication page only requiring MIS ID and password.
MegaBand Performance

Congratulations to the MegaBand who performed exceptionally last week at the Principal’s Assembly. Staff & students were blown away with the quality of the big sound as the band played the National Anthem and School Song, then finished the Assembly with Rock Around the Clock. Excellent job Mrs Zorzetto, Miss Marshall and musicians!

Instrumental Music Program 2015 Recruitment

The PARENT INFORMATION EVENING for the 2015 Instrumental Music Program is TONIGHT! THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER @ 6PM in the School Auditorium for all parents/guardians of Year 2, 3 & 4 students offered a position in the 2015 Program.

Combined Choir - Assembly Performance

Next week (Week 9) the newly combined (Junior & Senior) Choir will sing on Wednesday afternoon (3rd December) at the Yr 6/7 Assembly commencing at 1.45pm.
All students are to wear their Formal Checked School Uniform with Black shoes and White socks. Parents/Guardians are most to welcome to attend either Assembly.

Choir Folder, Music and CD Return

All Junior Choir and Senior Choir Folders, Music and Accompaniment CD’s, must now be returned to Mrs Sawyer and Mrs Gordon at the Music Room.
Please note that it is a breach of copyright for students to retain copied print and audio music.

Hired Instrument Return, Music Folders, Ensemble/Band Music and Last Lesson for the Year

All instruments: Strings, Woodwind, Brass & Percussion, hired from the school must now be returned. There will be no Instrumental Music Lessons in Week 9 & 10. Year 6 & 7 students who are in Canberra in Week 8 must see their Instrumental Music Teacher in Week 9 to return any outstanding Music Folders and print music.
Please note that it is a breach of copyright for students to retain photocopied Ensemble Music.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS must be signed back in to the Music Store Room by your child’s Instrumental Teacher and CANNOT be left at the office or the Classroom Music Room.

Instrumental Music Lessons 2015 – preparation & servicing

Please prepare during the holidays for Instrumental Music Lessons to commence in WEEK 2 2015

Students who own their own instrument should have any repair or servicing completed by the last week in January. Please remember that this is the busiest time for Instrument Repairers so book in early. Your child’s Instrumental Teacher will be able to advise you of any work that may need to be seen to and recommend an appropriate repairer.

Continuing students who will require their own instrument next year should be sourcing options now for second hand, hiring or new instruments. Once again this is a high demand time so please prepare early.
Second Hand Music Uniforms Needed Please!
Has your son or daughter out grown their ‘black & white’ GASS Music Uniform? There are two wonderful options to move the redundant clothes out of your house...

1. Please consider donating your used white shirts and black trousers to the Music Dpt for loan to students who possibly can’t afford a new one or who for any reason urgently need to borrow one. All donations lovingly cared for and gratefully received.

2. Another option is to take used GASS Music Uniforms into the Uniform Shop (8.15 – 9am M – F) and arranging for your items to be resold there.

Instruments Still Needed Please!
At the commencement of 2015 a large number of Band students will require their own instrument. If you have an instrument that you would like to donate or sell, please email the details (Type of Instrument, Brand, How old, Price) to the relevant Instrumental teacher and they may be able to put you in contact with a family that is looking to purchase.

String Instrument enquiries should be directly addressed to Mr Matthew Hoey mhoey1@eq.edu.au
Woodwind Instrument enquiries should be directly addressed to Mrs Katherine Zorzetto kзорz1@eq.edu.au
Brass and Percussion Instrument enquiries should be directly addressed to Ms Leonie Marshall lstil4@eq.edu.au

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Heritage Bank Forest Lake Community Carols
When: Sunday 7 December from 6.00pm
Venue: St John’s Anglican College (College Avenue)
Gold coin donation – towards School Chaplaincy
Food available for purchase

Gardening Club

Forest Lake Heritage Bank has provided a grant for our school chaplaincy service to purchase some gardening supplies and equipment! We will be setting up a gardening group for interested students in the new year, so look out for more news on this. Parents if you would be interested in helping with this project we would love to hear from you. Please contact Chaplain Erin for further details.

Since this is the last newsletter for the year I would like to wish everyone a happy, restful, and refreshing Christmas break.

Erin Mawhinney
Chaplain
Grand Avenue State School
Monday – Thursday 9.30am – 2.30pm
07 3372 0555
chaplain@grandavenueeq.edu.au
Hi everyone,

Thank you all for your support this year. It’s been a big year of events to raise money for the air conditioning at our school - job done!

