ISSUE NO: 2/15 26 February 2015

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.

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STUDENT ABSENCE LINE PH: 3372 0560
Email - studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

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Dear Parents,

**Great Results Guarantee**

In 2014 the Queensland Government commenced the Great Results Guarantee Program, a four-year initiative which directs funding provided by the Australian Government’s Students First initiative to Queensland state schools to improve student outcomes.

Under the Great Results Guarantee initiative Grand Avenue State School will receive $451,040 over the 2015 school year. The guarantee in relation to our school is that our school will:

- increase the percentage of Year 3 students in the Upper Two bands (Naplan) within 2 years, Numeracy and Reading to above 45%; Year 5 Numeracy & Literacy to above 35%
- develop teacher capability using support process that cultivate consistent pedagogical practices resulting in improved student achievement.
- implement individualised plans for students who are achieving below the National Minimum Standard.

Resources will be expended on:

- employing 3 coaches to support literacy and numeracy
- teacher aide support with Guided Reading, oral language, Early Years support (Prep), numeracy
- professional development and training for teachers and teacher aides
- resources to support literacy and numeracy.

These resources will be used to:

- improve pedagogy in the teaching of Numeracy & Literacy, supported by enhanced use of student achievement data to inform teaching
- embed the school phonogram program into reading programs in Years Prep to 3
- improve oral language as a base for learning in literacy and numeracy
- extend guided reading as the main strategy for teaching reading
- using QAR as the common comprehension framework
- consolidate the school wide problem solving framework
- utilise Early Start Numeracy & Literacy data to support differentiated learning
- utilise diagnostic data in numeracy, to support differentiated teaching, in whole class & small group settings
- sustained and targeted professional development for all teachers delivered through a rigorous coaching program in Numeracy and Literacy.

Our school offers a high standard of education to our students. It is anticipated that the rigorous program listed above will improve our achievement standards and long term school capability.

**Driveway to OSHC and SEP**

There is a driveway within the school grounds that provides vehicle access to the OSHC and the SEP. There are serious concerns as to how this driveway is being used. If there is not a high level of due diligence displayed by drivers, this access will be closed.

Please note the following:

- **All vehicles must drive under the 10kph speed limit.**
- Parents of SEP students may use this access and therefore the undercover set down area, only if close set down is essential for your child or agreement is made with the HOSES.
- The undercover SEP set down area is not a thoroughfare for OSHC parents and must not be used as such, at any time.
- Parents of students who are from classrooms at the back of the school are not to use this driveway. The excess usage creates congestion and raises safety concerns.
- Staff may use this driveway to access parking at the rear of the school.
- OSHC staff and school staff are expected to observe these expectations as are parents.

This driveway is within the school grounds. The principal, in conjunction with police has the right to restrict entry to any potential user. Your co-operation with this matter is sought – safety is everyone’s responsibility.
Dress Code – Footwear
The school dress code specifically states that “slip-on” shoes are not suitable for wearing at school. Students are to wear lace-up footwear or shoes that have Velcro straps. Parents are asked to ensure their child has the correct footwear. The slip-ons are unstable and unsafe. There are quality, suitable sandshoes available in the shops at very reasonable prices.

Independence & Resilience
Our students of every age have to learn to become more independent as they grow older. To foster students becoming independent, parents and teachers have to provide opportunities for students to experience doing things for themselves. At school, this may mean carrying their own bag into school, having to deliver notes to the teacher themselves or returning books to the library on time, to name a few instances.

Of course, fostering independence means that teachers and parents have to “let go” and trust students. Mistakes will be made, but these should be worked through in a supportive manner, to build confidence in self and students’ capability.

Similarly, students have to learn to be resilient. This means that they have to develop a confidence and an “inner strength” to deal with the ups and downs of daily life. In many cases, developing students’ confidence, confirming positive responses to challenges and allowing students to experience “working through” issues for themselves, contributes positively towards students becoming more resilience.

