Congratulations to the students who led our Harmony Day and So No to Bullying Assembly yesterday afternoon. With the guidance and support of Ms Leighton and a team of teachers they shared very important messages that are lessons for life. The theme for Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. A strong sense of belonging is what we aspire to have for every child and family in our community. Children who have strong ties to school and enjoy positive relationships with those within their chosen school community are far more likely to be successful learners who in time will ably take their place in the world.

I spoke to the students about the influence they can have in determining whether issues escalate or de-escalate. Being a bully bystander can be as toxic as being a bully. Bystanders give those displaying inappropriate behaviours false courage. I’ve encouraged students to consider how issues are best dealt with when they arise. Staying and doing nothing is never a good option.

I highlighted the many positive behaviours that are common in our community. Kids looking out for kids….. I reminded everyone about the power of four letters….. R U OK….. a simple question that can bring about powerful change when delivered with care and consideration. Pay it Forward I’ve been pleased to see, is continuing to be alive and well in our community. Just last week Sam in year two handed me a Pay it Forward wrist band….. I spoke to students about the joy of doing ‘good’ and not expecting anything in return except that deep sense of satisfaction in knowing that you’ve made a difference to another person. A new strategy that is about to be launched is Bench Buddies. The students in 4A, under the watchful gaze of Ms Leighton, are starting this initiative. We will have a designated ‘bench’ where children can go if they find themselves alone or unhappy in the playground. This area will be manned by students from 4A ready and willing to be a friend or lend a hand… how wonderful…..

Over the last few weeks we’ve been thoroughly enjoying watching a significant number of children (in excess of fifty at a time) playing Red Rover on the oval. Kids of all ages, boys and girls playing together with zest and enthusiasm in a way that I’ve not experienced in my thirty (plus!!!) years of teaching. I am not sure how this started. I most definitely came for the kids. It’s been an absolute joy to witness and a positive example of the positive power of peers. Many parents have spoken to me about how much their children are enjoying this game and how it has become a highlight in their day. The children playing need to be congratulated….. it really is quite remarkable. Well done to all those involved.

This week has been a very special time as we’ve welcomed Dianne Davis our Montessori Consultant back to our community. Dianne has been working with staff on different aspects of their teaching. Dianne’s experience and wisdom is valued highly. Her feedback has a profound impact on staff and our ways of working. When very positive feedback was shared with Kamal one our Cycle 3 teachers he literally got ‘goose bumps’. Dianne will be available to speak to parents this Friday afternoon from 1.45pm in GPAC. Please make the time to come along and hear what she has to say. There are still a few places available for the Journey and Discovery this Friday and Saturday. This process allows parents to have deeper understanding of the Montessori philosophy and is not to be missed. Ideally it would be great if every parent of every child in our Montessori program engaged in this process at least once.

Michael Jeh is presenting a parent information session on Wednesday the 26th March at 6.30 for a 7pm start in GPAC to any interested parents in our community about preparing children for high school. While this information is highly relevant to parents of students in years 6 and 7 it will also be of interest to others. Michael is a highly regarded public speaker and has worked in many schools in our district and comes very highly recommended. I urge parents to take the opportunity to come along and hear what he has to say. Michael will follow-up with a student information session in the last week of this term.

The P&C AGM has been rescheduled to the 25th of March at 7pm in the school’s staffroom. As always your attendance is welcomed.

School watch…your school needs you because the skateboarders are back! As you are out and about on weekends and in the evening please keep a watchful eye over our school. Skateboarders are trespassers and their presence in our community is not welcome. Steve our Grounds Officer is often in the position of cleaning up after unwelcome visitors. Please contact School Watch on 131 788 or the police if you see anything suspicious.

A huge thankyou to Scott Fineran for coming in to supervise our very keen cricketers each Monday lunchtime. They’re just loving this time and appreciate his time and efforts greatly.
Respect comes in many forms and is modelled in all our actions. I urge parents using the school’s carpark to exercise good judgement and consideration in regards to how and where they park. The area behind the hall is adequate for our community if everyone parks in a way that uses the space wisely and does not cut certain areas off. Your attention to this is appreciated.

Congratulations to our very nervous student leaders for their public speaking on assembly. Several shared their feelings with me about having to present to the community. One almost begged me to allow her to pass the baton to another. They all went on to do an absolutely superb job. They felt the fear and did it anyway demonstrating true grit and resilience. Well done everyone...

Vicki Baker
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK

ICAS reminder
Forms need to be returned with monies to the office by Friday 28th March to participate in this opportunity.

