ISSUE NO: 4 24 March 2016

Vision: GROW – ACHIEVE - SUCCEED

Mission: 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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<th>High Achievement</th>
<th>Meaningful Communication</th>
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<td>• Respect</td>
<td>• Doing your best</td>
<td>• Understanding and Inclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Care and Compassion</td>
<td>• Responsibility for learning</td>
<td>• Honesty and Integrity</td>
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<td>Years 4 - 6 Anzac Day Service 9am Auditorium</td>
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<td>Prep – Year 3 Anzac Day Service 12pm Auditorium</td>
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<td>Fri 22 April</td>
<td>Years 4,5 &amp; 6 Cross Country</td>
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Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Welcome to our fourth edition of the school newsletter for the year. It is hard to believe that the first term is coming to a close. It has been great to see that whenever I’ve entered classrooms I’ve seen engaged students with their heads down learning.

Congratulations to all of our staff on their efforts for what is always a very hectic term.

The Joy of Reading

Our goal as parents and teachers is to motivate children to read so they become independent and fluent readers. We can’t achieve this without modelling daily that reading is important and enjoyable.

I can’t think of a better gift to give a child to ensure success in life than the pleasure of reading. Having access to information through the printed word empowers all of us. But reading is more than just a practical tool. It’s through books we can enrich our minds. Books and reading can also relax us and allow us to enjoy laidback moments.

Reading with or to them every night will allow your child to begin a lifelong fascination with the printed word. They will grow into adults who read easily and frequently whether for business, knowledge, or pleasure.

I urge you to encourage your child’s creativity and imagination by being a part of their daily reading rituals. In addition to the usual reading places such as the couch or bed, consider less traditional ones:

- Outside under a tree
- In a hammock
- Create a reading hideaway by tossing a sheet over a table
- Keep a book in the glove box for long road trips
- Go on a reading picnic

Use your imagination. I’m sure you can think of many other exciting possibilities of where you can read with your child.

Helping Your Child Build a Strong Vocabulary

There are four types of vocabulary, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Vocabulary is the strongest predictor of reading success.

If we want our children to grow, achieve and succeed in school and beyond, we need to build a robust vocabulary. Children are like sponges, they learn lots from the adults in their lives. Children should have knowledge of approximately 800-1200 words by the age of three. There are so many ways to help your child increase their repertoire of new words. Following are some suggestions to increase your children’s vocabulary:

“Goldilocks Principle”

Try not to bombard them with lot and lots of words. A good rule of thumb is not too many words at one time and not too few. A good guide is up to five new words per week. Have a bit of fun with the words throughout the week. Don’t be afraid to use big words, you’ll be amazed how quickly they start to use the word correctly in their interactions with others.

Multiple Exposure

Typically, children need to hear a new word 4 to 12 times before it is added to their vocabulary. Use them often and use them in a variety of contexts.

Visualise and Verbalise

As you are teaching your child new words, it is important to help visualise them. Show them pictures or help them draw their own. Ensure that they see the word, say it and then write it. Regularly, model how you break down and learn new words.
**Play Games**

Take your child along with you at every opportunity, as you go off to the shops, bank and post office. There might also be other new and exciting places you visit over the weekend or holidays. Play games like “I spy” and see what new words you can discover.

**John Joseph Article**

This week, John Joseph brings you Part 3 of 6 articles. In this article, John examines how imagination can create healthy concepts and what we can do as parents to teach our kids optimistic thinking. He introduces the idea of using questions to stimulate healthy thoughts and associated emotions and examine why it is better to ask questions of children as opposed to telling or giving advice. He shares a model for growing healthy concepts.

Please click on the link below to view the article:


**Remember our school target for attendance is 95%.** It’s imperative that we as a community unite to monitor and promote attendance because research shows that if your child attends school every day, they are more likely to achieve high results in the future.

