ISSUE NO: 6/15
7 May 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.

Quality Relationships
- Respect
- Care and Compassion

High Achievement
- Doing your best
- Responsibility for learning

Meaningful Communication
- Understanding and Inclusion
- Honesty and Integrity

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

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 8 May   Mother’s Day Stall – Final Day
Tues 12, Wed 13, Thurs 14 May   NAPLAN Testing
Fri 15 May   NAPLAN Catch-up
Mon 18 May   Author Visit – Year 4
Tues 19 May   P&C Meeting – 7:00pm in Staffroom
Wed 20 May   Under 8’s Day
Wed 20 May – Fri 29 May   BOOK FAIR – Resource Centre
Fri 22 May   GASS Walk and Talk to School Day
Fri 22 May   Author Visit – Year 6
Fri 22 May   Pirate Show Incursion – Prep
Sat 23 May   Jail for Bail Chaplaincy Fundraiser – Forest Lake Village
Wed 27 May   Music Gala Concert – 6:30pm in Auditorium
Fri 29 May   Hands on Maths Incursion – Year 4
Wed 3 June   ICAS Competition - Science
Mon 8 June   QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY
Fri 19 June   P&C Disco
Mon 22 & Tues 23 June   Athletics Carnival – 10 to 12 Years
Wed 24 June   Athletics Carnival – Prep/Year 1
Thurs 25 June   Athletics Carnival – Years 2/3
Dear Parents,

**Mother’s Day**

Our best wishes to all mothers for Mother’s Day on Sunday. Thank you for the wonderful job you do with your children. Grand Avenue students are so much better off because of your love and dedication.

*Best friends forever, Mum and me*
*Picking flowers among the trees*
*A shoulder to cry on, secrets to share*
*Warm hearts and hands that really care.*  (Anon student)

Happy Mother’s Day!

**NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy)**

All schools in Qld will conduct the NAPLAN test program next week. Year 3 and 5 students (and Years 7 and 9 at high school) will undertake the tests. All students are required to participate in completing the tests, unless officially withdrawn with parental consent. Some students will receive formally approved modifications to the test, due to existing personal conditions.

NAPLAN tests are conducted under strict guidelines, to ensure fairness and consistency across the nation. Teachers work hard to ensure all tests are conducted within the guidelines.

It is important for you and your child to know that NAPLAN is not a pass/fail test. It simply looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against National Standards and compared with student peers throughout Australia. The best way to prepare for the tests is through effective teaching and learning within the class program.

Parents are asked to assist in the following ways:

- Avoid students being absent for the tests, unless necessary.
- Ensure students are at school before the first bell at 8:40am
- Talk positively about the tests. The stakes are not high for individual students. Students who have worked well in class will achieve well in the tests. There will be easy questions and a few challenging questions but all we want is for students to do their best.
- A good night’s sleep and a healthy breakfast are helpful.

The tests will be conducted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tues 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</th>
<th>9:10am Language Conventions test (40 minutes)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:55am Writing test (40 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
<td>8:55am Reading test (Yr 3 – 45 minutes; Yr 5 – 50 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
<td>9:10am Numeracy (Yr 3 – 45 minutes; Yr 5 – 50 minutes)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All students are required to use a HB or 2B pencil. All tests are multiple choice except the writing task.

Students who are absent on any of the above days will be offered the opportunity to undertake the test at another time within this week, if practical.

Later in the year we will send parents an individual student NAPLAN report that can be used to view and monitor how your child is progressing. More information is available on the NAP website ([http://www.nap.edu.au/](http://www.nap.edu.au/)). If you have any concerns, please contact your class teacher.

**Wet Weather**

Last Friday, as the 2:45pm dismissal time approached, parents who were early at school were advised of a changed arrangement for this specific afternoon. Students could be collected from classrooms immediately and taken home, avoiding the sign out process. The change to usual routine was an endeavour to begin the movement of students (and cars) from the school area, to alleviate some of the congestion which was being made worse due to the persistent heavy rain. The movement of students and parents on footpaths and in car parks was much safer as a result.

