**ISSUE NO: 3/15**

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

Email - studentabsence@grandavenueeq.edu.au

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**SAY “NO” TO BULLYING DAY / HARMONY DAY**

**QSCHOOLS APP – INTRODUCTION OF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**

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**PLANNED EVENTS**

**DAYS TO REMEMBER**

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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Fri 13 March</td>
<td>International Ride2School Day</td>
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<td>Mon 16 March</td>
<td>Year 1 Swimming #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 17 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting / Annual General Meeting – 7.00pm in Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17/Wed 18 March</td>
<td>Announced Evacuation &amp; Lockdown Drills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 19 March</td>
<td>Hands on History Incursion – Year 5</td>
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<td><strong>Fri 20 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Say “NO” to Bullying Day / Harmony Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20 March</td>
<td>Author Visit – Year 4</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mon 23 March</td>
<td>Year 1 Swimming #5</td>
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<td>Cartooning Workshop Incursion – Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23 March</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS – Prep, Year 3 &amp; 6E</td>
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<td>Mon 23 March</td>
<td>Parent Workshop – Early Years Literacy and Numeracy P-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25 March</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS – School Leaders (8.30am), Year 2, Year 5, 6A, 6B &amp; 6D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 26 March</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS – Year 1, Year 4 &amp; 6C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Discos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 30 March</td>
<td>Year 1 Swimming #6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 2 April</td>
<td>Prep/Year 1 Easter Hat Parade &amp; Year 2 Easter Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 2 April</td>
<td>Religious Education Seminars – Years 4-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Parents,

**Student Leader Induction Ceremony**

Last Wednesday our school held a ceremony to induct student leaders into their positions for 2015. Congratulations to all student leaders on your appointment. Our school is very proud of our student leaders – school captains, house captains, music captains and student councillors. The ceremony included a presentation by our school band. Students sang the school song enthusiastically.

This special occasion brings together many parents and community guests. When speaking to many guests and parents, it is clear that the high expectations and achievements of Grand Avenue SS are highly valued within our community. Many parents relayed the exceptional progress of their children at secondary, building on the great start to their learning pathway, here at Grand Avenue.

Parents across all year levels should be confident that our school sets and maintains high standards of student application to learning and of student behaviour and respect in classrooms and the playground.

**Reading QAR – Comprehending using “in the book” & “in my head” responses.**

The teaching of reading is one of our priorities. Reading is critical to our students becoming fully informed citizens, able to access opportunities in life. Reading also brings enjoyment into the lives of all aged people, accessing newspapers, magazines, other media but especially books.

Our focus at school initially is on teaching students to become proficient at obtaining a basic level of meaning from words on a page – decoding the text into real words and sentences. Students use sight words, phonograms, knowledge of sentence patterns, pictures, semantic clues and their own experiences to engage with the text and determine the meaning of the text.

Beyond this, as students become more proficient with their basic skills, they are taught to interact with the text such that they are able to gain meaning that is beyond the surface. This means that they predict, clarify, summarise, infer and synthesise what they have read, making connections with their prior knowledge, making connections between characters or being critical of statements, reading “between the lines” – obtaining meaning which is more indepth.

Our school is currently implementing the **QAR Comprehension** strategy which stands for the Question Answer Relationships strategy across all year levels. This strategy enables students to look at the question to see if the answer is in the text or in requires the reader to make an inference.

Coaches are working with teachers to develop skills and processes to support classroom implementation. Sustained focus on this quality approach will result in deeper levels of reading comprehension by our students, as they progress across the year levels. It is anticipated that this skill will be empowering for all students in their future learning.

Parents can support students to develop their comprehension skills as well. By listening to students read, having them talk about what they have read, discussing connections between characters, making inferences about incidents or characters (in a friendly way) all contribute towards supporting students to respond to what they have read at a deeper level.

**Road Safety**

Parents are reminded of the need for great care around the school with respect to road safety. Of paramount importance is that our speed is below 40 kph.

Parents are encouraged to speak to their children about their behaviour around the school. Clear instructions by parents could include:
- Clear explanation/agreement of drop off/collection location and process
- Students should cross the road at designated crossings, regardless of whether there is a crossing supervisor in attendance. No parking zones near crossings make the crossing more visible for drivers to see students.
- Siblings must stay together. Older children should watch out for younger ones
- Footpaths outside the school are not for playing – balls, running etc. Students should stand in one place and wait for parents to arrive.
- Students who travel home by themselves must follow the designated route as agreed by their
  parents and proceed directly to/from school
- If students are not collected as per usual arrangements, they are to report to the school office.
  Contact will then be made with parents.