For both these themes, at one extreme is the “over-controlling” parent/teacher. At the other extreme is the parent/teacher who is excessively relaxed and aimless. The best place is to be somewhere in between at a position where the parent/teacher is conscious of the child’s development and providing opportunity for positive, “low threat” experiences from which students will learn.

There are many books written on these topics – if you are interested in exploring further, it is well worth the effort.

Cycle Safety
As of 1 January 2015 a cyclist is able to ride across a zebra or children’s crossing, provided they:

• first come to a complete stop
• proceed slowly and safely
• give way to any pedestrian on the crossing
• keep to the left of any oncoming cyclist or person using a personal mobility device.

It’s still ok to ride on a footpath too.

These are the rules, so what does that mean for supervised crossings? Part of a crossing supervisors role is to respectfully communicate safe crossing procedures. This information can be passed on to the cyclist if their action is impacting on pedestrian safety in the environment. Just like scooters, roller blades, and skateboards, crossing supervisors can ask the person to dismount/wheel/carry. Please encourage safe behaviours around your school environment.

More information can be found on the website, visit www.qld.gov.au and search 'Bicycle road rules'.

Clean Up Australia Day
On Sunday the 1st of March is Clean up Australia Day. The Elevate Church which meets in the school auditorium, has registered to clean up the Grand Avenue school grounds.

For the past 2 years the members including our youth and children have enjoyed being part of it and members of the church look forward for the same this year as well. The clean up process will be begin at 11.30am and continue to 1pm. There will be a free sausage sizzle after.

Grand Avenue School parents/teachers/caregivers etc are welcome to join in.
Insurance Cover for Students

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education and Training does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students. Therefore, if your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs is the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through their private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Evacuation and 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. Although the purpose of the procedures are shared and practiced with students regularly, 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 are to evacuate buildings quickly to the designated *Emergency Evacuation Areas* 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). A broken siren wail signals lock down.

During the next two weeks students will be briefed on lockdown and evacuation procedures. Lower school classes may also have an additional rehearsal.

Practices occur at least once per term. For your information, the first for the year are scheduled for the 17th and 18th March.

*For any reason, should parents arrive at school during an evacuation or lockdown procedure, they are asked to remain in the public car park. In the event of a real situation school staff and the public will be directed by Queensland Police and Emergency Services.*

Thank you for your interest and co-operation.

Student Resource Scheme

Families are reminded that the Student Resource Scheme payment of $50 per student is now due and final payment is required by **28 February**. Thank you to the many families who have made this payment already. If you are experiencing financial hardship or would like to discuss details of the scheme, please make an appointment to speak to a member of the school’s leadership team.

Regards,

Mick Quinn
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.

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.

Useful Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Administration</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>OSHC</td>
<td>3278 9830</td>
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Please check our website regularly – www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

GREAT RESPONSE TO EARLY YEARS PARENT WORKSHOP

Last Wednesday, our literacy and numeracy coaches hosted a parent information session outlining our early year’s literacy and numeracy programs. The response from our parents was fabulous as there were approximately 70 parents in attendance.

The session primarily focused on outlining early numeracy concepts that parents can take an active role in developing, as well outlining the school’s approach to solving numeracy problems. Phonograms and high frequency words programs were detailed, as well as the sharing of some practical ideas. Parents had an opportunity to look at and use some of the resources that our teachers and students use to learn early literacy and numeracy concepts.

Thank you to our presenters and very enthusiastic parents who made the morning so worthwhile. If you have suggestions for future parent workshops, please send an email with the areas that interest you so it can be taken into consideration for further planning. Messages can be sent to inorm8@eq.edu.au. Please include Parent Workshops in the subject line.

Leanda Norman
Head of Curriculum
School photos will be taken on the 23rd & 25th March 2015

For the convenience of our school community advancedlife have now introduced Online Ordering. School photos can now be ordered and paid for using a secure online Web Portal. **Please note:** Photos can still be purchased using the envelope.