Thanks to Ms Tobin and Mr Thorne for braving the weather to advise incoming parents of the changed arrangements.

Usual arrangements for collection and signing out students are back in place.
**Class Visits**

Members of the admin team, including myself, visit classrooms on a regular basis. It is very heartening to visit classes and see our students working well and fully engaged in their learning.

Reading lessons are very focussed learning times. Teacher aides are visiting classes on a rotational basis to assist teachers with guided reading. This significantly increases the face-to-face teaching of reading for every student. Teachers plan the reading lessons and teacher aides have been specially trained to conduct guided reading lessons with students of all ages.

The conduct of classrooms is very positive. Students are orderly, polite and respectful and focussed on their tasks.

Central to students’ learning is the work of teachers who are skilled, organised and implementing thoroughly planned lessons to cater for the range of abilities across their classes. We have much to be thankful for in this wonderful school.

**Late Arrivals**

As noted in previous newsletters, the school is striving to minimise the late arrival of students. This initiative will allow students to be in class for the first few minutes of the day when information is shared and then to be ready to engage in the first lesson of the day. The teacher marks the roll once, immediately after entry and then does not have to stop a lesson to re-mark the roll as late students arrive.

Last week, on one morning, we had approximately 50 students queue at the office to gain their late slips. There was wet weather on this day and also traffic congestion on this day which must have contributed towards students being late.

As the winter months approach, it is hoped that families are able to sustain early arrival at school. While we always ask parents to organise this, there is nothing to stop students contributing towards a practical morning routine so that everyone is able to leave home on time.

**Mathletics**

Our school is offering students the opportunity to access an online mathematics program that can be used at school within the class program and at home. For a parent to purchase this program themselves, the cost is $99 per student. Through the school, we are able to offer the program for $10 which is excellent value for this quite special program.

Teachers are currently developing skills to use the program to its maximum and its use within classrooms will grow throughout the year.

Students will be provided with a password that means they are able to access the program at home. Activities range from drill and practice activities to calculations to problem solving. All activities are available within different levels from lower school to upper school.

While most students have already paid their $10 for Mathletics, there are some students who have not yet done so. Parents of these children are encouraged to consider this initiative carefully. It is beneficial if every child is able to use Mathletics.

Regards,

Mick Quinn
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

**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 outside school hours 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. PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL POLICY Dictates That THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IS FOR STAFF SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES ONLY.

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>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please check our website regularly – www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au

INCURSION/EXCURSION DUE DATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Activity</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Final Date for Payment*</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Author Visit 4</td>
<td>$7 11 May</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Author Visit 6</td>
<td>$7 15 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Pirate Show Prep</td>
<td>$7 15 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>Hands on Maths 4</td>
<td>$7 22 May</td>
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</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.

Grand Avenue State School
Now taking enrolments for Prep 2016

- Australian Curriculum programs
- Leading programs in phonics and sight words
- Caring staff
- Air conditioned classrooms
- Imaginative and creative learning experiences

Enrol online at: www.grandavenuess.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Pages/Enrolments.aspx
or Call 3372 0555

Quality Education for your child is our priority.
CANBERRA TOUR UPDATE

Only very limited places remain available for this year’s Canberra Tour. Last week, a letter seeking confirmation of attendance was sent to families who had not paid anything towards the tour so far. Thank you to those families who have indicated non-attendance – your invoices will be cancelled shortly. Please ask your child if you did not receive this letter – they were again personally named for specific students. Any other parents who expressed interest in being a chaperone who have not yet made contact with me directly will need to do so during the next week. Please remember that the school website (Canberra Tour Page) hosts all of the prime documents and information. The next anticipated correspondence will be the formal consent and final medical forms in about August/September.

Craig Thorne
Canberra Tour Leader
Anzac Day has been commemorated in a number of ways this year at Grand Avenue.