**Appointments to see Teachers**

Communication between parents and teachers is encouraged, to support students at school. While
many parents do speak to teachers before/after school about incidental or smaller matters on an “as
needs” basis, should a parent require more than a minute or two, it is recommended that a call to
the school office be made so that an appointment can be made at a mutually satisfactory time.

**Late Arrival at School**

The first bell rings at 8:45am daily. *All students should be at school by this time.* When students
arrive late, the class is prevented from starting learning at this important time of the day. Late
arrival also means that students miss out on messages and information about class or school
matters and they often feel embarrassed when they are the last student to arrive.

It is recognised that mornings are busy times in all homes. However, parents are encouraged to
establish routines and ensure students themselves are contributing towards the family being ready
for children to come to school on time.

**Say NO to Bullying Day / Harmony Day**

Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense
of belonging for everyone.

The theme of Harmony Day ties in nicely with “Say NO to Bullying Day”. This annual day provides a
focus for all schools to say “Bullying, No Way!” This campaign aims to strengthen existing
everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

Our school will celebrate these two days concurrently on Friday 20th March. We encourage all
students to wear something orange on this day. This could be an orange ribbon, orange socks, and
orange shirt (worn with the school uniform – please ensure it is “school appropriate”). Class
teachers will hold discussions with students about this issue.

Prep classes are holding a morning tea for parents. Students are encouraged to bring along a plate
of traditional food and dress in their country of origin. Other year levels will have planned activities.
Parents will be informed of these as soon as possible.

**Parent Information Session – Early Years Literacy and Numeracy P-2**

In response to our first parent workshop, our GASS coaching team is pleased to offer another
workshop for our parents of students in the early years. The session will be held on **Monday 23rd
March from 5.00pm to 6.00pm** and will cover two main focus areas each approximately a half an
hour in length:

1. Reading – strategies for supporting early readers at home
2. Maths - using concrete materials to develop concepts related to number.

As we aim to provide resources and ideas for you to take home, its helpful to have accurate
numbers of people attending. If you would like to attend, can you please **RSVP by Thursday 19th
March** to the following email address - tstib2@eq.edu.au. In the subject line, please put **Parent
Workshop**. In the message section, please put your name and your child’s name and class, eg Mrs
Jane Brown, John Brown 2D.

We look forward to working with you to help your student in getting the best start possible in
reading and place value concepts.

**P&C Annual General Meeting**

The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held next **Tuesday 17th March** at 7.00pm in the staffroom.
All welcome.
School Chaplaincy – “Jail for Bail”

Our school has a highly valued Chaplaincy program. The role of the Chaplain is to pastorally care for students, families and staff, on a one-on-one basis or in small groups. The government provides funding for a part of this service but for the full service to continue, the Chaplaincy Committee has to raise approx. $12 000.

As part of the fundraising campaign, a “Jail for Bail” is being run. Invited community representatives will be asked to be placed in “jail” until a nominated amount of money is donated from the community. All donations are tax deductible. Receipts are issued immediately.

The “Jail for Bail” activity is taking place on Saturday 23rd May from 9am to 12noon. It will be held in the shopping centre. Members of our school community are invited to attend this activity and possibly contribute towards getting someone you know, out of jail.

Thanks to Rev Russell Reynolds, Chairperson of the Chaplaincy committee for organising this exciting opportunity.

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></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>Student Absence Line</td>
<td>3372 0560</td>
<td><a href="mailto:studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au">studentabsence@grandavenuess.eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Program</td>
<td>3372 0537</td>
<td>OSHC</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>Canteen</td>
<td>3372 0563</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSHC</td>
<td>3278 9830</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please check our website regularly – www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au
Congratulations School Leaders

School Leaders – 2015

**School Captains**

Sebastian Orellana-Quinteros  
Madeline Rushmore

**School Vice Captains**

Jackson Teale  
Imogen Bunn

**House Captains**

**Firetail**

John Yadon (C)  
Terrell Bath (VC)  
Litia Fa’ata’ape (C)  
Alize Ngatai-Penfold (VC)

**Sunbird**

Angus Booth (C)  
Isaac Moses (VC)  
Georgia Arthur-Wornham (C)  
Shaneil Criddle (VC)

**Lorikeet**

Toby Smith (C)  
Julian Hughes (VC)  
Elise Gluch (C)  
Caitlin Whaley (VC)

