Principal’s Page

At the moment we are focusing on the school value of **responsibility** - being a responsible learner and being a responsible member of our community. Like all values it is easy to say, more difficult to explain and discuss and something that takes a long time to learn.

How does a child learn to be a learner? How do they learn the skills that allow them to be active participants in their learning rather than passive recipients of information?

There are many factors that contribute to a child’s ability to learn and some of those are outside the influence of a school or the control of the learner. However there are some essential skills that can be learned. The first four of nine are outlined below. The remaining five will be covered in the next newsletter.

The first learning behavior is to **choose your attitude**. A positive disposition to learning makes anything possible even if it feels challenging or seems irrelevant at the time. A classroom can be the most engaging place in the world but if there is no willingness to participate in what is on offer then learning is unlikely to take place.

The second is **be organized**. At the beginning of the early years there are not too many things that students have to be organized about – get dressed for school, have your hat and lunchbox in your bag. However, as students move on through the year and up through the primary years and into high school the organizational demands increase. Homework, deadlines, forms and requests, sporting and music gear, meetings etc all start to form part of a students’ day. Teachers put many strategies in place in a classroom to help students be organised. Without them it would be chaos.

The third and fourth skills go hand in hand. **Stop, look and listen** and **follow directions**. Classrooms and the wider school are complex social organisations. There are times when it is essential that either a whole class or a particular group or an individual needs to stop, look and listen and/or carry out a particular task at the teachers direction. This can be as simple as “Everyone come and sit on the carpet” to explaining a complex element of learning. Parents and teachers often complain that children don’t listen and don’t do what they are asked to do. These are skills that need to be taught. If we are prepared to repeat ourselves over and over until everyone has heard and acted at their convenience, then the skills will remain unlearnt! Children also need to know that there is a difference between “hearing” – we hear the sounds but the meaning escapes us and “hearing” – the brain is actively engaged in making meaning from the sounds!

**Religious Instruction (RE) in Schools**
State schools are required by law to offer a period of religious education. Parents have the option to opt out of this instruction for their children. At Grovely, as in most state schools, the religion lessons are conducted by volunteers. These lessons are not Non-Contact Time for teachers and a teacher must remain with their class while the volunteer provides the lesson. Each teacher makes the best arrangement they can to ensure that students who are not attending RE are separated away from the RE class. However we receive no additional resources to supervise students and so at times students may hear some of the RE lesson. Why not use this as an opportunity to talk to them, in as much or as little detail as suits the purpose, about the belief systems that different people hold and the need to respect their beliefs without needing to adopt them. Teaching tolerance is a very important part of teaching about the value of respect.
Community Events
Two important community events are on in the coming week. The Lap-a-thon on Wednesday 3 September is a great fun activity for students to help raise some funds and get some exercise in (hopefully) beautiful spring weather. Please support this by assisting your child to get sponsors. There are some great prizes to be won including a bike of your choice up to the value of $369. Thank you to MY BIKE SHOP, for providing the prize and this generous support of our school. If you can help with the cutting up of fruit at 7.45am please contact either Tammy Drake or Scott Fineran.

The other events are the Fathers’ Day Breakfast and Fathers’ Day Stall which are being held on Friday 5 September. Further information on both events can be found in the Chaplains Chat and the P&C sections of this newsletter.

Cheers
Buffy Lavery

FROM THE DEPUTYS DESK

Mathletics
All students who have paid their Student Resource Scheme should have a user name and password for the Mathletics online resource. Teachers are able to target student learning to meet each child’s learning needs by selecting particular tasks for them to complete before they can access the maths games (which of course still have students practising their maths!!!) Your child is able to use their user name and password at home to get the most out of this resource. Students can log on at Mathletics.com.au If you have any questions around this please let us know via the office.

Montessori observations
Several parents have been able to be involved in the classroom observations of the Montessori classrooms. This has been a trial experience for us and feedback about the process is welcome. We will reflect on this opportunity and review how we offer it in the future.

