PRINCIPAL’S COLUMN

1. Great Results Guarantee

In late January the government announced extra funding for all Queensland schools. Under the Great Results Guarantee initiative Grand Avenue State School will receive $378 000 over the 2014 school year. We are required to spend the money on Prep to Year 2 students. The guarantee is that every Queensland state school student will either:

- Achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level
- Have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school, in place to address specific learning needs.
Research shows that early years intervention is the key to maximising the progress of students at each stage of learning. Staff at Grand Avenue have considered a wide range of strategies to maximise the use of the Great Results Funding and have agreed in consultation with the P&C on the following for 2014:

1. Employ a full-time P-2 Maths Coach, purchase support resources
2. Employ a Reading Coach 2 days a week, purchase support resources
3. Employ a teacher to undertake Early Start data gathering – 32 TRS days
4. Release P-2 class teachers to engage in data analysis and target responses
5. Purchase teacher aide hours to support identified P-2 students
6. Implement P-2 Oral Language program

The strategies listed above are designed to support our youngest students to ensure that they receive the best education we can provide. Teachers will have the opportunity to carefully analyse student data to better tailor their teaching and curriculum delivery. Grand Avenue State School offers a high standard of education and the Great Results Guarantee funding will add valuable opportunities to enhance student learning.

2. You Can Do It Program

Many parents would be aware that Grand Avenue is a You Can Do It school. All teachers work with the students on the 5 keys – Be Persistent, Get Organised, Getting Along, Be Confident and Be Resilient. The strength of this program is that it is a whole school approach and all children receive consistent messages whilst building social skills and understanding appropriate behaviours.

Last week our school held a ‘Say No to Bullying’ day during which children were encouraged to wear orange on the day to signify their support for the program. We also distributed our specially made cards to children with the Hi 5 strategies clearly labelled. All teachers reinforced these important messages on the day. Some photos of our resilient students are below. For further information and support, please see the “Bullying. No way!” website at www.bullyingnoway.gov.au.

We are very proud of our student behaviour standards and I believe that in general Grand Avenue students are well mannered, caring and respectful. In order to maintain our High Expectations agenda we strive to consistently remind our students of what is required. It should be noted that even though we have a very large number of students at our school, conversely, we have very low numbers of behaviour incidences and it is a credit to parents, staff and students that this is the case.

Warm regards,

Desley Brassington
Principal

Useful Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Administration Office</th>
<th>3372 0555 <a href="mailto:enquiries@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au">enquiries@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au</a></th>
<th>Uniform Shop</th>
<th>3879 8695 <a href="mailto:gasspandc@hotmail.com">gasspandc@hotmail.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Absence Line</td>
<td>3372 0560 <a href="mailto:studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au">studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>3372 0563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Program</td>
<td>3372 0537</td>
<td>Outside School Hours Care</td>
<td>3278 9830</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please check our website regularly – www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au
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.
1  **Student Resource Scheme**

As per Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (Qld) a parent is directly responsible for providing textbooks and other resources for a student’s use while attending school.

The objective of the Student Resource Scheme is to offer parents an economic alternative to the purchase of school resources and textbooks and to enhance and maximise resources available for student learning. While membership of this Scheme is not compulsory, the school strongly encourages your participation.

The Student Resource Scheme for 2014 is $50.00.  **This is approximately $1.25 per week.**

**Major Benefits Enjoyed by joining the Scheme**

- Classroom consumables and reference materials for core curriculum
- Individually issued and class sets books/novels
- Reproduced class workbooks and worksheets
- Specialist materials & consumables for practical studies eg science
- Equipment hire to students (eg digital cameras, mobile laptops, bee-bots)
- Student reference material
- Student material used for classroom projects
- Pastoral care program consumables
- Administration of Scheme

**Conditions of the Resource Scheme**

- Students will supply their own personal requirements – as outlined in the Stationery List
- Books issued to students are to be kept in good condition
- Students are responsible for up to the full cost of books that are negligently damaged or lost before any further issues can be made
- All resources provided under the Scheme remain the property of the Scheme and must be returned when a student leaves or at the end of the school year
- If a student enrols during the year, the fee is calculated on a pro-rata basis
- If a student leaves during the year, a pro-rata refund will be made. The refund is based on the parent/caregiver charge, less the cost of consumed materials and/or the cost of replacing lost or damaged resources
- Books and resources provided under the Scheme cannot be issued to students whose parents/caregivers choose not to participate

This scheme does not cover items listed on the stationery list, excursions/incursions or camps.