On Thursday, 23rd of April, the school’s Student Leaders and Year 5 and 6 Defence Students travelled by train with Mr Thorne and myself to the Shrine of Remembrance at Anzac Square, Brisbane. We all were moved by the Anzac Day Commemoration for Students which was attended by a large number of students from a variety of schools. The Student Leaders laid a wreath at the eternal flame on behalf of the school. After the Commemoration we had an opportunity to walk around the eternal flame and see all of the wreaths. The 12 students represented the school well and should be very proud of themselves.

On Friday, 24th of April, the school had two Commemorations.

The Year 4 – 6 Commemoration was reverently lead by Mrs Janeen Almond and the school’s Student Leaders. Sergeant Jason Donohue from ADF came and spoke about the spirit of the Anzac’s.

Prep to Year 3 Commemoration was respectfully lead by Mrs Sharyn Brown. Squadron Leader Michael Kelly, a parent of the school and a serving member of the ADF, took the children on a great journey on a boat to help the students to visualise what the first Anzac’s experienced 100 years ago.

Each year level created a wreath, which was laid at our memorial. Thank you to all who contributed flowers and arranging skills to make this possible.

Following both commemorations the Defence Parents and Students joined together for morning tea.

I would like to thank all staff and students who were involved in the organisation of the Anzac Day Commemorations. I would like to thank all of the school students who honoured this day with great behaviour and reverence.

On Saturday 25th of April, Anzac Day, Grand Avenue students joined with other local schools and community organisations in the Forest Lake Anzac Day March and Commemoration service at the Lake Amphitheatre. The students set off from High St, marching along Forest Lake Boulevard to the lake. Here the students joined in the Commemorations as our Student Leaders laid a wreath on behalf of the school. Thank you to all who joined in and represented our school very well.

Julie Watson
Defence School Transition Aide
Music Notes

Gala Concert

Students and parents are advised that the Gala Concert for Semester 1 will be held in Week 6 of this term on Wednesday 27 May at 6.30pm in the school Auditorium. Students performing in this first concert for the year include the Junior and Senior String Ensembles, the Senior Band and the Junior and Senior Choirs. These students will be required at school from 6pm.

The Senior Strings, Junior Strings, Senior Band and Senior Choir are required to have their own Grand Avenue SS Music Uniform for this performance.

Grand Avenue SS Music Uniform - Black Trousers and a White Shirt (long sleeved, collared, buttoned, business) worn with Black Shoes and Black Socks. The Music Uniform can be purchased at the school Uniform Shop which is open every weekday morning from 8.15am – 9.30am.

The Junior Choir is to wear their checked Formal School Uniform.

All students and their families interested in the Instrumental Music Program at Grand Avenue SS are cordially invited to attend this concert.

NAPLAN Rehearsals and Lessons

All Ensemble Rehearsals and Instrumental Lessons will go ahead next week during NAPLAN.

ALL students are expected to attend their regular rehearsals and Instrumental Music lessons next week. Lesson times and rooms have been adjusted accordingly. Please ensure you see your teacher, the timetables in the Music Corridor or Mrs Gordon on Monday if you are not sure when or where your lesson will be. There will be no access to the Instrumental Music Room, Storeroom or Class Music Room during NAPLAN testing.

Instrumental Music Assessments

A reminder to parents, carers and students that Grand Avenue Instrumental Music Teachers are currently assessing all student progress in lessons. This in preparation for the written Semester 1 Report that is sent home with your Academic Report at the end of this term. Attention to requirements for assessment and preparation at home, is highly recommended.

Ensemble Rehearsal Attendance & Preparation

It is of great concern to the conductors of the Grand Avenue SS Choirs, Bands and String Ensembles that students are not attending rehearsals, and/or not practicing their ensemble music at home in preparation for their rehearsal.

While we understand illness and exceptional circumstances, the quality of the ensembles is currently being compromised by the lack of consistency of quite a number of students. Please parents and carers could you ensure that your child is not only regularly attending their rehearsal (as listed below) but they are also ready and prepared for the rehearsal with the correct equipment and home practice.