The purpose of these observations is to enable parents an insight into how the Montessori environment is prepared for the child and what this looks like in practice. Thank you to those who have been able to take this opportunity.

Literacy and Numeracy week
Students were involved in a range of activities last week for Literacy and Numeracy week. This is core business for learning and very important to us. Thanks to everyone for their efforts to celebrate. As part of these activities 5 of our students represented our school at the local Maths Tournament at Albany Hills State School. We are very proud of their efforts and the way they represented our school.

Year 5 High school experience day
Our Year 5 students walked to Mitchelton SHS on Monday for their experience day. These opportunities for our students are a great support to their transitions into a high school environment. Students are given an opportunity to experience what high school looks like, feels like and sounds like! A great way to prepare for the expectations that high school and to be able to answer questions and concerns students may have. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the high school or discuss with us.

Have a great week!
Sue McIvor & Leanne Duncan

ART SHOW & AUCTION
On Thursday 18 September the year six and seven students will be holding an Art Show and Auction in GPAC to raise money for them to leave a legacy to the school. For this to happen, they are seeking donations from businesses in the community that will be auctioned on the night. If you are able to support this major fundraiser, please notify the school, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

P&C

Fathers’ Day Stall will be held on Friday 5 September with gifts ranging in price from $1.00-$6.00. There will also be a limited amount of gifts for sale for female role models. If you wish your child to purchase a gift from the stall, please ensure you send money with them on the day in envelope marked “Father’s Day Stall”. Unfortunately no credit can be given to students who forget their money.

Market Day will be held at Grovely State School on Saturday 11 October. Expressions of interest are sought from interested parties wishing to set up a stall, volunteer their time or who have fundraising ideas. Please email Scott Fineran at scotnpeta@optusnet.com.au if you are interested or have suggestions.

LITTLE BLOSSOMS PLAYGROUP
You are invited to attend Little Blossoms Playgroup!
When: Every Friday 9.15am-11.15am
Where: Upstairs E Block
Age Group: Birth - 5 Years
Cost: $5 per session
Playgroup Facilitator: Nicole Baron - (Bachelor of Education, Specialising in Early Childhood Education)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REPORT
Over the past two weeks during PE lessons, the students from Prep – Year 7 have enjoyed participating in some OZTAG clinics. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this new and exciting experience! For many students, it was a new sport they have never seen or played before. Well done to all students at Grovely SS for their enthusiasm and willingness to participate in the fun clinics!

OZTAG is a non-tackling game with limited contact played over two 15 minute periods with eight players from each team on the field. Passing, catching, tagging, evasive and kicking are the skills utilised in OZTAG. The object of the game is to score tries. Defenders prevent this by tagging the ball carrier (removing the tag). OZTAG is a fast paced exciting sport that can be enjoyed by male, female and mixed teams from the ages of 6 – 60.

The Junior OZTAG season is just about to start here in Brisbane! If your child/children are keen to join, please collect a flyer from school office or contact Scott Mewburn at fernyhills@oztag.com

Anna Ittensohn (PE Teacher)

YMCA GROVELY OSHC

Bookings are starting to come in now for school holidays, so get in now to avoid missing out! Come and see Melissa in the YMCA room for enquiries. As well as our Zone Day and PhysKids Day, we are having superhero day - come dressed up as your favourite super heroes and enjoy all of the fun we have planned! We are having a Top Secret Day, come and be prepared for anything! Hint- bring your magnifying glass and trench coat.

Melissa Leatherbarrow (YMCA OSHC Coordinator)

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE – 3354 6366
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPT
- 3 Lap-a-thon
- 3 Assembly
- 5 Fathers’ Day Breakfast 7-9am
- 5 Fathers’ Day Stall
- 5 Teacher Aide Day
- 8 Incursion – “Best of Brass”
- 9 P&C Meeting
- 12 Museum Incursion – M2B, M2C, M3/2D, M3/2E
- 15 Hot Dog Meal Deal Day
- 17 Assembly
- 18 Art Show/Auction
- 19 End of Term 3

### OCT
- 6 Public Holiday
- 7 School Resumes for Term 4
- 11 Market Day

### NOV
- 14 Public Holiday (G20)

## UPCOMING INCURSION

On Monday 8 September “Best of Brass” will be presented by Musica Viva. If your child/ren are participating in the 2014 Student Resource Scheme and have paid or presently up to date with a payment plan, your student will be attending. Other students not participating in the scheme will not be attending and will be supervised by a teacher.