**Payment**

We ask that full payment be made by **Friday, 28 March.**

2  **Parent Funded Extra Curricular Activities**

At Grand Avenue we endeavour to add value to students’ class learning experiences through participation in extra curricular activities, ie. excursions/incursions/camps. It is only after a great deal of careful planning and discussion that teachers select parent funded activities to compliment classroom programs and enhance students’ learning outcomes.

Parents have now been invoiced for these activities.  A Statement will be sent home each month to alert parents to unpaid invoices.
3 Parent Voluntary Contribution

At Grand Avenue, the school strives to provide the best possible educational outcomes for all students. In conjunction with the Parents and Citizens Association (P&C), the school is able to ask parents for a voluntary contribution to supplement government funding to provide extra resources.

The Parent Voluntary Contribution as agreed by the P&C for 2014 is $40.00. **This is approximately $1.00 per week.**

The targeted revenue from the Parent Voluntary Contribution will be critical to provide enhanced resources to students not covered in the Student Resource Scheme.

Thank you to those families who have already shown their support by making this contribution.

REFUND POLICY

Please note the school’s refund policy as per DETE guidelines. The full *Refund Guidelines for Excursions and Camps* will be uploaded to the school website.

- All applications for refunds must be made on the Application for Refund Form available at the administration office.
- 10% administrative fee is held on all refunds.
- If payment in advance is made by the school to a venue, or is conditional on the cost of transport then no refund will be made.
- Cancellation Fees charged by venues will be passed on to the parent

*This policy was supported and approved after consultation with the Parents and Citizens Association at the meeting on Tuesday 20 October 2008.*

CREDIT POLICY

Should financial hardship exist parents are asked to contact the office so that special arrangements can be made for the payment of activities. Please note that all discussions will be held in confidence.

When these arrangements have been made, regular payments or payment by the agreed date is expected. Should this not occur, students then become ineligible to participate in future parent-funded activities for this year and future years, or until outstanding debts have been cleared.

CASH COLLECTION DAYS

The school accepts payment for excursions, incursions etc each day. The payment window is open from each day from **8.15 – 11.15am.** 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 for all payments over $10. Your assistance is appreciated by ensuring all payments for extra curricular activities are made prior to the advertised due date. Parents will receive the notification from teachers re excursions at least four weeks prior to the event. Payment envelopes will be provided with most notifications. Payment may be made by cash, cheque and if over $10 by EFTPOS and credit card. Also for Direct Debits to the school account please use the details contained on the bottom of the invoice received. Final payment deadlines will be enforced.

Audit requirements state that a receipt will be issued for all events over $10. Each time when money is sent to the school a receipt is issued, usually through the classroom teacher. This receipt may cover several activities. Please ask your child for his/her receipt.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos for 2014 have been booked for Monday 24 March and Wednesday, 26 March. Please note these dates on your calendar and refer to the article from AdvancedLife in this newsletter.

Please dress your children in their formal school uniform on these days.

**Due to the staff photo the office will not open until 8.30 am on Monday 24 March.** AdvancedLife has asked that all photographs are prepaid. They have a guaranteed refund if you are not satisfied with your photo. The prepaid envelopes have been sent home earlier.
MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT IN 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons.

Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.
http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland

EVACUATION / LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES

Due to a range of potential risks from within and outside our school, it is necessary for the protection and safety of students that Grand Avenue has well rehearsed Evacuation and Lockdown Procedures. Early in the year, the procedures are shared and practiced with students. It is important that parents are aware of, and also discuss the procedures with their children. For your information, details of the procedures are:-

**Evacuation** – students and staff must be able to evacuate buildings quickly in the case of fire or bomb threat. A continuous siren signals evacuations.