Recognition
A vital part of what we do at Grovely is to recognize the significant events throughout the year with students and our community. The message of Harmony Day from our student leaders yesterday was clear – Everyone Belongs! In Term 2 we will start the term with our Anzac Day parade on the 24/4 at 2 pm in GPAC and in Term 3 we will recognize NAIDOC week with our annual NAIDOC performance. This performance is included in the school’s student resource scheme.

Visit from Dianne
We have been lucky enough to have Dianne Davis visiting our school again this week and working with our Montessori teachers and our community. It is very refreshing and revitalising to have Dianne come in with an outsider’s vision and provide support and feedback to us about what we are doing at Grovely. Dianne works across Australia supporting schools to use the Montessori curriculum as well as the Australian Curriculum expectations. I was lucky enough to meet with her myself to go through how we are planning at Grovely and to discuss what we have learnt across the two curriculums. Visits like these assist us in progressing the work that we do to ensure that we are being the best we can be at Grovely.

HOMEWORK CLUB opportunity!!
Homework Club has started and is running in the ELC with Mrs Bosher from 8.30am on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This is to provide an opportunity for students who need access to time on a computer to work on homework or projects that they have. This is the priority for this time. It is run on a first in basis to begin with and students will be asked to come back the next day if numbers are full. Students will be signed in.

Seven Steps to writing success
It has been wonderful to read the sizzling starts and see the work our students have done and this sizzling starts and planning to succeed. Their enthusiasm for this has been so exciting to see. Have you read any sizzling starts lately?!

The next step that we are working on is Planning for Success. Some tips from the founder of this program....

1. Start with a bang - this usually has the main character in an action scene.
2. Back fill - the Who, What, Why is filled in while the action unfolds
3. The main problem is introduced
4. Complications and more problems. Things get very bad indeed
5. Tension scene where hero/heroine fights against incredible odds
6. Climax – incredibly, wonderfully they win!

Once writers know these basics, they have a SYSTEM to their planning and this really improves their writing.

TOP TIP:
Think first, write second. Draw yourself a graph like this one and plot your stories out BEFORE you start writing.

ACTION ACTIVITY:
Watch TV ads - you know the ones that 'tell a story.' In 30 seconds, some ads can create a start, tension scene and great ending, exactly like the story graph.

See you at the Easter Hat Parade!!
Leanne Duncan and Sue McIvor

LIBRARY NEWS
Hello everyone! Thank you for making Kathy and I feel very welcome as we both started working in the library this term. It is great to meet so many children who love reading and love visiting the library at lunch time. There is always something fun to do in the library at lunchtime. Students can read a book, relax, play a game, join in one of the many clubs that meet in the library or do some art or craft activities to help us decorate.

It is important to make reading an enjoyable part of children’s everyday routines. The books that students from the lower year levels borrow from the library each week are not necessarily ones that they can read themselves, but ones that can be read along with their family. When you read with your child ask them to describe the pictures, to predict what might happen next, to identify the emotions that the characters are feeling and relate it back to their own experiences. When children can relate stories to their own experiences they become more meaningful for them. The more silly voices you do the better!! If you want to borrow more books for your children or even borrow from our parent section, please feel free to come in.

Rachael Keys – Librarian

CROSS COUNTRY
The Cross Country and Fitness season is fast approaching! Cross Country training at Grovely SS begins in week 10 during PE lessons. Therefore there will be NO swimming lessons in Week 10, (last week of term). Lessons in week 10 will be half hour duration, as will all PE lessons in Term 2 and 3. We will be preparing the students for the school cross country carnival on Tuesday 29 April (Week 2, Term 2).

The senior school carnival (Years 4-7) will be in the morning from 9.00–11.00 am (approximately) and the junior carnival (Prep – 3) will be in the middle session from 11.30am–1:00pm (approximately). Parents and Families are most welcome to come along and support the students running.

Distances:
- Prep – Year 1
  1 lap of oval
- Year 2
  2 laps of oval
- Year 3
  3 laps of oval
- Years 4-7
  Course around school grounds and nearby park

The students will be doing some fitness activities during PE and will run parts of the course during these lessons. We promote full participation and encourage all students to complete the course for their age group.

It would be great to see all parents and families getting behind the students in this fitness season. I encourage all students to do some extra training sessions throughout the week and during the school holidays. The more training, the fitter and healthier the Grovely students will be! Thanks for your support.

Anna Ittensohn (PE Teacher)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
Beginner Students concert - Tuesday 26 March
All of the beginner strings and band students have been invited to perform at a concert at Mitchelton State School at 3:30 pm with Mitchelton State School beginners to celebrate all of their hard work for this term. Letters have been sent home. As stated in the letter if your child can please be at Mitchelton State School Hall (best entry is Turnbull Street) as soon as possible straight after school and be ready to perform at 3.30 pm. All students are to wear their formal school uniform.

