Principal’s Page

We are very optimistic that the Year 3-6 Athletics Carnival will proceed tomorrow 19 June. To those parents who’d made arrangements to come along and support their children on Monday but are not able to do so on Friday my apologies.

It was very disappointing that the decision to postpone the carnival on Monday had to be made. The weather is the one thing that we cannot plan for and although the day did fine up (you can never tell!!!!) there were valid concerns about the safety of students given the very wet condition of the oval. Nominations for district sport are due by Friday 26 June and finding an alternate date before the end of term was problematic because of the number of events planned. Your support and understanding is appreciated greatly.

The P-2 Athletics Carnival has been rescheduled to Tuesday 21 July. This event runs from 9-11am and parents are encouraged to attend and cheer their children on as they engage in a fun filled morning of tabloid sports.

Report Cards will be issued at the end of term. As you read this report there are two things that I would ask you carefully consider:

- Growth… it’s not about where they are, it’s about where they’ve come from. Please read comments carefully as this will give you much more clarity about the distance travelled.
- Effort rating… take particular note of the effort rating attributed to each key learning area. This is a very strong indicator of whether your child is doing all that they can to work at a level that is reflective of their ability. There are times when very able students are just cruising and are capable of much more, and times when students who find the work challenging, are just giving of their best.

These considerations are a very good starting point to frame a conversation with your child about how their learning is progressing. What you say matters so careful consideration is encouraged. Where there are concerns or queries please contact your child’s teacher to make an appointment for further discussion.

We’re always looking to refine our communication processes. Feedback on how we can improve is welcomed and appreciated. Recently one of our parents asked that more comprehensive explanations (not just calendar dates) of community happenings and events be included in newsletters so that they can plan how they can more fully engage.

Engaging our community is a key priority, so along with the issue of a term calendar, reminders of dates in the school newsletter calendar section and reminders on the school sign a succinct description of each event with detail about how parents and carers can engage will also be included on the term calendar. This calendar will be distributed with Report Cards and will also be available on the school’s website. Your feedback to further refine this process will be sought later in term three.

Just a reminder that subscribing to the school’s newsletter via the website will allow you to receive an electronic copy each fortnight on alternate Thursdays, on the odd weeks of term. Paper copies are currently distributed but we have a goal to be fully electronic by 2016. This will greatly reduce administration time and hopefully ‘child proof’ this communication.

Please ensure you read the newsletter and ensure all your contact details are kept up to date with administration. Class newsletters are issued by teachers at least three times per term via email to provide more comprehensive information about class happenings. It’s important that you are also mindful to be checking for these.

Next Thursday our school celebrates NIADOC Week. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
Students in Years 4-6 will participate in a range of activities between 11.30am and 1.00pm while students in P-3 will engage in in-class activities. Once again Aunty Flo Watson will speak to students on assembly on Thursday 25 June. She will be joined by former Grovely student Cassie Lang. Cassie is a lawyer and recently attended a forum at the United Nations. Assembly will commence at 2pm to accommodate guest speakers. As always parents are most welcome to join our assembly.

Students across the school will participate in a NAIDOC performance on Tuesday 14 July, immediately after the holidays. Go to www.naidoc.org.au for more information regarding NAIDOC Week.

Last week Mrs Duncan was invited to present our staff process for collaborative learning to a district principals group. The success of this process is testament to the work of staff and it is just wonderful that this work is being recognised as an exemplar of ‘best practice’. The research in terms of the impact this practice has on student achievement is profound. Congratulations staff and well done Mrs Duncan.


Again we’ve had an incredibly productive and rewarding term in our community. Students across the school have experienced success as they’ve committed to their learning. Celebrations of Learning have been scheduled for all classes. Celebrations provide the perfect opportunity for parents to spend precious time with their children discussing their progress and aspirations. Taking the time to engage with your children is a pivotal part of their learning journey.

A huge thank you to students, staff and parents for their contributions in making our community such a special place to be. Have a wonderful holiday.

Vicki Baker
Principal

LIBRARY LEXICON

It is great to see parents sharing reading experiences with their children. We would like to encourage and invite parents to come and read a book with their child in the library when possible. We have enrolled the school into the Premiers Readers Challenge. The class teachers have been given the reading logs to fill out. Prep – 2 need to experience or read 20 books, 3-4 read 20 books and from 5-6 they need to read 15 books. Experiencing a book could be listening to the teacher or parent read a book or having them read a book to you. Everyone has until the 28 August to read the above amount to enter.

