Principal’s Page

It’s been very pleasing to see students across the school commit to their reading. Thanks to the encouragement of many, some of our most reluctant readers have ‘caught the bug’. A love of reading is one of the greatest gifts a child can have and these young people are testament to the fact that this love can be acquired. Success breeds success… The more they read, the better they get and the more they want to read. This will then impact on every aspect of their learning. Without a firm foundation in literacy accessing other areas of the curriculum is more difficult. So thank you parents for making reading a daily part of your family life. Keep up the great work kids!!!!!!!!!

Kid President made yet another visit to assembly last week. He called on kids to be heroes by doing ordinary, everyday things that make the world a better place. This is about the simple things, being kind, well mannered, thinking of others, doing what’s needed to be done with good grace and humour. He also spoke about the capacity for ordinary people to do extraordinary things and to be ‘awesome’. This week in our community we recognise two really ‘awesome’ kids as well as an ‘awesome’ teacher.

Riley in Year 2 has been saving his money to donate to a charity to save the sight of children in a third world country. He initially wanted to do this for one child and has now done it for four….. Next week on assembly, Zahri in Year 5 will be shaving her very long, blonde hair for Shave for a Cure. This act just humbles me... her hair will be donated to make the most beautiful wig for a child who has lost her hair due to cancer and she will also raise some money through sponsorship. She will be joined by our lovely Mrs Barry. Donations can be made in the lead up to this event. I just encourage everyone to ‘dig deep’.

Congratulations Riley, Zahri and Mrs Barry. You’re heroes and epitomise what it means to be ‘awesome’......

Along with more than 1200 Principals from across the state I attended the Principals Conference at the end of February. We had the opportunity to listen to and learn from some highly respected speakers and consider our way forward as an organisation. Collaborate, innovate and elevate was one of the conference themes. This aligns strongly with our school’s improvement agenda. Just on an interesting note….. I just love synchronicity.…… one of the conference speakers Dr Yong Zhao will also be speaking at the Montessori Conference. He is an inspirational speaker, a strong advocate for creativity and Montessori education. He’s written a book called, World Class Learners: Educating Creative and Entrepreneurial Students

Five staff (team leaders) spent a very productive time visiting three schools in Melbourne last week. Two days were spent at a school called Ashburton. I have deliberately built links with this school because of the way the staff collaborate. They plan together, determine student support options together and contribute to developing each other’s skills in the classroom. While we have been on this journey for some time learning from others in different contexts is extremely powerful. Staff also visited Silverton State School (Inquiry based learning focus) and Mitcham State School, the public school in Melbourne that also has a Montessori pathway. Their feedback has been extremely positive and each will now work with their respective teams in ways that support their particular needs.

I attended the Brisbane Montessori Stakeholders Forum on Monday evening hosted by MAF. To say the least their work is inspirational. Their work in Indigenous communities in Queensland and Western Australia is making a significant difference to the lives and learning of young people and families. Their work in Kenya and various communities around the world is also commendable.

March 19 is a very important day in our community as we celebrate three major events:

- Harmony Day
- Say No to Bullying Day
- Shave for a Cure

To accommodate each of these, our assembly will commence at 2pm. Students are encouraged to wear either cultural dress or orange. Orange is the colour of Say No to Bullying Day. We’d also like very child to donate a gold coin that will be donated to the Leukaemia foundation. This is an opportunity for us all to be heroes…. A simple act of kindness that can make a big difference to others. It would be especially meaningful if your children were to earn this gold coin just a thought.....

Are your contact details up to date? It is quite concerning the number of times school staff attempt to make contact with parents and carers only to find that contact details have been changed. It would be appreciated if you could ensure that your details are always kept current.

Vicki Baker
Principal
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Our beginner strings and beginner band concert will be held on Tuesday 24 March at 4.00pm at Mitchelton State School with Mitchelton State School Beginner Students. Letters were sent home last week about the details for the concert. All children who are in their first year of learning a stringed OR band instrument with Miss Melvin or Mrs Hall are to meet them at Mitchelton State School Hall at 3.30pm with their instrument, music and water bottle. We hope lots of friends and parents can attend our beginner’s concert as our students have been working very hard!

Congratulations to the following children who did a wonderful beginner clarinet performance on assembly last week! – Brooke Y, Alysha N, Robin S, Maya C and Tyneisha S!!!