**Kingfisher**

Matthew Miles (C)  
Cody Hunzel (VC)  
Katie Opetaia (C)  
Georgia Brimelow (VC)

**Band Captain**

Lachlan Simmich

**Strings Captain**

Bailey Peterson

**Choir Captain**

Georgia Greer-Manners

**Student Councillors**

4A  
Sinead Van Der Sluys

4B  
Henry Mai

4C  
Kaitlyn Buckingham

4D  
Niruthiyan Sivakumar

4E  
Heilyn Yu

4F  
Lara Chard

4G  
Lakshi Yogeswaran

5A  
Crystal Wineti

5B  
Piper Knapp

5C  
Sophie McDonough

5D  
Benina Pope

5E  
Haran Anandakumar

5F  
Jared Gluch

6A  
Sammi Chiem

6B  
Bill Jahnke

6C  
Tamrin Islam

6D  
Melania Popham

6E  
Kate McMahon
On **Friday 20th March** our school will be celebrating Harmony Day as well as taking a stand together against Bullying for “Say NO to Bullying Day.” We encourage all students and staff to wear something orange. For students, this could be an orange ribbon or orange socks. An Orange SHIRT is also acceptable to be worn with the school uniform. Please ensure it is "school appropriate" and sun safe.

All classes will be doing some activities around both these concepts. Prep classes are hosting a morning tea for parents and encouraging students to bring in a plate of traditional food and dress in their country of origin. They will be rotating around activities and discussing both concepts. Other classes might discuss No Bullying and Harmony Day and celebrate cultural diversity within our community with activities within the classroom or invite a guest speaker. If you would like further information please see [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) and also [www.harmonyday.gov.au](http://www.harmonyday.gov.au).

**Sharyn Brown**  
Deputy Principal

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**QSCHOOLS APP – INTRODUCTION OF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**

Grand Avenue State would like to be able to push you!

As part of a plan to keep you well informed about school events and reminders, the school can now send out push notifications. Of course that is only use if you know what a push notification is and how you can get it working. Push notifications will allow the school to push essential information directly to your mobile device, including notifications of upcoming events and emergency alerts and important updates.

When you download the QSchools app from your app store, you can activate push notifications in your phone’s settings. Detailed, easy to read instructions are shown below and are also available from the school office.

We have quite a number of our school community already subscribed to QSchools and are already receiving push notifications. An update about how many people are receiving the school notifications will be in our regular newsletters. The aim is get as many of our parents and community on board to make this and effective and efficient communication service.

Stay tuned for the next GASS push!
QSchools mobile app

The QSchools app is a convenient way to share up-to-the-minute information with the school community.

The app is designed to integrate with Websites for Schools websites. When a school publishes content to their website, the app is automatically updated with the latest news, events and newsletters.

Emergency announcements and push notifications, such as information about natural disasters and school closures, can be published by the department.

All Queensland state schools are searchable via the app, however only schools who have upgraded their school website with Websites for Schools will benefit from all the features of the app.

Parent and Community Engagement Framework alignment

The QSchools app is a useful tool for schools implementing the Parent and Community Engagement Framework to facilitate:
- better communication with the school community
- community collaboration
- encourage participation in the school community.

Compatible with the following devices:

- Android
- Apple
- Windows

Benefits for parents, carers and families:

- access the latest school news, newsletters and calendar events
- receive emergency announcements and push notifications
- follow multiple schools
- search for the nearest school by current location, postcode, school name or suburb.
1. Download or update the QSchools app
   Compatible with the following devices:
   - Android
   - Apple
   - Windows 8

   To receive automatic updates, you will need to ensure that QSchools push notifications are enabled in your phone settings.

2. Search for your school
   The QSchools app allows you to search by:
   - School name search
   - Map search
   - Schools near your current location

3. ‘Favourite’ your school to receive updates
   By favouriting your school, you will:
   - Have access to school information, newsletters, reports and more
   - Automatically receive important updates and push notifications from your school
Students in Year 2 had a great time discovering toys from yesteryear at the Hands on History (Toys) incursion last Friday.
PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT DUE TO THE STAFF PHOTO ON MONDAY 23RD MARCH, THE OFFICE WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL 8.30AM.