The current attendance rate is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE RATE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>94.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>94.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>95.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Overall</td>
<td>94.8%</td>
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</table>

Well done everyone. All year levels have improved or remained close to their previous attendance percentage across the last fortnight. Keep up the outstanding work.

As this will be the final newsletter for the term, I’d like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter break. Please make note of the dates for the holiday period this year and note that **school resumes on Monday 11th April.** Please also note that Term 1 concludes on Thursday 24TH March.

Keep smiling and be happy.

**Tony Maksoud**

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. The playground equipment is out of bounds outside of school hours.

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>
</table>

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

HARMONY DAY/ NO BULLYING DAY

3G Celebrates Harmony Day/ No Bullying Day

Key messages that came out of our discussions:

- Everyone has a right to shine.
- RESPECT.
- Get help from an adult.
- Be strong.
- Ignore.
- Don’t respond.
- Accept differences.
Music Notes

Music and Wellbeing - Did you know?

Learning music is good for Australia’s social and economic growth

The Australian business community wants kids to learn music at school. The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) delivered its ‘Skills for a Nation: A Blueprint for Improving Training and Education Policy 2007 – 2017’. Among its fifteen recommendations for improving children’s education in the primary years was: ‘There should be an opportunity for all students to learn a musical instrument in primary school.’

Instrumental Music - Lesson Preparation

Students and parents are reminded that for improvement and progress to be made on any musical instrument, attention to correct equipment and supplies for their instrument is of the same importance as home practice and on time attendance to lessons and ensemble rehearsals.

Please use the Easter break to restock, reeds, rosin and valve oil as well as ensuring you have a working instrument and the correct books ready to commence Term 2. Lists of requirements and names of Instrument repairers can be obtained from the Instrumental Music Teachers.

Fanfare (Competition) – Friday 20th May

The first ensemble competition of the year for the Concert Band, Junior Strings and Senior String Ensembles is in Week 6 of Term 2. The three ensembles will perform for adjudicators at Forest Lake State School on Friday 20th May along with other primary ensembles in our area. Students are encouraged to learn their set ensemble pieces, be at every rehearsal on time and be ready to work hard at representing Grand Avenue State School to the best of their ability in this biennial event.

Instrumental and Choral Concert – Wednesday 8th June

Parents/Carers are asked to mark the date Wednesday 8th June (Week 9) for our first Ensemble Concert of the year. Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform (including BLACK shoes) for their group. Further information regarding times and specific Ensemble Uniforms will be sent home at the beginning of Term 2.

P & C Election BBQ and Easter Raffle

The Music Support Group has generously run two fundraising events in the last week.

Thank you to the parents and students who manned the BBQ and sold Easter Raffle tickets at the Local Government Election last Saturday. A special thank you must be extended to John Neuendorf, Darlene Wilson, Debbie De Felice and Claire Doevendans who spent extensive hours ensuring that the maximum sales were made and Jennifer Halbert, Ian Hayes, Josie Yarham, Rachel Kindness, Julie Watson, Luci Kleineberg, and Makerita Tusa who also donated their time.
Thank you to the parents and students who donated Easter goodies to create the raffle prizes and sold raffle tickets at the Prep and Year 1 Easter Hat Parade.

The Instrumental Music and Choral Teachers are looking forward to providing more exciting educational experiences and resources from the proceeds of these events for the Instrumental Music students.

**Term 2 Ensemble Rehearsals – Commencing Week 1**

**Concert Band**
Ms Katrina Mothershaw  
Monday  7.30am – 8.30am  Auditorium

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

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

**Commencing Week 8 (Thursday 2nd June)**

**Junior Concert Band**
Mrs Della Martin  
Thursday  7.30am – 8.30am  Auditorium

An attendance roll is taken at all rehearsals.  
**PLEASE ensure that you contact the relevant conductor if your child is unable to attend a rehearsal.**

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**Choral Honours Camp & Concert**

The Grand Ave SS Choir Captain Zoe Lindsay spent three days last week singing, moving and making new friends at the Metropolitan Regional Choral Honours Camp.

