Thank you to everyone who made the school disco such a wonderful community event. It was a huge success! It was very well supported and a wonderful time was had by all. I have no doubt it will be the first of many. A special thank you to our DJ Mr Cherry for keeping the music flowing and the crowd moving. Mr Cherry very generously donated his time. This is so appreciated.

I had to break some very disappointing news to the students in years five and six yesterday. The camp they were so looking forward to on Monday has had to be postponed because the contractors doing renovation work on the site discovered asbestos containing materials. There was no guarantee that the removal work would be finalised and all mandatory health and safety checks completed in time for the arrival of students so I've had no choice but to reschedule. It's disappointing but our students are resilient. I am very proud and appreciative of the way they responded to this news yesterday. My apologies for any inconvenience. The camp director also sends his apologies.

Sorry Day……. Sorry Day is 26 May. Our school will acknowledge this very important day on assembly next week. You’re all invited to a special ceremony in Teralba Park at 7am on Tuesday 26 May where our choir will be performing.

Commendations to our students for the way they engaged in NAPLAN. They met the challenge with tenacity and simply did what was asked of them. They gave it their best shot. Congratulations needs to be extended to our staff for their considered preparation of students and to parents for their active encouragement and support. Being ‘test savvy’ is a life skill that is critical for all students. Understanding the process and expectation is important. Thank you to those parents who’ve taken time to provide feedback about our work. It’s been overwhelmingly positive and appreciated greatly.

Last week we farewelled two very loved and valued staff members, Mrs Law and Mrs Jacobs.

Mrs Law, one of our prep teacher aides has served this community for over 17 years. She’s loved every little person and worked with care and conviction to make sure they’ve had the best possible start to formal schooling. She’s forged very strong ties with families and staff and will be sorely missed and remembered fondly. We thank her for her work and wish her and partner Bruce a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs Jacobs has been with us for just the last three and half years but from the very first day captured the hearts and minds of the young people she’s cared for. She has a very special way with kids (big and little!!!) to the point where some would feign illness to ‘hang out’ with her in the health room at lunch time. Mrs Jacobs has secured work closer to home. We wish her all the very best. She too will be sorely missed and remembered fondly.

Learning is the work! The work continues. As I said to staff on Friday our preparation for NAPLAN 2016 (and EVERY other test!!!!) begins today with quality teaching and learning by ensuring we do the very best for every student, every day in every classroom.

The work we’re focussing on in Collaborative Learning has been acknowledged through our networks. Mrs Duncan and I will be presenting an aspect of this work to a group of twenty school teams in June. The focus is building teacher capacity so that teachers can very precisely define what the ‘next best steps’ are in progressing your child’s learning in literacy and numeracy. This precision is critical in personalising your child’s learning in order to make the greatest difference to their achievement. It’s very exciting work.

Open Day
Tuesday 26 May
9.30-11am
@ GPAC
Mitchelton State High School… Watch this space!!!!!! Mrs McIvor and I met with the leadership team from Mitchelton State High School yesterday to consider ways of engaging our students in some extension and alternative work. Over the next few weeks we will be putting together a program that will include some lunch time clubs, some inquiry work and programs involving staff from the high school in various KLA’s. Mitchie High has a mini-bus, so it is very possible that some lunch time clubs may be able to run at the high school using the absolutely fabulous facilities in the school. This partnership is extremely valuable and will provide opportunities for students that cannot be provided here in the school. It will contribute to the work that we are beginning in Inquiry based learning. Some of the work being considered includes Robotics, project-based learning in Maths, Science, Art and the Performing Arts. Watch this space!!!!!!

A reminder about our winter uniform…. Just a reminder…. Our winter uniform is a maroon track suit. Coloured sweaters, hoodies and black leggings are not part of the uniform. Items can be purchased from the school’s uniform shop or from retail outlets. Items purchased through the uniform shop are of a much higher quality and have the school logo. Please remember to name articles so they can be identified and returned if lost. Every year we have a significant number of outer garments finding their way to lost property, not able to be returned to their rightful owners. Miss Cathy has some pre-loved winter garments for sale. Remember she is in the school from Wednesday to Friday.

Bikes and Road Safety... please keep reminding your children about the need for vigilance when out and about.....

Vicki Baker
Principal

P&C

UNIFORM SHOP
New House shirts have arrived. All sizes are available for $15. Make sure you have your shirt ready for Sports Day on 15 June. Online orders welcome. Uniform Shop is open every Thursday 8:30-9:30. Eftpos preferred.

CHAPLAINS CHAT
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

School Uniforms
With the colder weather upon us I have bought out the jumpers and track pants. I have some jumpers with zippers and the school logo and others that are the pullover type. They will be for sale (B block) at my room Wednesday-Friday.

SU Camps
Scripture Union has a range of winter camps for primary and secondary age children. For information on these camps go to www.sucamps.org.au or contact me. If cost is an issue, financial assistance MAY be available for these camps.