A special thank you also to Mrs Rossoow for organising the beginner video presentation of all our beginner and string students at beginner music camp.

We look forward to listening to our senior band on parade next Thursday.

The senior music camp will be held on 16 – 18 June at Ferny Hills State School for strings and band students. There will be a number of our music students who will be assessed in week 9 of this term who may be given an invitation to attend this camp. These assessment results will go towards their first semester report results.

Our band students are to play for their assessment two major scales and 1 minor scale as well as no.104 on page 26 in Tradition of Excellence book 1 as well as a piece of their own choice from the book after page 19.

We wish the following band students all the very best for their assessments: Blake O, Amy H, Taliesin D, Christopher T, Huxley C, Lily M, Haydn A, Frank B and Shyler H!!

Woodwind assessments at our school will take place on Monday 23 March and Thursday 26 March.

Brass assessments at our school will take place on Wednesday 25 March.

In regards to senior string students being assessed for the music camp please contact Miss Jamie-Lee Melvin at jfme0@eq.edu.au

For any further information regarding the senior music camp please contact Tracey Young at tyoun87@eq.edu.au

For other queries please contact: Penny Hall (Percussion) phall35@eq.edu.au
Jamie-Lee Melvin (Strings) jfme0@eq.edu.au

FROM THE DEPUTYS DESK

Just a reminder to get your ICAS monies and forms back to the office if you would like your child to participate!

NAPLAN

In May each year (12th-14th) students from all state and non-state schools across Australia participate in testing under the National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The national tests assess the skills of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. More information can be found at http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html

We will also provide more information in coming newsletters.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

We are currently running lunchtime clubs that at this stage, students in years 1-7 can attend from 1.15-1.45 to increase their choices of what to do in this time. Most Monday’s YWAM visits and play games in the playground, Tuesday is Chess Club in the library with Miss Marissa, Wednesday Mrs Childs has dance club in the Hall and Mrs Rees has Science club in her room, Thursday is Art Club in Mrs Kings room and Friday is in the garden with Ms Maree.

Leanne Duncan & Sue McIvor

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country and Fitness season is fast approaching! Cross Country training at Grovelly 53 begins in week 7 at lunch time on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Classroom teachers will also schedule a time earlier in the week to take their students out on the oval for training. There will be NO swimming lessons in (Week 10, last week of term). We will be preparing the students’ for the school cross country carnival on Tuesday 31 March (last week of term) 9 – 11am.

Approximate Distances:
- Prep – Year 1: 1 small lap of oval
- Years 2 - 3: 1 big extended lap of school oval
- Years 4 - 6: Course around school grounds and nearby park
  - 9/10 Year olds – 2km approximately
  - 11/12 Year olds – 3km approximately

The children are encouraged to join in their class and the lunch time training session activities to improve their fitness for the cross country carnival. We promote full participation and encourage all students to complete the course for their age group.

Please come along to support the students at this exciting event. If you are keen to assist as a marshal, checkpoint etc. on the day, please write your name down on the Cross Country parent volunteers list at the school office before Wednesday 25 March. It would be great to see all parents and families getting behind the students in this fitness season. Thanks for your support.

Anna Ittensohn (PE Teacher)

YMCA – OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Holiday Club booking forms are now available for every family, so book in quick! If you have not attended YMCA before, and need an enrolment form, please come and see us in the OSHC room.

This Easter holidays we have an excursion to the Cinemas and Kids Space as well as Wild Rangers, Wildlife Encounters incursion. We are also running a variety of themed days including Construction Challenge, Treasure Island, Gardening Day and many other fun activities for the children to enjoy. We are looking forward to seeing lots of new faces this holiday period.

Just a reminder that OSHC will be closed on Friday 3 and Monday 6 April due to the public holidays. On behalf of all the staff at YMCA we would like to thank you for a great start to the term and we look forward to getting to know all the new faces.

CHAPLAINS CHAT

Volunteer Training – It is a requirement of all volunteers in the school to complete volunteer training. The next training will be held on Thursday 26 March at 9.15am in the meeting room in GPAC.

Mapleton Easter Adventure Camp will be held 13-17 April at the Mapleton Holiday Centre for children in years 5-7 (co-ed). Cost is $350 including transport and lots of activities including flying fox, canoeing & giant swing. Register online at http://www.suqld.edu.au/camps/mapleton

Some financial assistance may be available in certain circumstances, please see me if you are interested.