Zoe had an incredible learning experience with two renowned choral conductors: Mr Tim Sherlock (pictured with Zoe) and Mrs Barbara McGeever.

100 students from 26 state schools joined Zoe learning 5 pieces in the three days to a professional standard. The concert at the Old Museum Building on the final evening showcased the talented students singing a program that included a lively African opening song, solos, a jazz blues duet and a moving spiritual finale. Congratulations to Zoe for being an exceptional representative for Grand Ave SS.

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**ANZAC Day Choir**

An event choir for the two Grand Avenue ANZAC Day Services has formed with students in Year 4 – 6 rehearsing every Monday during first break. Students have committed to learning two songs, rehearsing at first break on the first 2 Mondays and Wednesdays of Term 2.

Parents/Carers are invited to attend the ANZAC Day services on Thursday 21st April Yr 4 – 6 @ 9am, Yr P – 3 @ 12noon.

**Chaplaincy Dinner Choir**

Students in Yr 4 – 6 have the opportunity next term to join a special choir which will perform at the Westside Chaplaincy Dinner (a fundraising function to support school chaplains in our area) on Wednesday 18th May. The choir will perform at approximately 6.25pm. Parents/Carers are asked to read carefully the permission note for this choir as this is an evening commitment. Permission notes will be handed out in Week 1 of Term 2 and due back by Monday 18th April (Wk 2).
Senior Choir

A small, committed group of students sing every Wednesday morning before school in the Auditorium training their voices and ears to sing on pitch, in unison and parts. This group will be representing the school at Singfest and the Silkstone Eisteddfod later this year as well as many of these dedicated students singing the vital harmonies in both the ANZAC Day and Chaplaincy Dinner choirs.

Term 2 Choir Rehearsals

**ANZAC Day Choir**
Mrs Karen Gordon  
Monday 10.45am – 11.15am  
Auditorium

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

**Chaplaincy Dinner Choir**
Mrs Karen Gordon  
Wednesday 10.45am – 11.15am  
Auditorium

**Junior Choir**
Mrs Louise Sawyer  
Wednesday 11.15am – 11.45am  
Auditorium

An attendance roll is taken at all rehearsals.

PLEASE ensure that you contact the relevant conductor if your child is unable to attend a rehearsal.

Instrument Maintenance Workshops

Parents are invited to contact [bestmusic shop](#) at Jindalee Home where workshops are to be held to assist families in maintaining their child’s instrument and how to avoid costly repairs.  
Call 3376 5454 for times and days.

YEAR 4 – 6 INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Our school inter-house cross country will be held on Friday 22 April for our Year 4, 5 and 6 students. A letter will be sent home in week one, term two outlining further details including approximate start times for each event.

All children are encouraged to participate to the best of their ability and exemptions or course adjustments will be made where necessary. House points will be awarded to all students participating with all students receiving a ribbon for completing the course in a reasonable time. Ribbons will also be awarded to runners receiving a 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd}, and 4\textsuperscript{th} place.

Relatives and friends are welcome to attend to support the students and the wearing of house colours is encouraged.

This event is purely an inter-house carnival designed for maximum participation. Our school cross country team will be selected from our school trial which is to be held on Friday 15 April. Interested students received a permission note for this event in early March and have been training at Runners Club for much of term one. The district cross country trials will be held at St Mark’s Inala on 29 April.
On Thursday the 17th of March the prep children celebrated Harmony and Anti bully day. Families were encouraged to participate in the various activities such as Boomerang painting, making a Chinese lantern, and making a class Chinese dragon. We also enjoyed a special morning tea, tasting foods from various cultures.

The prep G children preformed “True Colours” for their families and friends. In connection with the school values, Prep G has created a colourful friendship rainbow. As a class we discussed what being a friend looks like; helping other, using nice words, working as a team, and caring for others.