Band rehearsals - Thursdays at GPAC
7.45am - Senior Band (for all 2nd and 3rd year students)
1.20pm - The Great Grovely Groovers Beginner Band

***PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR FIRST SENIOR BAND REHEARSAL FOR TERM 2 WILL BE ON TUESDAY 22 APRIL AT GPAC IN THE MARSHALLING ROOM AT 7.45AM***

Easter Hat Parade - Thursday 3 April
Our senior band and the beginner band will be performing at our Easter Hat parade on Thursday 3rd April in GPAC. All welcome

ANZAC Day Ceremony – Thursday 24 April
Our senior band and choir will be performing at our ANZAC Day ceremony at GPAC on Thursday 24 April at 2.00pm. All parents/friends are welcome.

STRINGS NEWS
There will be NO LESSONS on Thursday 27 March due to auditions for Advanced Music Camp. All students auditioning should check the timetable that is on the Music Room door. Auditions for Grovely will be held on Thursday 27 March in the GPAC Conference Room so please remember to bring your instrument on the day and practice your scales and pieces.

The beginner’s concert coming up fast hosted by Mitchelton State School and will be on Tuesday 25th March at 3:30pm. Please remember to return the bottom half of the form to the office by 21st March.

Keep up all the great practice!
For all string queries please contact Angela Batch at abhat0@eq.edu.au
For all band queries please contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au

GROVELY OSHC VACATION PROGRAM
We are preparing for another vacation care program jam packed full of activities at Grovely! Pick up an enrolment form from our OSHC room or at the school office. Also, if you have any fantastic ideas for activities you would like us to do with your children now or over the holidays, please let us know.
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MAR**
- 21: Student Resource Scheme forms to be returned
- 21: 2014 Instrumental Music Fees due
- 25: P&C AGM - 7:00pm - Staffroom
- 26: Assembly
- 26: Beginner Strings/Band Students Concert
- 27: Hot Dog Meal Deal orders due by 9.00am
- 28: Montessori 2014 Fees due
- 29: OPEN DAY 10am-12pm @ GPAC
- 29: Hope Kids Family Movie Night @ GPAC
- 29: Earth Hour 8.30pm – Switch off your lights for 1 hour

**APR**
- 2: Hot Dog Meal Deal Day
- 3: Easter Hat Parade – 9.30am @ GPAC
- 4: End of Term 1 – Easter Holidays
- 22: School Resumptions for Term 2
- 24: ANZAC Day Assembly – 2pm GPAC
- 29: Cross Country
- 30: Year 6 High School Experience Day
- 30: Mitchelton State High School Open Day 2-6pm

**FINANCE NEWS**

**STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME 2014 - Completed form to be returned by Friday 21 March**

Last week a letter of explanation about the Booklist, Student Resource Scheme and Voluntary Contributions Schemes (School IT and P & C) was sent home to all families. If you do not return your Student Resource Scheme Participation form or have selected no, you will be required to purchase the items as per the list which was sent home last week. By not participating you are agreeing to: [extract from the Student Resource Scheme Participation Agreement Form]

36. As the scheme operates for the benefit of participating parents and is funded solely from participation fees, resources provided by the scheme will not be issued to students whose parents choose not to participate in the scheme

Please return your completed and signed form as soon as possible to participate in this scheme. By joining the scheme it is much more cost effective. The amount of the Student Resource Scheme is $98 plus $3 if your child participates in Religious Education. If you choose to source the items yourself, the Mathematics program alone is $99, and for your child to participate in the 3 performances coming to the school an extra $13 would be required to be paid directly to the school. This is just a couple of examples of how the scheme benefits you.

If you wish to pay by instalments, please complete the instalment section on the form and make a note in your diary when you will need to make these payments. This is not giving the school authorisation to make these payments on your behalf. An authorisation form may be completed for the school to hold your credit card details and make these payments as per plan on your behalf if you wish. Please see the school office for this form.

**MONTESSORI EDUCATION FEES 2014 – Fees to be finalised Friday 28 March (unless a previous payment plan has been arranged)**

Thank you to the families who have already paid their fees or made a payment plan and been making these payments. If you made a payment plan, please ensure you are making your payments as per this plan. Otherwise, an authorisation form may be completed for the school to hold your credit card details and make these payments as per plan.

There are some families who have not returned this form and the total fees are still outstanding. We will be sending the enrolment declaration form home for completion and payment of Montessori 2014 fees. Payment of these fees is due no later than Friday 28 March.