**Lockdown** – students are to be seated on the floor under their desks while windows and doors are secured. Students and staff need to be protected from aggressive intruders (eg. estranged adult, large dogs, etc) and environmental mishaps (eg. dangerous chemical spill). An intermittent siren signals a lockdown.

Practices occur at least once per term and are scheduled for week 7 this term.

Should parents arrive at school during an evacuation or lockdown procedure, please do not enter the school grounds. If you are already on the grounds, please follow the directions of staff.

Thank you for your interest and co-operation.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Dear Parents,

We will be photographing your school on Monday 24th March & Wednesday 26th March 2014.

You should have received a flyer/envelope for each of your students explaining the products available and how they may be ordered. This year we have introduced online ordering for your convenience and the convenience of your school. Spare envelopes are available at the main office.

**Ordering Online:** Should you wish to order online you will find detailed instructions on how to go about this on the back of your order flyer, or you can order using your payment envelope in the same way you always have.

*Please note: envelopes are not required to be handed in if ordering online.*

**If Not Ordering Online:** Payments can be made by cash, cheque or money order. Please ensure that each student returns his/her own envelope, even if payment is made in the eldest child’s envelope. It is important that envelopes are not placed inside other envelopes.

*Students not ordering online are to bring their envelopes on or preferably before Photo Day.*

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Your team at advancedlife Photography

Ph: 3216 8280 | Fax: 3216 8850 | Email: michelle.m@advancedlife.com.au
ROADSTAR RE-LAUNCHES ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL!

Active School Travel's colourful 'Roadstar' and his friends 'Red' and 'Green' were special guests at two assemblies held at Grand Avenue State School recently to remind us how to actively travel to school; walk, cycle, scooter, carpool or catch a bus.

Our dedicated Active Travel Day each week is Walking Wheeling Wednesday again this year. Think about how you can actively travel to and from school this year and look out for our new travel buddy system where we'll be asking you if you can walk with friends or family this term.

All students in Years 1 to 7 get a stamp in their passport when they actively travel to school and are awarded prizes. The Preps are being introduced to the new rewards card this year and will also receive stamps and prizes.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CASUAL TEACHER AIDE (TA002)

Grand Avenue State School is seeking people who are interested in working in a casual capacity as a classroom 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 address the points listed below (maximum two (2) A4 pages per application) and attach a brief resume including the names of two referees (current supervisor and one other).

Within the context of the role described above, the ideal applicant will be someone who has the following key attributes

1. Supports strategic direction
   Knowledge of or ability to learn quickly about classroom activities and procedures, use and maintenance of resources and school policies.

2. Achieves results
   Willingness to undertake specific training to enhance student support as necessary.

3. Supports productive working relationships
   Basic understanding of occupational health and safety, equal employment opportunity and anti-discriminatory practices and behaviour as applied in a work environment.

4. Displays personal drive and integrity
   Knowledge, skills and ability to work as a teacher aide in a responsible way.

5. Communicates with influence
   Demonstrated sound personal qualities of tact, reliability and an ability to work with others both individually and as a member of a team.

Applications and enquiries should be directed to:

Private and Confidential
The Business Services Manager
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. A Certificate III in Education Support is preferred but not essential.
Boys and girls are invited to try out for the ARROWS SOFTBALL CLUB for the upcoming 2014 season. Trials will be held during February, and teams will be selected at the end of the month.

The club is able to accept “Get Started” vouchers which enable free registration for the year. For all details, please contact the club secretary by email – arrows_softball@gotalk.net.au or by phone at 3273 2075.

WEST BRISBANE FALCONS BASKETBALL CLUB

DID YOU MISS OUR SIGN ON DAY???

If you missed our Sign On Day, you still have an opportunity to sign up to play junior basketball (U8-U18).

Please contact the club on 0450 105 252, westbrisbanebasketball@hotmail.com or www.westbrisbane.basketball.net.au ASAP to become a basketballer at Falcons.

JOIN THE FALCONS NEST AND SOAR ABOVE THE REST!!!
How can you help your child reach their maximum potential?