We have also registered Grovely SS for ‘Doodle 4 Google’ some teachers have expressed an interest in this competition. Students are given a design brief and are to do a doodle/design around the GOOGLE banner that we see when using the search engine. This year’s theme is ‘If I could travel back in time I would…”. I can’t wait to see some of the designs that we come up with!

Problem Solving at Grovely: We have embarked on a journey of higher order thinking at Grovely and have been using Polya’s 4 step problem solving process in Maths. These steps are:
1. See – Look at what the question is and any other important information needed to help answer the question.
2. Plan – Choose a strategy to help you tackle the problem.
3. Do – Attack the problem and use the strategy to answer the problem.
4. Check – To see if the answer makes sense.

Khan: If you still haven’t gotten in touch with your child’s class teacher to give them permission to sign them up to Khan academy could you please contact the school so we can get them signed up and using this great free maths tool.

The answer for the last problem: Payment per paper is $35.86. Hourly payment is $25.25. Therefore, paid by the number of newspapers pays more money.

This week’s problem: A farmer had a number of emus and alpacas in one paddock. When she counted, there were 38 heads and 100 legs. How many emus and how many alpacas were in the paddock?

FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be sent home next Wednesday. Included with the report card will be attendance certificates, behaviour letters and the following update of information required for school records.

WHAT DOES ICSEA VALUE MEAN FOR US?

ICSEA is a scale which allows for fair and reasonable comparisons among schools with similar students. ICSEA stands for the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage. This index impacts on funding the school receives. Schools have been advised to revise three questions from the enrolment form at least every 2 years. We ask that you provide updated details of contacts, phone numbers etc. as this occurs. This term, included with report cards, we ask you to answer these three questions again and return to the office as soon as possible. The questions pertain to occupation/employment, education/non-education levels. An additional category has been included. Your honesty and time is much appreciated. Leanne Duncan

SCHOOL BANKING

In Term 3 the Commonwealth Bank is running a School Banking Competition giving students who make 3 or more deposits during the term a chance to win one of hundreds of prizes. Students can also complete a Money Mission at commbank.com.au/prizeportal to double their chance of winning a prize. So get saving and good luck!

CHAPLAINS CHAT

If you’re looking for a change of pace for your families’ radio listening time, consider 96.5FM. Radio station 96.5FM is committed to providing engaging radio content that adds value to your day and is suitable for the entire family. Each and every day you will hear great family tips and advice, positive and uplifting music and information about family friendly events around Brisbane. Check out their website for more information www.96five.com

QLD FATHER OF THE YEAR

Nominate a deserving dad or father-figure today for the 2015 Queensland Father of the Year award. He could win a five night family holiday to Sea World Resort & Water Park. Nominations close 17 July 2015. For more information go to qldfatheroftheyear.org.au

Cathy Longford

MITCHELTON STATE HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2016, Academic, Cultural and Sporting scholarships will be offered to students entering Year 7. If you would like to apply, collect an application form from the Mitchelton High School office, weekdays between 8am-4pm. Enrolment interviews will be conducted in Term 2. Call 3550 1311 for further information.

YMCA OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation is coming up very soon and we have a program planned for your children. Activities include an excursion to Velocity, a laser tag incursion, Indigenous Australia and It’s a cook off’ days among many other themes. For a copy please come into the OSHC and grab a flyer. We are also glad to say that our new coordinator will be visiting us Wednesday and Thursday next week to meet our children and the parents. Please feel free to come in and say hello.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE
19 Senior Athletics Carnival 9am-3pm
19 Family Movie Night @ GPAC
25 Assembly
26 End of Term 2
JULY
13 Term 3 commences
14 NAIDOC Performance
21 Junior Athletics Carnival 9-11am
23-31 Life Ed Van
27 Year 4 Experience Day Mitchelton SHS
28 English ICAS Test
31 OPEN DAY
31 Senior Choir Camp
AUG
11 Mathematics ICAS Test
12 Public Holiday (Exhibition)
24-26 Year 5/6 Camp

JUNIOR & SENIOR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Change of dates

As you're aware, both the P-2 & 3-6 Athletics Carnivals have had to be rescheduled because of the weather. The revised details for each of these for events are as follows. In the event that the weather looks uncertain on either of these dates, parents are encouraged to check the school’s Facebook page or website.

3-6 Athletics Carnival
Date: Friday 19 June
Time: 8.50am-3.00pm
Parents Welcome.