Cathy Longford

FREE RED CROSS WORKSHOPS

EMPOWERMENT – 27 May 9.30am-12pm – GPAC Meeting Room
Self-esteem is the way you feel about yourself, and is reflected in the way you treat yourself and how others treat you. Self-esteem is one of the most important factors in determining your effectiveness as a human being. It is also the key to your success and happiness. We will be discussing the foundations for building and ways to improve your self-esteem. Morning tea provided. Please RSVP by Tuesday 19 May to Tracey (Red Cross) on 3855 0166/0448 352 536 or Cathy (Chaplain).

BUILDING HAPPINESS – A JOURNEY TO MINDFULNESS AND WELLBEING – 10 June 9.30am-12.30pm – GPAC Meeting Room
Please RSVP to Tracey or Cathy by Tuesday 9 June.

Unfortunately, child minding is not available.

FROM THE DEPUTYS DESK

We all know that learning to read is one of the most important skills that we support our children to learn. We have spoken before about motivation to read. It is important for us to help children find books that they want to read and learn from. If your child is a reluctant reader we need to recommend books and magazines that will appeal to their interests. Reading to children will also help them to engage in texts. Marie Clay an expert in supporting students to learn to read says that children need to have at least 1000 books read to them before they start school. It is never too late to start. Find books to read to your child no matter what their age. It is a great way to spend time together and is encouraging a lifelong learning habit!!!

When your child brings a book home to read from school our teachers have carefully selected the level that they should be reading. Books read at home should be easy for students to read. The purpose of home reading is to practise skills that they have been learning in class such as rereading if something does not make sense, skipping a word and going back to work out what the word is. Practising reading skills supports the development of fluency and comprehension.

Year five experience day
Our year five students walked to Mitchelton SHS on Tuesday to participate in an experience day at the high school. This is an amazing day where they get to walk in the shoes of a high school student and understand how a timetable works as well as interacting with different teachers and Learning areas in the high school environment. The partnership that we have with the high school is of great benefit to our students as they prepare for the future education opportunities that they have.

Under 8’s Day!!!
Our playgroup members are also invited to attend our Under 8’s Day this Friday in the prep playground!! The Playgroup room will be open however not run as it normally does on this day. Join our celebrations for Under 8’s!! Looking forward to a great morning!!

Prep Enrolment Interviews for 2016
These have started!! If you have a sibling to be enrolled in prep in 2016 please ensure you have contacted the school to advise and put in an enrolment form. Please provide proof of age.

OPEN DAY
Open Day will be held next Tuesday 26 May from 9.30-11.00am in GPAC. Come along and see our wonderful community through a tour with our student leaders. This is an informal opportunity to meet us and have a look at what we have to offer.

ICAS Science Test
For those students that have paid in Term 1 - ICAS Science will be held at 8am on Wednesday 3 June in the library. See you then!!!

Leanne Duncan & Sue McIvor

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

ADVANCED MUSIC CAMP - 16-18 June - Ferny Hills State School
Don't forget to send in your camp payment of $120 and camp form to our school office by 3 pm on FRIDAY 22 May. If your child is not attending please let Penny or Jamie-Lee know as soon as possible. There will be a fabulous free camp concert on Thursday 18 June at 630pm at Ferny Hills State School Hall. All children are to wear their black dress pants or trousers with their camp t-shirt for the performance.

My band assessments will be held next Thursday. Remember to keep reminding your children to keep practising on the days that we eat. If your child is on year 5 or 6 camp their assessment will be held in week 7.

Congratulations to our senior band who performed very well ‘Zombie Stomp’ last week. A special mention also to Lily Martin for her tuba solo of ‘Ode to Joy’

For all band queries contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au
For all string queries contact Jamie-Lee Melvin at jfmel0@eq.edu.au

REMINDER
Grovely State School is a nut-free school. Please do not send food containing nuts with your child, to ensure the wellbeing of all children.
PREP ENROLMENTS 2016

If you are intending to enrol your child in Prep 2016, Mainstream or Montessori, please ensure you have completed an enrolment form and forwarded it to administration if you need assistance. Thank you.

UNDER 8’S DAY

What: A morning of fun and creative activities
When: Friday 22 May, 9-11am
Where: Prep playground
Who: All Grovely students who are under 8 years old, parents and young siblings
What to bring: A named plastic bag to put craft in
Why: To celebrate how wonderful our kids are!

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 1111 for further information.

VISIT YEAR 7 DAYS
Future parents are invited to visit a Year 7 class and have a school tour from 9.00-10.30am on 26 May. Contact the school for more details.

WINTER’S COMING, TAKE CARE

Mary had a little cold
But wouldn’t stay at home
And everywhere that Mary went
The cold was sure to roam.

It wandered into Molly’s eyes
And filled them full of tears.
It jumped from there to Bobby’s nose
And then to Jimmey’s ears.

It painted Annie’s throat bright red
And swelled poor Johnny’s head.
Dora had a fever
And a cough put Jack to bed.

The moral of this little tale
Is very quickly said –
Mary could have saved a lot of pain
With just one day in bed.