On the final day of term Prep to year 1 children participated in an Easter Hat Parade. The children proudly wore their Easter hats in front of many family, friends, peers and teachers. A big thank you to our music teacher Mrs Sawyer for all her hard work in teaching the children the songs for the big day.

A special thank you to all of our parent helpers in term 1. The children look forward to seeing you again next term.

Wishing you a relaxing and enjoyable holiday from the staff and children in Prep.
1B celebrated Harmony Day and No Bullying Day this past week. It was wonderful to see so many students supporting the day by wearing Orange. 1B had a fun day visiting other year one classes celebrating diverse cultures and being kind to others.

**What does Harmony Day mean to you?**

| Abigale - Celebrating different people. | Kirāly - Being nice to people. |
| April - Don’t Bully others. | Lachlan - Getting along with people. |
| Brooke - Being Safe. | Mia – No fighting. |
| Charlotte - Be nice to people. | Nailah – We are all different. |
| Chirathi - Being thankful. | Nayeon - Getting along with everybody. |
| Dominic – Be kind to everybody. | Patrick - Be responsible. |
| Ethan - Being kind to your friends and others. | Ryan - Being kind to other people. |
| Hayley - Being kind to others. | Samara - Being a good friend. |
| Jasmine - Getting along with other people. | Seshan - Being respectful to others. |
| Joseph – Be nice. | Toby - Be friendly. |
| Kalani - Be Responsible. | Zoe - Helping other people. |
FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT ..... 

Hello. Last week we had our AGM meeting and there were a few changes to the executive team. I would like to thank the outgoing P&C President Gavin Rook for the wonderful commitment to our school that he has shown over the last 4 years. I met him through the P&C and our families have become great friends. We also have had the retirement of Maree Simmich, who as Vice President and Vice Treasurer before that has been a wonderful person to work with, and her skills and love for the school will be greatly missed. Both of them will now concentrate on their own careers outside the P&C. The other executive members Ian Watson and Kylie Gates, will stay in their respective roles of Treasurer and Secretary. Thanks for your continued support and efforts.

Naomi Henry has served on the executive committee as assistant treasurer, and has now become my right hand woman, Vice President.

We do have some vacancies on the executive committee: Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary. If you would like to learn more about these roles please contact us for information. The positions will be available for filling at the next meeting in May.

Who am I?

I would like to introduce myself and explain a little about how I am going to represent you as Grand Avenue State School P&C President.

My name is Donna Clark and I have two children at the school in Year 1 and Year 6. I have been actively involved in the P&C since my oldest son was in prep and during that time I have been assistant fundraiser; Assistant Secretary; Secretary; Vice President and Fundraising Coordinator.

The first meeting I attended was in 2010, and my purpose was to find out more about the school and to raise the issue of air-conditioning/ reducing the temperature in the classrooms. After a few false starts we finally succeeded in achieving this by introducing air-conditioning in all the classrooms and the library.

Through attending the meetings I learned much more about the school, how it is run, and the great challenges it faces on a daily basis. Attending a meeting or getting involved in the P&C events can help a parent to enrich your child’s and your own experience at primary school. It is something that I would recommend to you all.

Our next P&C meeting will be held in the admin block on Tuesday 17th May at 7pm. I know it can be quite daunting to walk into a room of people but I promise you that you will be welcome and your points of view listened to. The P&C is a representative voice for the parents of the school and the correct arena to voice your queries and concerns. Just remember please that we are all volunteers!

If you cannot make the meeting on an evening but would still like to help the P&C, then perhaps help in the canteen or spare an hour or two on a Thursday morning with the banking team volunteers.