Maximising Brain Power: Understanding how thoughts and emotions impact on performance

PRESENTER

Michele Juratowitch
Director - Clearing Skies

WHERE: FOREST LAKE STATE HIGH SCHOOL HALL
DATE: 7.00pm – 8.30pm Thursday 6th March
RSVP: MONDAY 3rd MARCH ph 3714 2333 (to assist with catering)

How students think directly relates to emotional experiences and behaviours. Understanding the interactions between thoughts and emotions is essential if we are to help students develop healthy thought patterns and emotions; develop their abilities and achieve. Research in neuroscience explains how we can support and encourage students to use their cognitive strengths to understand and manage their emotional lives. Informed parents can help develop the attitudes, habits and skills adolescents need for academic achievement; to cope with the challenges ahead and to negotiate the delicate balance of fitting in and standing out.
Free Movie in the Park

7pm - Saturday 8 March 2014
Homestead Park, Homestead Way, Forest Lake

The Croods

The Croods PG,
Animation | Adventure | Comedy, 93 minutes

The cave dwelling Croods live largely in the dark; father Grug, mother Ugga, son Thunk, daughter Gran and Gran. But the entire family embarks on a journey of a lifetime when the cave that has always been their refuge is destroyed by an earthquake. Traveling across a spectacular landscape, they meet Guy, a young man who has new ideas and follows the light, and discover an incredible new world filled with fantastic creatures.

After several adventures and confrontations, the family is forever changed, rejecting the dark world of the cave for the bright light of the sun.

Time: 7pm
When: Saturday 8 March 2014
Where: Homestead Park,
Homestead Way, Forest Lake

Sausage sizzle and drinks available from 6pm as well as hot popcorn and coffee. Please bring a blanket or chair

For more information call 3407 1211

Email richlands.ward@ecn.net.au or visit Richlands Ward Office, Inala Library Building.
Brought to you by the Lord Mayor’s Suburban Initiative Fund and the Councillor for Richlands Ward.

Cr Angela Owen-Taylor
Councillor for Parkinson Ward

Tel: 3131 7022 Fax: 3131 7033
Mail: PO Box 5236, Algester QLD 4115
Office: Shop 10, Central Park Medical Centre
168 Algester Road, Algester QLD 4115
Email: parkinson.ward@ecn.net.au
Web: www.angelaoventaylor.com.au

Anthony Shorten MP
MEMBER FOR ALGESTER MP
Working hard for our community

Shops 3 & 4, 137 Perrinwood Drive,
Heathwood QLD 4110
PO Box 854, Archerfield QLD 4108
P: 3278 9257 F: 3278 9203
E: algester@parliament.qld.gov.au
W: www.anthonyshorten.com

Authorized by Anthony Shorten. Shops 3 & 4, 137 Perrinwood Dr, Heathwood QLD 4110
Grand Avenue State School Parents & Citizen’s Association

Markets on Grand
Sunday 9th March
8.00am – 1.00pm

---

Head in the clouds?

Why not fly something there too? The Australian Air League is a youth organisation for boys and girls of 8 years and over who are interested in aviation and associated subjects. Parade nights are held weekly and include marching, physical activities, aviation, meteorology, and aircraft building. Cadets regularly fly RC aircraft more their size through the skies, and inspect airfields, hangars and more on day outings, along with travelling further afield on overnight camps with other Squadrons. Specialist training and leadership courses are also available.

For more information about the Australian Air League Inc. and Forest Lake Squadron contact:–

Chris Chandler
0421 578 641
oc.forestlake@airleague.com.au
www.airleague.com.au

---

Forest Lake Junior Footy Club is having an AFL come and try morning for all junior players on 1 March at 10am to 11am. The come and try will be held at CJ Greenfields Sports Ground, Freeman Road, Richlands. Enjoy a sausage sizzle after signing to play with the Dragons for 2014. Fees for the year are $150 with a 10% discount for two or more children. Subsidies available through State Governments’ Get Started grant for $150 per child (opens 10 Feb). We are also holding Auskick from 1 March at same fields.

For info call 0401 109 679.