Notification via email or written note to the relevant conductor, is required for all students who do not attend a scheduled rehearsal.
Senior Choir, Senior Band & String Ensemble Rehearsals

Senior Choir
Mrs Karen Gordon
Monday 7.30am – 8.30am  Wednesday 10.45am – 11.10am 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.

GASS Walk and Talk to School Day

Friday 22nd May

8:20am depart

Park and meet on Woogaroo Street between Grand Avenue and Johnson Road
Please park on the school side of Woogaroo Street

By walking together we will create a walking bus!

Children must be accompanied by an adult

PARENTS on your way back gather at the Grand Bakery for a coffee and chat.

This is an activity coordinated by the Active Travel Team at GASS.
Year 4 Author Visit - Tristan Bancks

Tristan Bancks will be visiting Year 4 on Monday 18th May.

This young Australian author has a background in acting and filmmaking. He also writes books for children and teens. His books include the My Life series, Mac Slater Coolhunter and Two Wolves, a crime-mystery novel. His most recent book is My Life & Other Stuff Massive Mistakes, a third book of weird-funny-gross, semi-autobiographical short stories.

The My Life series are linked by the main character--a kid called Tom Weekly--and his friends, family, and dog. They appear in each adventure. From talking about poo to a terrible accident with false teeth, to one seriously angry magpie, these stories will make you snort with laughter and cringe in embarrassment.

Imagine going from zero to hero in a split-second. Mac's just crashed the latest prototype of his flying bike in front of practically the whole school. So when the creators of the TV series Coolhunters approach him and offer him a trial on their show, Mac thinks they're crazy. Mac lives in an old bus with his hippie mum. He doesn't have a TV, let alone a mobile. But Tony and Speed say he's so uncool he's, like, cool.

We have multiple copies of all of these titles in the Library.

Tristan Bancks has his own website where information about his various books is available.

Year 6 Author Visit - Brian Falkner

Brian Falkner is one of the two new authors we are introducing to the Visiting Authors programme this year.

Year 6 will be attending a presentation by Brian Falkner on Friday 22nd May.

Brian Falkner was born in Auckland. He is the award-winning author of several novels for children and young adults, including The Flea Thing, The Real Thing, and Northwood. He has provided the following information about these books at his website.

The Flea Thing

Twelve-year-old Daniel wants to play professional rugby league (for the NZ Warriors!). Of course he is far too young, but Daniel has a secret, and to everyone's amazement ends up on the team. But that's just where the fun begins!

Suggested Age Range: 8-12 yrs
**The Real Thing**

Fizzer Boyd has a really cool ability. He is an expert at telling one soft drink from another, which is a lot of fun, but not all that useful. But then the only three people in the world who know the secret formula for Coca-Cola are kidnapped. Suddenly Fizzer is in hot demand as the Coca-Cola company tries to work out its own recipe, and before too long, the search for the missing recipe becomes a matter of life and death!

Suggested Age Range: 8-12 yrs

**Northwood**

The dark forest of Northwood has never seen the likes of Cecilia Undergarment before ... Cecilia Undergarment likes a challenge. So when she discovers a sad and neglected dog, she is determined to rescue him. No matter what. But her daring dog rescue lands her in deep trouble. Trouble in the form of being lost in the dark forest of Northwood. A forest where ferocious black lions roam. A forest that hides a secret castle, an unlikely king and many a mystery. A forest where those who enter never return. But Cecilia is determined to find her way home. No matter what.

Full of adventure and humour, this story is ideal for 8-12 year olds

**Book Trailer Northwood**

He also wrote the action adventure sci-fi novels for young adults The Tomorrow Code and Brainjack. Visit [Brian Falkner’s website](http://www.brianfalkner.com/) for more information.

We have multiple copies of all of these titles in the Library.

**Helen Mackintosh**
Teacher Librarian

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**Scientists in Schools**

**Mathematicians in Schools**

**Are you a scientist, mathematician or an engineer?**

Would you enjoy inspiring our teachers and students in science or maths?