The preference of our school is that orders and payments be made through the Web Portal as this reduces the administration and associated order issues related to the return of cash & envelopes during the lead up to and on photo day.

To place your order visit [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) and enter the code - **C8T 4XQ JP2**. A full set of instructions on how to order can be found on the back of the order flyer enclosed in the envelopes supplied by advancedlife. The order code can also be found printed on the envelopes supplied by advancedlife. Please be aware that-

1. All Online Orders should be placed on or before our day of photography. **Please Note:** Once orders are closed a LATE FEE will apply.
2. The Online code above Web Portal may also be used to order previous years’ sports and other group photos at any time.

All Online Orders placed through the Web Portal will be returned to school for collection.

**Please direct ordering/payment enquiries to advancedlife on 1300 728 972.**

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**ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL VISIT**

- **12TH FEBRUARY!**
INCURSION/EXCURSION DUE DATES

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Final Date for Payment*</th>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Student Resource Scheme</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>28 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Mar</td>
<td>Hands on History (Toys)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>27 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>Starlab</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>3 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td>Hands on History</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>12 Mar</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Author Visit</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>13 Mar</td>
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<td>23/24/25 Mar</td>
<td>Cartooning Workshop</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>16 Mar</td>
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* Please note - cut-off dates are strictly enforced. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the Business Services Manager at least one week prior to the cut-off date.

The Parent Voluntary Contribution of $40 per student is also payable now and is greatly appreciated.

MUSIC NOTES

Music and Wellbeing - Did you know?

- Music-making – and listening choices! - are powerful forms of positive expression for adolescents.
- Learning a musical instrument impacts positively across most aspects of a child’s development.
- It can also be particularly helpful in remedial learning for dyslexic children and in the case of wind instruments, in breath control for children with asthma.

CLASSROOM MUSIC PROGRAM

Year 3 & 4 students have embarked on an exciting journey exploring their music making on the Recorder. Thank you to those students who have brought in their Recorder as listed on the booklist.

For those students who have yet to purchase a Recorder, ‘Yamaha’ brand Recorders are the most melodious (and correctly tuned) and are available at any Music shop or sometimes larger Newsagents. Please be aware that ‘Sovereign’ brand Recorders are unfortunately not aligned in their tuning and are therefore not suitable for use in class, but can be used at home for personal performances. Students are not required to complete home practice at this stage to attain successful results.

Groove E is currently the happening piece to be heard in and around the Music Room, on Recorder!

The Ukulele is the performance instrument for Year 5 students this semester. Individual strings are being plucked and melodies made, with chord accompaniments to be learnt in the second half of the year. Students are not required to have their own instrument as the GASS Music Department does have a class set of Ukulele’s.

If your child in year 5 has their own Ukulele and would like to bring it to class, Year 5 Classroom Music is on a Monday this semester.
**SENIOR CHOIR, SENIOR BAND & STRING ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS**

**Senior Choir**  
Mrs Karen Gordon  
Monday 7.30am – 8.30am Auditorium

**Senior String Ensemble**  
Mr Richard Thompson  
Tuesday 7.30am – 8.30am Auditorium

**Senior Concert Band**  
Miss Leonie Marshall  
Wednesday 7.30am – 8.30am Auditorium

**Junior String Ensemble**  
Mr Richard Thompson  
Friday 7.30am – 8.30am Auditorium

*PLEASE* ensure that your child is on time and comes prepared with Music and Instrument for their weekly Choir, Band or Ensemble Rehearsal and Instrumental Lesson.

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**Grand Avenue State School Music Uniform**

All students in Senior Ensemble, Band and Choir at Grand Avenue State School require a Music Uniform for all performance events. The school Uniform Shop stocks the shirt and trousers as listed below.

- White, collared, button up, long sleeved, cuffed, business shirt
- Black dress trousers
- Black socks
- Black leather like shoes (preferably lace up)
- Hair longer than the collar is asked to be tied up preferably with a Navy ribbon attached.