## SCHOOL FEES OVERDUE

The school provides to the students various resources which include the Student Resource Scheme, Instrumental Music resources, School Camps, Montessori resources as well as other resources. As a school we are obligated to pay our accounts and we in turn need our accounts to be paid promptly.

We have a number of families who presently have outstanding fees. These fees are overdue for payment and statements have been sent home this week. Please pay these no later than Monday 8 September.

Di Lowe (Business Services Manager)

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

### Intermediate Music Camp

Congratulations to all of our students who did a great job at the camp concert last Thursday at Mitchelton High School.

Mrs Penny Hall will be on leave from Monday 25 August until Monday 6 October. In regards to band lessons and rehearsals for the last 4 weeks of this term while Mrs Hall is on leave, Mrs Melissa Cain will be her replacement and will be teaching at our school on FRIDAYS for the remainder of this term. Mrs Cain will be teaching at our school on Friday 29 August in Mrs Rossouw’s room.

If you would like to contact Mrs Cain her email is m_cain@uq.edu.au

Mrs Hall will be back teaching at our school on Thursday 9 October.

Instrumental music band testing for years 3s and for 4s for 2015 will be happening in week 2 of term 4. Our information night about our instrumental music program for strings and band will be held on Wednesday 5 November at 6.30pm at Samford State School. Initial information about the program has been sent home to parents in years 2 – 4 and some initial testing has started to take place.

For all band queries please contact Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au

For all string queries please contact Angela Batch at abbaht0@eq.edu.au

## CHAPLAINS CHAT

### Fathers’ Day Breakfast

Our Father’s Day Breakfast will be held on Friday 5 September from 7-9am @ GPAC. All Children, Fathers, Stepfathers, Grandfathers or significant male role models from our school community are invited to come along for the breakfast. On offer - bacon and egg sandwich with a hot or cold drink $5.00 or sausage on bread with drink $4.00. There will be raffles on the morning and a guest speaker. Hope you are able to come along and celebrate with your child.

### Scripture Union Holiday Camps

SU QLD has for many years run very successful holiday camps for primary and high school students. The spring camp available for our region is called Hills to Hinterland and is being run again this year from 29 Sept - 3 October. This camp is open to students from years 5 - 7 from Brisbane North schools. For more information please contact me or log onto www.sucamps.org.au, or email info@sucamps.org.au.

Cathy Longford

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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

**Thursday 28 August – Hide Out**

**Thursday 4 September – Farm Day**

For more information, contact Meralda Livermore on 0401 012 615.

### KIDS CONNECT is held each Friday afternoon from 3.15-5.00pm at the Patricks Road State School Hall for children in grades 4-7. Afternoon tea is provided, entry by gold coin donation. For more information, contact Ashley Tait from That Church on 0423 549 704 or Ashley@nwcc.org.au

### C&K ARANA HILLS KINDERGARTEN are currently offering positions at Kindergarten for 2015. For more information please contact Joanne Sorensen or Sara Wenck (Co Directors/Teachers Groups 1&2) on 3355 9160, fax: 3355 9147 or email arana@candk.asn.au

### WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES

- **RSPCA Animal Ambulance**
  - 1300 264 625 (1300 animal)
  - WWW.RSPCA.QLD.AU

- **RSPCA Inspectorate**
  - 3426 9971 or 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station.

- **Acts of cruelty or neglect**
  - 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station.

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

- **For more information, contact Meralda Livermore on 0401 012 615.**

### 24 Hour Call Centre

- **3426 9999**
  - **3455 9147**

## TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEER ROSTER

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