We have new projects to do next year so please continue to support us! We have the last big event this year coming up on 5th December - Red Day, Disco and Twilight Markets all in one. Come and have dinner at the P&C BBQ before the discos at the markets, gates open at 5pm. There will be steak burgers, sausages and a pizza place! Just a note there will be limited parking at pick up time on 5th December due to market set up, please walk that day if you can. Thank you.

See you all there!

Regards,

Gavin Rook

**CHRISTMAS DISCO!**

**FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER**

**JUNIOR DISCO (PREP-YR3) 6:00PM -7:15PM**  
**SENIOR DISCO (YR4-YR7) 7:30PM-8:45PM**  
**ENTRY IS $3 PER SCHOOL AGE CHILD**  
**FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

Volunteers needed for the canteen and for supervision. Contact the P&C if available
All proceeds benefit the school community.

**Please note that no children will be allowed to leave the disco without an adult. Therefore please ensure prompt collection from the relevant disco.**

Thank you for your support throughout the year and may your family have a happy summer holiday.

* To keep up to date with P&C information and events join the P&C Facebook page: Grand Avenue State School P&C
FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP....

Open dates for end of school and back to school 2015 are as follows:

Usual trading up to Thursday 11th December 2014 - 8.15am to 9.30am

**Friday 12th December 2014 - closed for stock take.**

**Uniform Shop 2015 Opening Hours:**

- **Thursday 22nd January 2015** - 9.00am to 2.00pm
- **Friday 23rd January 2015** - 9.00am to 2.00pm
- **Saturday 24th January 2015** - 9.00am to 12 noon

**We will not be open on Monday 26th January as it is a public holiday.**

January is typically a very busy time of year and very long waiting times may be experienced. Orders can be placed on [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) for pick up on back to school times, and online ordering is available all year round once your child is allocated a class with deliveries being made to the teacher’s pigeon hole for distribution.

We also have a limited range of second hand uniforms available – stock varies throughout the year depending on supply.

FROM THE CANTEEN....

**Reminder:**

**Canteen Red Day**

**FRIDAY, 5TH DECEMBER**

Ice blocks/sweets/cola slushies!

**PLEASE NOTE: THE CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER**

**AND**

**WILL ALSO BE CLOSED THE FIRST DAY BACK NEXT YEAR – 27TH JANUARY 2015.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Back to School Book Packs will be delivered to your nominated address during the week ending **Friday, 16 January 2015.**

Order online by TOMORROW to be in the draw to win 1 of 75 $100 Visa® Gift Cards!

Order online by 19 December 2014 to guarantee delivery before school commences.

Any queries, please contact OfficeMax on 1800 004 427.
Upcoming Christmas Events – Elevate Church

12th December – ‘Christmas Candle’ Movie at Grand Ave School, Forest Lake.
Time - starts at 7.00pm
Cost - $5.00 per person.

The Christmas Candle is a movie made from a story originally written by Max Lucado of the same name. ‘Christmas Candle’ introduces us to the global sensation Susan Boyle in her first feature film and also features stars that have been in The Hobbit, Braveheart, Sherlock Holmes, 300, Les Miserables, Maleficent and Doctor Who.

25th December - Christmas Day service at 9.30am at Grand Avenue School, Forest Lake & Free Christmas Lunch from 11.30am RSVPs imp for catering to 0418745179 or info@elevatechurch.org.au.
Message from Cheryl Harvey, Deputy Principal – Junior School
Forest Lake State High School

I am very pleased to hear that a number of year 6 and year 7 students are still planning to join us at Forest Lake SHS in 2015.

We are having two transition days next week for our incoming year 7 and year 8 students. Only students who are currently enrolled for 2015 may attend. Parents, please ensure that you enrol your child as a matter of urgency. Our transition day is an important and exciting day for students coming into high school. I would hate for any student to miss out on the opportunity of participating.

Please ring Forest Lake SHS on 3714 2333 to arrange an enrolment interview for your child.

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Pest fish education event
Hosted by Brisbane City Council

Sunday 30 November 2014
7am–12 noon

- Learn about pest fish and the negative impact they have on the environment.
- Bring your own fishing rod and head to the registration marquee to take part in a fishing activity.
- Free sausage sizzle.
- Plus! Attend this event for your chance to win a Dolphin Feeding Cruise for two adults provided by Tangalooma Island Resort (conditions apply).

Please note that outside of this Council-organised event, fishing in Forest Lake is prohibited.

For more information, contact Council on (07) 3403 8888 or visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and search ‘pest fish’.

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This is the last newsletter for 2014. We wish all families a joyous festive season and a safe and happy holiday.