Would you like to become our school’s scientist or mathematician?

Grand Avenue State School is registered for Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools and we’re looking for scientists, mathematicians or engineers who are interested in working with our staff and students – it would be great to have someone from our local community.

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools use a broad definition of 'scientist' which includes professionals working in a science, maths or engineering-related area, encompassing research and applied scientists, engineers, medical and allied health professionals and mathematicians.

There are no fixed hours – it’s up to you and the school to decide how you can contribute.

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is an Australian Government initiative, managed by CSIRO Education. Find out more information online at [www.scientistsinschools.edu.au](http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au).

Please feel free to contact Toni Fox (Numeracy Coach) by email: tefox0@eq.edu.au or by phone 3372 0555, to register your interest and/or request further information.
Hi everyone,

Happy Mother’s Day to all the Mums out there for this Sunday. Ask your family to bring you to our Mother’s Day Market this Sunday and have breakfast and a coffee while you shop for your gifts! It’s on from 8.00am to 12.30pm.

There is a change happening to our Canteen Red Days which have been on the disco days. The P&C will no longer be doing Red Days at the Canteen and will bring back the Meal Deals once a term. This will be on a Tuesday or Wednesday and ordered online only for first break. Details of the items in the meal deal will be confirmed soon. The disco night will still have all the special treats and drinks. Please remember our canteen is in need for helpers most week days for a few hours in the morning to help with first break orders. If you are able to pop in and see Sue to arrange a time that would be great.

Our next P&C meeting is on **Tuesday 19th May at 7:00pm**. Hope to see you there.

Regards,
**Gavin Rook**

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**Markets on Grand**

**Sunday 10 May**

Come and support your local market at Grand Avenue State School 1st Sunday of every month - funds raised go to the school.

**Lost Property**

Lost Property is getting very full in both the OSHC room and SEP block. Shortly it will be sorted and either donated or taken to the office for spares. Please check!

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**5 cent FUN-draiser!!!**

Collect as many **5c pieces** from home, family, the car, footpath over weeks 1-8 in Term 2 and your class could **win a PIZZA PARTY!!! 5 weeks to go.**

Who hates 5c pieces????

Grand Avenue State School loves them and would like to collect them towards fundraising projects for 2015 including Year 1 playground & future projects.

**The class with the most collected wins!!!**

Each class has a container so start sending them in now!
The new 2015 | 2016 Entertainment Books are coming soon!

Choose from the traditional Entertainment™ Book or the NEW Entertainment™ Digital Membership, which puts the value of the Book into your iPhone or Android smartphone! Each membership has hundreds of 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotels, shopping, groceries and travel and contain over 2,000 offers that you can use whenever you like until 1st June 2016. PLUS Grand Avenue State School retains 20% of the price of every Membership sold which goes towards our fundraising!


Entertainment Books are also available to purchase from the uniform shop, or contact Donna Clark at gassfundraising@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Koha Shed Australia

The Koha Shed is a non-profit organisation which is established to assist families, especially those from New Zealand and the Pacific, who may require assistance.

There is a local centre at 125 Woogaroo St, Ellen Grove Q 4078

Phone 0419 743 316 or 0475 081 943.

Facebook information is available on https://www.facebook.com/groups/TKSAustralia/

Lions Club of Forest Lake Celebrating 21 Years of Service

Walk with the Lions to raise funds for the Heart Foundation
Sunday 17 May 2015

Family fun, Grand raffle, Fitness demonstration, Coffee, FREE sausage sizzle

REGISTER! FUNDRAISE! WALK!

REGISTRATION
Online: http://lionsheart.org.au/event/walkwiththehros2015 or Phone: Carmen 0409766055 - Stuart 0410187018
Join the Lions in 2 laps around Forest Lake (4.4km)
Registration available at Forest Lake Shopping Centre on May 9, 10, 15 & 16 & late registration on the day at 8am.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

SUNDAY 10TH MAY!