We had a very successful Open Day on Saturday welcoming a steady stream of prospective families to our school. These days are kept deliberately informal so that families can ask questions and find out information to make the very important decision about where and how their child will be educated. There are many people I would like to acknowledge and thank most sincerely for giving up their time to come along on Saturday to support this very important process.

Student Leaders: Alex Ryan, Oshae Wahi, Finn de Nino, Wil Walker and Shyler Hayes
Parents: Lee-Anne Ryan and Jacqui Walker
Staff: Leanne Duncan, Maree Ayazian, Ratan Aurora, Annette Norman

Enrolments for 2016 are now being taken. If you are aware of any families considering our school please encourage them to make contact. If you have another child attending in 2016 please ensure their enrolment is completed.

Last week’s assembly was truly remarkable. We recognised two very important days on our school calendar:
1. Harmony Day: As a community we celebrated our cultural diversity. A significant proportion of families in our community come from all parts of the globe. This diversity is not shared by all schools. It makes our community strong and very special.
2. Say No to Bullying Day.

Everyone belongs was a key theme for each, and so intrinsically a part of school’s culture and ethos. Thank you to staff for their work with the video clips and especially to Mrs King for her putting them so professionally together.

We also witnessed some very courageous people participate in Shave for a cure. Students Zahri Day and Chantal Mackay had their long pony tail’s cut to donate to be made into wigs for young people who’ve lost their hair as result of cancer treatment. This is actually the second time that Chantal has made this gesture.

Mrs Barry, one of our staff, had her head shaved by surprise guest Mr Green. The students were incredibly excited to see him and in awe of Mrs Barry.

Donations raised through the Free Dress Day have also been directed to this cause through Joshua Claydon in year 6 who had his hair coloured on Saturday. As a result of the selfless acts from each of these people, significant amounts of money have been raised to support this very worthy cause. Donations can be made to any one of them right up until mid-June so if you haven’t already done so, please feel free to support. Their gestures are incredibly humbling. Congratulations and thank you to all. You’re ‘awesome’……

This week has been an exciting one as we’ve welcomed Dianne Davis our Montessori consultant back to our community. Dianne spent an intense three days working with staff to refine their practices and understanding of different aspects of the Montessori classroom. Dianne was again very impressed with the way staff were very clear about their learning needs and the commitment they demonstrated. Her insights in regard to how to further embed inquiry learning as part of practice in each of our pathways has been invaluable.

Dianne spent time on Tuesday afternoon with a group of parents discussing how the Montessori philosophy can be integrated in the home. Two messages are very worthy of reiterating and relevant to all families, irrespective of which pathway you’ve chosen in our community:

1. Never do for child what they can do for themselves. We want our children to grow up to be confident, independent young people able to take their place in the world. This process starts at a very young age and takes time and commitment from the adults in their lives. We live in hurried times and sometimes as parents it is just quicker and easier to do what needs to be done yourself. This practice long term does not benefit your child. The research is profound…. We consistently underestimate what young people can do. Time and effort to support
It’s incredibly hard to believe that we are in the final stages of the first term. It really has just flown. Next week is very busy.

We have the Cross Country on Tuesday, The Easter Hat Parade on Thursday, and assembly on Thursday afternoon as well Celebrations of Learning at various times through the week. Please check the school’s calendar for further details. Class newsletters will provide details of Celebrations. We urge parents to organise themselves for classes and make sure her homework is completed on time. She (and XXXXXXX) have at times been the only students to be able to answer questions in English and Science. The Montessori program at Grovely (supported so faithfully by you Vicki and implemented so sensitively by you Katrina) has indeed given my daughter wings. She has the confidence to rock up to multiple lunch time clubs and has made friends easily. She is learning a new language and is catching up to children who have been learning it for years. Montessori works! It has just been the best start for Miya. Thank goodness for Grovely! Thank you again and be encouraged that the work you do every day is important in the lives of young learners and their families.

Principal comment: This feedback is so welcomed and testament to our work and the strong partnership we forge and enjoy with families. This is the feedback we aspire to have for every child irrespective of pathway. Our vision is a school of choice, united in purpose…… Our purpose is to do the very best we can for every child and every family we’re privileged to have as part of our community.

We are often asked about how our students transition to high school. Last week I received this fabulous email from a past parent and sought permission to share it with our community. I just felt the need to contact you to say a huge THANK YOU! For the way you have prepared Miya for her next learning adventure. She has adapted very well to Mainstream life at Kelvin Grove. Her work ethic has been commented on by numerous teachers. She is able to organise herself for classes and make sure her homework is completed on time. She (and XXXXXXX) have at times been the only students to be able to answer questions in English and Science. The Montessori program at Grovely (supported so faithfully by you Vicki and implemented so sensitively by you Katrina) has indeed given my daughter wings. She has the confidence to rock up to multiple lunch time clubs and has made friends easily. She is learning a new language and is catching up to children who have been learning it for years. Montessori works! It has just been the best start for Miya. Thank goodness for Grovely! Thank you again and be encouraged that the work you do every day is important in the lives of young learners and their families.

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Vicki Baker
Principal

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-19</td>
<td>Easter Vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Receipting for Term 1
We will be receipting 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 on Wednesday.

**Year 5 & 6 Camp - $50 deposit due Friday 27 March 2015**
Please send in your $50 deposit by Friday 27 March. Please note that this is a curriculum activity and is required to be paid before the Year 6 Senior Shirt.

**Student Resource Scheme 2015 – Payment due 23 March 2015 – Payment in full is now due**
- Today statements have been sent home via students (youngest in the family).
- Please check your child’s bag.
- 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 no payment has been received, you will receive a statement.
- For families who have indicated they do not wish to participate in the scheme, a resource list to purchase as well as an invoice for photocopying charges and incursions will be sent home.
- If you have not responded to our letters re the 2015 Student Resource Scheme, a resource list to purchase as well as an invoice for photocopying charges and incursion will be sent home.

You will find that it is much more economical to join the scheme ($98) and also more convenient as you will not have to source the art supplies, reading material, purchase paper and other resources as per year level list.

**Montessori Program 2015 – Full Payment due by Friday 27 March 2015**
If you are paying by instalments please check your dates.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**GROVELY GATORS SWIM CLUB** – On Friday 27 March, the Grovely Gators Swimming Club is having a fun free swim for any members and their guests. If you are a current club member or if you are interested in joining next year, we welcome you to come along, have a look and celebrate. The pool will open at 6.30pm and there will be some fun races and games, then a free swim. We hope to be done by 8pm.

Families are asked to bring a plate to share at the end of the night. The Grovely Gators is a great family activity that is enjoyable for all. We look forward to seeing you.

**JUST FOR KIDS (JFK)**
If you are paying by instalments please check your dates.

**Prep 2016 ENROLMENTS MONTESORI & MAINSTREAM**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PREP 2016 ENROLMENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>I wish to enrol my child into Prep 2016 at Grovely State School.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sibling Name/s:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Name/Mobile:</td>
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**PREP 2016 ENROLMENTS**

| 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**

**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 http://www.suqld.org.au/camps/mapleton

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

**CROSS COUNTRY**

The Cross Country and Fitness season is fast approaching! 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)

**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

**YMCA – OSHC HOLIDAY CLUB**

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.

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