The Music Parent Support Group has generously provided the embroidered vests that are distributed to students prior to each performance.

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**Attention: Year 1 Parents**

**Swimming Dates:**

- Monday 23 February
- Monday 2 March
- Monday 9 March
- Monday 16 March
- Monday 23 March
- Monday 30 March

*If you would like to assist with these lessons please see your child’s teacher directly.*

*Please ensure that each item of your child’s uniform and swimming gear is clearly labelled with their name.*
Hi everyone,

Thank you to everyone who came to our first P&C meeting last Tuesday, what a wonderful turn out. We had many items to cover on the night with all going well. Approval was given to build a storage shed to help both OSHC and the P&C. This should be happening before the school break.

The school and P&C have been working together to determine what our children and school needs. A list was made up of projects that the P&C could fund. We are looking at two items this year –

1. Year 1 play area, and
2. Tennis/handball courts on the oval (next to cricket nets).

Costings will be presented at future meetings for discussion and approval (hopefully!) Both these projects are budgetted for with P&C fundraising projections and current funds.

Approval was also given on Tuesday night to increase the annual donation to the school from $15,000 to $20,000 this year. We also agreed to fund replacing electronic whiteboards up to $15,000 for this year. This will help our children to receive the C2C program without interruption.

Our next P&C meeting is March 17th, along with the AGM, another big night. Please come along and be involved.

Finally, I would like to welcome our new Principal, Mick Quinn to the school.

Regards,

Gavin Rook

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COMMUNITY NEWS

PARKINSON AQUATIC CENTRE

Brisbane City Council is planning to build a new Aquatic Centre at 751 Algester Road, Parkinson. The new aquatic centre will offer the local community opportunities for fun, fitness and recreation.

The proposed design includes the following facilities:
- a heated eight-lane 50m outdoor pool with accessible ramp
- a heated indoor 25m leisure pool with accessible ramp
- a kiosk/café
- change rooms with showers and toilets, including family friendly change facilities
- a multipurpose gym which could accommodate small group fitness classes,
- staff rooms, storage areas, plant room, service area and
- a car park.

Construction of the aquatic centre is anticipated to start in mid-2015 pending development approval and be completed by early 2016.

As part of the Aquatic Centre development, Council will construct a new intersection to provide access to the Aquatic Centre. The intersection construction works are scheduled to start in mid-2015 and will take approximately four months to complete.
Would you like to be a Host Family to an AFS exchange student arriving in July?

Are you ready to get an unforgettable experience, get to know another culture, make a lifetime friendship by adding a new member to your family from different country?

If your answer is YES, then log on to our website www.afs.org.au/host and get to know our amazing students arriving in July.

We have students from a variety of different countries eagerly awaiting any kind of information regarding their future host families who will host them here in Australia for the length of their program.

If you believe you can be such host family for 8 weeks to 5 months, then please pick your favourite student from our website and contact your local AFS volunteer:

Kelly Mudford on 0448 065 990 or email: kechan81@gmail.com

Alternatively you can contact the Hosting Coordinator at the AFS National Office: on 1300 131 736.

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Girls Play AFL Too at the Forest Lake Dragons and they want you!
Looking to field an Under 13’sYouth Girls team in 2015!

**Trainings**
CJ Greenfield Oval, Freeman Road, Richlands
Please contact club for training times

**For more information**
call 0481 104497
or
forestlakejuniors@aflbj.com
FREE EVENT!

OXLEY community festival

SATURDAY 21 MARCH • 10am–3pm
Oxley State School, Oxley Road

MARKETS • RIDES • ENTERTAINMENT
• FOOD • PLUS HEAPS MORE!

For information regarding ALL DAY RIDE PASSES and more, please contact the Oxley State School P&C on 0418 987 291 or eljarvis1@optusnet.com.au