Some families have paid but not completed the enrolment declaration form (sent home last year) which is required each year. We will be sending home the enrolment declaration form for your completion and return.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM FEES 2014 - Payment due Friday 21 March**

Last year parents received information from the instrumental music teachers in regards to their child’s program fees. If your child is borrowing an instrument, the fees are $180 or if your own instrument is used $100. These fees are now due – statements were sent home the first week of March. If your child is borrowing a school instrument, the loan agreement form must be completed and returned to the school. Payment of fees is due Friday 21 March.

We will be contacting families who still owe fees before the end of Term.

Dr Lowe - Business Services Manager

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**CHAPLAINS CHAT**

**HOT DOG MEAL DEAL**

On Wednesday 2 April we will be offering the children a “Hot Dog Meal Deal” for $5.00, with funds raised going towards the Chaplany Program. The meal deal will consist of a hot dog, ice block and a juice popper. Notes were sent home last week and are due back with payment and a paper bag by 9.00am Thursday 27 March.

Unfortunately due to catering purposes no late orders will be accepted. If you are able to help on the day with the food preparation and packing of lunches, please let me know. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Cathy Longford.

**EASTER HAT PARADE**

The Easter Hat Parade will be held for students in Prep-Year 3 at 9.30am in GPAC. The parade, a picnic will be held on the oval. Parents are invited to join the picnic on the oval, so please bring a blanket or rug to sit on and some morning tea.

**ANZAC DAY & CEREMONY**

Students of Grovely SS are invited to join Mrs Baker at the Anzac Day march and ceremony at Sid Loder Park, Tel-El Kebir Street Mitchelton on Friday 25 April at 6.15am. School Captains and student leaders are strongly encouraged to attend; we will be laying a wreath. Notes have been sent home with the newsletter today. Please complete and return to the office as soon as possible.

**P&C NEWS**

P&C AGM - 25 March @ 7.00pm in the Staffroom. If you are interested or require information on any of the Executive Committee positions please contact me.

Tuckshop operates on Thursday and Friday’s this term. Orders must be placed by 9.00am. Volunteers are always welcomed. Sherine Navakas is our Tuckshop Convenor.

Uniform Shop is open every Thursday from 8.30-9.30am. EFTPOS is available. Lee-Anne Ryan is our Uniform Shop Convenor.

Calendar of Events

25/3 P&C AGM - Staffroom 7pm

Please feel free to contact me at any time and email pandspresident@grovelyss.edu.au

Tommy Drake (President) Mobile 0418 711 021

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**FINANCE NEWS**

**LOTE NEWS**

*Missionan konnichia!* (Hello everyone). My name is Melissa Kurosawa and I am the LOTE (Japanese) Teacher here at Grovely. The students call me *Kurosawa-Sensei* and they will see me walking around the school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In Japanese this term we have been focussing on how to greet people and introduce ourselves in Japanese. We have had fun making *masks* for *Setsubun*, the Bean-Throwing Festival (February 3) and origami for *Hinamatsuri*, Girls’ Day (March 3). All classes have been busy learning a Japanese Greeting Song called *Go Akituschi no Utta* which they may have also been practicing at home. It was fantastic meeting so many parents at the Information Night in February. Hopefully I will meet more of you soon.

Sayonara!

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**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**ZUMBA** is being held each Monday from 9.15-10.15am in GPAC by a qualified instructor for a cost of $7.00. A number of participants are required to make the class feasible. If you wish to come along, bring a friend and try something different, you are more than welcome. No RSVP necessary.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT** - Hope Kids are holding a Family Movie Night, “Turbo” on Saturday 29 March at GPAC. Starts at 6pm with a $2 Sausage sizzle followed by “Turbo” at 7pm. Drinks and popcorn will also be on sale. BYO pillows and bean bags.

**EASTER HAT PARADE** - on Saturday 29 March at 8.30pm. Everyone is encouraged to switch off their lights for one hour and help to save the planet.

**JUST FOR KIDS (JFK)** is being held each Thursday afternoon 3.30-5.00pm for primary school kids at Grovely Christian Church, 38 Wokin St Mitchelton (just of Casey St, opposite the school on Dawson Parade). Each week will have a theme with fun, food and activities.

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**TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEER ROSTER**

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**COMMUNITY COFFEE BAKING ROSTER**

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**WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES** - 1300 264 625 (1300 animal) for MontoKoala Information M1D and 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station.

**Sick or injured stray animals** - call 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

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Tommy Drake (President) Mobile 0418 711 021

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