Disco

Our first disco of the year was held on Friday night and the junior disco in particular was very well attended. Thank you especially to the teachers and deputies who stayed to help supervise the children. We will be having only two discos this year, the next one being at Christmas, mostly due to the lack of volunteers available to help run the evenings. Thank you to our regular helpers without whom we would not be able to have any events.
Market

The next Market on Grand will be held on the last Sunday of the school holidays, 10th April, from 8am until 12:30pm. Stalls are both indoors and outdoors so whatever the weather please come along and support the school. This month the BBQ will be run by a Grand Avenue family raising money for their son to represent Queensland in Futsal. So come along and have a sausage or two.

**Remember to start saving those 5c pieces for our next fundraiser. More to come soon.**

Have a wonderful and safe Easter holiday. If you need to contact the executive team then please email us on gasspandc@outlook.com

Regards,

Donna Clark
P&C President

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CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Looking for some school holiday activities?

**Easter Holiday Super Hero club!!!**

Date: Wednesday 30 March to Friday 1 April

Time: (9:00am - 3:00pm (Sign in at 8:30)

Cost: $50 for the full 3 days. $17 for a day pass. (Includes morning tea and lunch, plus show bag)

Location: Hope Church, 204 Sherbrooke Road, Willawong.

COMMUNITY NEWS

QUEENSLAND CRICKET
EASTER CUP CARNIVALS

- Girls and boys 7-13 years
- Meet Queensland Cricket players
- Equipment and umpires provided
- 2 days of action-packed cricket
- 7 guaranteed preliminary rounds for every team + Grand Final round
- T20 Blast rules and equipment

WHEN: 2016 Easter Holidays (dates vary)
WHERE: Brisbane North, Brisbane South, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast
TIME: 9am-3pm (times may vary)
COST: $99/player (includes Brisbane Heat bag, shirt and hat)

REGISTER: For further information and registration,
head to www.playcricket.com.au, click ‘where can I play’
and enter ‘QLD Cricket’. Queensland Cricket contact:
Matthew McEwan at matthewm@qldcricket.com.au

KIDS CAN CREATE THEIR OWN CRICKET MOMENT
PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU

Forest Lake
Dragons
Junior AFL Club

SIGN ON OPEN TUESDAYS AT TRAINING

UNDER 12’s, U10’s, U8’s & U6’s
Training: Tuesday’s (5:30pm to 6:30pm)
Mixed Girls/Boys & Girls Under 13’s

Secretary/Registrar: Anna O’Donohue 9434 833 194
Email: forestlake.dragons@gmail.com Season Cost: Starts at $75
Facebook: Forest Lake Dragons Junior Australian Football Club
C.J. Greenfield Sports Complex, Freeman Road, Richlands
Grand Avenue State School is the new home of Forest Lake Community Playgroup which is run by Volunteers from the Forest Lake Baptist Church. Bring your little ones to play, explore and learn through; Indoor and outdoor activities, Art & Craft, Stories and Music time while they make new friends, as well as enjoying a coffee and a chat with other Mums and Dads in the community. The playgroup is for under school age children and runs during the school terms, every Monday morning 9:30-11:15am. The cost is $4 a week per family. Places are limited, to be placed on the waiting list, please contact playgroup@forestlakebaptist.org.au or for more info check out facebook.com/forestlakeplaygroup

AN IRISH AFTERNOON TEA

GREAT IRISH SINGING
BOB MCDOWELL & FRIENDS
TALENTED IRISH DANCERS
CROCKER SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE
APPLE PIE & CREAM AFTERNOON TEA!
SATURDAY 7TH MAY
12.45 for 1.00PM START
AT “12 APOSTLES”
JINDALEE CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL
111 YALAMBEE RD
JINDALEE

THIS FUNCTION IS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR...
CHRISTIAN BLIND MISSION & MISSIONARIES OF THE POOR

PHONE OR EMAIL FOR TICKETS
$20 each (Pensioners $15, Child $5)
MARY 3278 7889
OR ELLENIE 3376 5730 or 0405061299
peterellenie16@gmail.com

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE EASTER BREAK!