Cathy Longford.

COACHING CORNER

I would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who have returned their child’s Khan Academy forms. I have been working with teachers this week to get them and their students online and fingers crossed we will be able to use this shortly as a rich and engaging learning tool for maths. If you haven’t returned that form yet, please do ASAP, so your child can be linked to their teacher as a coach. Joey Limb

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is now selling library bags. Durable with velcro close, name card and carry handle. Choose from Green, Blue and Maroon-$10 each. Uniform Shop is open each Thursday from 8.30-9.30am. EFTPOS is available.
**HARMONY DAY**

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

At Grovely we are celebrating Harmony Day on Thursday 19 March. It would be fantastic to have as many children as possible come to school on this day wearing the traditional dress of their culture. Alternatively, the children can come dressed in orange, the colour of harmony. A gold coin donation will be collected.

Harmony Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our diversity at Grovely. The children will be involved in learning opportunities based on our core value of respect and we will celebrate these at the Assembly at 2.00pm. We hope to see you all there to share in the experience. Diversity is our strength!

**SHAVE FOR A CURE**

On Thursday 19 of March at assembly, Mrs Barry our HOSES is shaving her head to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. We also have a student that will be joining her and colouring his hair.

The day will be a special one for our community and your support will be greatly appreciated. We will also be celebrating Harmony Day by having a FREE DRESS DAY on the same day. All students are asked to wear orange and bring a gold coin donation. All donations will be given to the Leukaemia Foundation.

Any families wishing to make a donation to the cause can do so by seeing Mrs Barry and her support crew outside GPAC on the following dates—Thursday 5 March 8.15-8.45am, Tuesday 10 March 8.15-8.45am and Tuesday 17 March 8.15-8.45am.

All donations are tax deductible and Mrs Barry will provide you with receipts for your kind donation.

**EASTER HAT PARADE 2015**

Parents, caregivers and families are invited to attend Grovely's annual Easter Hat Parade!

Where: Grovely State School - Hall and Oval

When: Thursday 2 April 2015

Time: 9:45am-11am

Year Levels: P-2

Please come and enjoy various class performances, a parade and the welcoming of a special guest in the Hall! The parade will finish at approximately 10.30am and will be followed by a picnic morning tea with parents/caregivers on the oval. Please ensure you bring relevant food, a picnic rug and hat. All Easter Hat's will be made in school time. We are looking forward to seeing you all there! P-2 Staff

**EARTH HOUR 2015**

EARTH HOUR 2015 will be held on Saturday 28 March. You are encouraged to turn off your lights between 8.30-9.30pm to show you care about the environment. Get the kids involved and maybe have a BBQ/picnic under the stars. Ask your family and friends to take part in this event and help save the planet.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**ZUMBA AT GROVELY SS**

— 38 Woking St, Mitchelton
— Just off Casey St, opposite the school on Dawson Parade

**JUST FOR KIDS (JFK)**

— Journey & Discovery
— 31-37 Woking St, Mitchelton
— (Just off Casey St, opposite the school on Dawson Parade)

**FREE DRESS DAY**

12pm @ GPAC

MH 15

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RECEIVING FOR TERM 1**

We will be receiving payment on Friday 27 March and also on Wednesday 1 April. All money is to be presented to the school office no later than 9.00am on 1 April. We will be unable to hold or receipt any money which is sent in after this time and day.

**STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME 2015**

If you received a letter regarding the scheme earlier this month and have not completed and returned this form, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

**MONTESORRI PROGRAM 2015**

Thank you to the many families who have made payments for the 2015 fees and returned the completed declaration form. Families who have not returned their completed declaration form have been sent another form for completion. Please return as soon as possible. If you are paying by instalments please check your dates.

Full payment is due by 27 March 2015.

**YEAR 5 & 6 CAMP**

This week a letter and invoice was sent home to all students who returned their expression of interest form for this camp in 2015. Please note the date for return of permission slip and the $50 deposit is required by Friday 27 March.

**HELP WANTED!**

Staff are wanting to develop class sets of student resources. To ensure longevity they will need to be laminated. Shirene our gorgeous tuckshop convenor has kindly agreed to work on Tuesday 17 March from 9-3pm to get this work done. She would greatly appreciate any assistance. If you can help, even for just a short amount of time, please come along. This work will be done in the resource room in C Block which is the block directly in front of the tuckshop.