INCUSSION/EXCURSION 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>19 Mar</td>
<td>Hands on History</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>CLOSES 4PM TODAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23/24/25 Mar</td>
<td>Cartooning Workshop</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>16 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 June 28 July 11 Aug</td>
<td>International Schools Comp - Science, English &amp; Maths</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>20 Mar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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 $50 Student Resource Scheme payment is now overdue. Please finalise payment ASAP if you have not already done so. The Parent Voluntary Contribution of $40 per student is also payable now and is greatly appreciated.
P&C donation to Defence Club

Thanks to the Grand Avenue P&C the Defence Club now has 9 new board games. The games include Chess, Guess Who and Connect 4 Tower. The Defence Club’s games were looking very sad, so we are very grateful for all of the new games. Already they have been well used. Each Friday at Defence Club they are used and last Friday afternoon the Year 4 Defence children had fun playing Twister and Head Banz when we welcomed a new Year 4 boy to the school.

Thank you to the school P & C, we really appreciate your donation!
Music and Wellbeing - Did you know?

Music makes a contribution to kids’ development that no other subject can match
“Music education uniquely contributes to the emotional, physical, social and cognitive growth of all students.” National Review of School Music Education, Australia, 2005

Music students are more likely to be good citizens
A 10-year US study called ‘Champions of Change’ found that high school students who participate in arts programs, including in school bands, are less likely to be involved with drugs, crime or have behavioural problems.

Instrumental Music Lessons (week 8)

ALL Instrumental Music Students are asked to check the timetables in the hallway outside the Instrumental Music Room next week (week 8) for any lesson changes that may occur as the Instrumental Teachers attend the WestCent Music Camp Auditions. Best wishes to the Instrumental students auditioning.

P & C Easter Raffle

The Music Support Group is generously running a raffle to benefit the Instrumental Music Program at Grand Avenue. Thank you to the parents and students who have so far donated Easter goodies to create the raffle prizes. Donations are still being collected in the Instrumental Music Room. This week students in each Choir & Instrumental Ensemble have been given a small number of raffle tickets to sell to family, friends and neighbours. When sold, ticket stubs and money need to be returned to the collection box in the Classroom Music Room.

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 you contact the relevant conductor if your child is unable to attend a rehearsal.
National Ride2School Day

Friday 13th March

Participate!

Ride Scooter Walk Bus

Participate in the ninth National Ride2School Day event, where over 300,000 Australian students, just like yours, will ride, walk, or scoot to school. Grand Avenue students will receive an active travel stamp on this day if they Actively Travel.

The purpose of National Ride2School Day is to show school communities that riding to school is an easy and fun activity. It is a chance to celebrate on a large scale and prove it can be done.

Easter Hat Parade

On Thursday 2nd April at 9.00am in Kauma Hall, the students from Prep and Year 1 will be participating in an Easter Hat Parade.

We would like you to join us as our students showcase their hats for families and friends. They are currently learning many Easter songs in classroom music lessons to sing on the day. For Year 1 parents, please help your child to create and prepare a special Easter Hat to wear for the parade. The Prep students are making their Easter hats in class. Please bring your money to buy an Easter Raffle ticket. All welcome!!

We look forward to seeing you there!
FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT....

Dear parents,

Next Tuesday 17th March is the P&C general meeting followed by the AGM. As always the executive team is elected at this meeting. There are 6 positions to fill, so if anyone has an interest please come forward at the meeting and fill out a nomination form for the position you would like. If there is more than 1 person for the same role a vote will take place. The positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Vice Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice Treasurer

I would like to thank teachers, admin staff and everyone who has been involved in the P&C during the past year. Together we have achieved so much for our school and children, finishing the air conditioning and the new Prep playground being amongst them – that’s nearly $200,000 contributed to the school!

There is much planned this year already and together we can make a difference. See you at the general meeting/AGM.

Regards,
Gavin Rook

COMMUNITY NEWS
JOIN FOREST LAKE GIRL GUIDES
Meet at St John's Anglican College. 1st Junior Guides, Tuesday 6pm to 8pm. Email: ankali@forestlakeguides.org.au
2nd Junior Guides, Saturday 9:30am to 11:30am. Contact: Ankali (Fionna Percy) 0439 333 285 - please send text message

Sign On Day 14th March Forest Lake Shopping Centre

The Guide Promise:
I promise that I will do my best
To be true to myself and develop
my beliefs
To serve my community and
Australia
And live by the Guide Law

The Guide Law
As a Guide I will strive to:
- Respect myself and others
- Be considerate, honest
- Be friendly to others
- Make choices for a better world
- Use my time and abilities wisely
- Be thoughtful and optimistic
- Live with courage and strength

Sign On Day
Saturday March 14
Forest Lake Shopping Centre

Develop new skills, gain confidence, make new friends and experience a sense of community and belonging
while having fun. Dynamic, flexible and values-based training in life skills, decision making and leadership.
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