We have checked the weather forecast and at this point it is predicted that Friday will be fine. Fingers crossed! The Coffee Shop will be open from 8.15-9.15am and again at 2.30pm. Your support assists the P&C in their quest to air-condition the school.

P-2 Athletics Carnival
Date: Tuesday 21 July (Term 3)
Time: 9-11am
Parents welcome.

Students are to wear their House colours and need to bring a hat, water bottle and a spirit of participation and sportsmanship! We encourage parents to come along and cheer their children on and join in the fun.

P&C

BIG HERO 6 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
This Friday 19 June from 5.30pm with movie from 6pm, come and join us at GPAC for a family movie night. For only $6 you get entry, and a meal deal - Movie and meal deal includes - 1 movie entry, sausage sizzle on bread, popper and popcorn. This is a family event - children must be supervised. Proceeds from this event will go towards classroom air conditioning for Grovely students. You can prepay now using qkr - qkr.grovelyschool.com.au OR use the qkr! app on your phone. We look forward to seeing you.


JOIN THE BRIDGE TO BRISBANE GROVELY GATORS TEAM
If you would like to run in the Bridge to Brisbane 5km run, please join our team. The run is on Sunday 30th August 2015; the 5km event commences at 9.40am. We will be having community training sessions on Sunday afternoons for all.


Please don't forget to include the urls so it is known where to go for more info.

P&C website - www.grovelyschool.com.au
P&C payments - pay.grovelyschool.com.au or via the QKR! app on your phone. (includes tuckshop, community coffee, uniform shop, special events and more)

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Term Three Incursions
On Friday 22 May letters were sent home (green) in regards to the three Student Activities coming up in Term Three. If you received this letter, payment of $13 along with the completed permission slip is required by Friday 26 June 9am at the school office. This letter went home to families who have chosen not to join the 2015 Student Resource Scheme or haven't returned their completed participation form.

If you are participating in the scheme, a white letter was sent home detailing the activities – no payment is required as these activities are included in the scheme.

Student Resource Scheme 2015 – Payment in full is now due
Statements will be sent home via students (youngest in the family) for outstanding fees.

- If no payment has been received, you will receive a statement
- If you have a written authority with the school to make instalments via credit card, you will not have received a statement.
- If you have indicated that you will be paying instalments yourself and these are not up to date you will receive a statement.

If you have opted not to join the scheme or not returned the completed participation form we will be forwarding a letter along with an invoice and a list of resources for you to purchase. Commencing the beginning of Term Three you will be required to provide the listed resources. All students have been benefiting from the resource scheme to date but for families not participating this will mean that these benefits your child has been receiving will cease.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

FED UP WITH CHILDREN’S BEHAVIOUR? Are you interested in hearing about how food can affect children’s behaviour, learning ability and health? If so, get your tickets to the Sue Dengate Roadshow 2015. Sue’s Brisbane presentation is to be held at Payne Road State School on Wednesday 24 June from 7-9pm. Cost is $15 per person. For enquiries please email janelle@janellemiddleton.com.au. Buy tickets now: http://www.payneroadpandc.com/.

CONFIDENT KIDS + TEENS is an innovative coaching program for kids 5-14yrs that aims to boost confidence, emotional resilience, social skills and brain power. Students discover their strengths, and build resilient thinking skills to reduce stress, anxiety, worry, or negative thinking. Essential tools to navigate the teen years! Our team of experienced Psychologists will coach, encourage and support your child to be all they can be! Medicare and Private Health Fund rebates apply. Register and book online today at confidentkidsandteens.com.au or contact us at info@positivefamilies.com.au for more details.

COMMUNITY BRIC-A-BRAC SALE is held every Friday from 10am-12pm at the Encircle Neighbourhood Centre, 865 Gympie Road, Lawnton. Items for sale include brand new clothes, shoes, toys, garden and household items plus general interest items such as work tools and exercise equipment. All items are priced between $2-5. Pre-loved books are also for sale. CASH ONLY!!

LOVE TO SING? Voices of Birrilee invites children aged between 5 and 13 years to attend two complimentary sessions in the month of July at either Bardon or Clayfield. Please visit their website www.birrilee.org for more information.

WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES – 1300 264 625 / 1300 ANIMAL
Acts of cruelty or neglect - RSPCA Inspectorate 3426 9971 or 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station.
Sick or injured stray animals - RSPCA Animal Ambulance 3426 9971 or 1300 852 188.
24 Hour Call Centre – 3426 9999

SCHOOL WATCH – 13 17 88

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE - 3354 6366