It’s with much delight that I welcome you all to the 2015 school year. For me personally it is just great to be back after spending a very rewarding semester at Patricks Road State School. I’ve returned with some good ideas, some new skills and affirmed that our community has much to be proud of.

A special welcome to our many new families and students. This year we have 66 prep students. For many it’s been such a long wait as they’ve counted down the days to school. And now it’s finally here.

We also welcome some new staff: Mrs Kellie Delaforce (Year 3/4A) Mrs Jess Richards (Special Education), Mrs Ronelle Perkins (Year 1/2A). Mrs Natasha Salerno (M3/2E), Mr Jaey Limb who is performing several roles including LOTE teacher, Library Manager and Head of Learning and Michelle Cash (cleaner). All have come to us with a wealth of experience. I have no doubt they will enjoy their Grovely experience and make valuable contributions. We also have staff returning from leave: Mrs Kiri Winter and Ms Marissa Campbell.

We’ve enjoyed a very settled start to the year. Classes across the school are calm and ordered and students are ready to learn. A huge thank you to all of our parents and carers for making this happen. Staff have worked tirelessly to ensure students are aware of expectations and supported to establish work habits that will set them up for success. Learning is the work.… And for us it is not only about academic learning. It’s also about learning that fosters social and emotional growth. These expectations will be shared with parents through class newsletters that will be issued by the end of week 2. Our Meet’ n Greet will be held on Wednesday evening 11 February. Please mark this date in your calendar.

Our enrolments have grown! As of today, we have 390 students! The transition of Year 7 to high school has not adversely affected our community. In fact, following the enrolment collection that is conducted by Education Queensland on the 8th day of school (Friday 6 February), it is highly likely that an additional teacher will be appointed. The parents of students in the three classes that may be affected will be notified. While re-arranging classes can cause some short term angst the benefits long term will be significant. To all those parents who sing our praises in the broader community and encourage their friends and family to enrol their children, thank you and please keep up the great work. Your advocacy makes a difference.

In 2016 we are very likely to reach an enrolment of 425 which will allow our school to have a fully funded Deputy Principal position. Currently this position is partially funded through school resourcing.

Over the pupil free days staff were introduced to Wayne Craig from McRel International. Wayne is a former Regional Director from Melbourne. Wayne has developed a framework for schools called Curiosity and Powerful Learning. The basis of the framework is inquiry. This framework respects the integrity of philosophy and teaching and learning in both Montessori and Mainstream pathways and will form a very strong platform to engage staff in professional learning that contributes to higher levels of engagement and achievement. I’ll look forward to sharing more information about this in the coming weeks.

The State election will be held this Saturday 31 January. Our school is a polling booth. Our P&C will be taking advantage of this by conducting a BBQ and opening the coffee shop. To make this possible, we are seeking the support of volunteers. If you can assist, even for just a short time, your time will be appreciated. Your efforts support the most precious people in our community, the children.
Please contact Scott Fineran our President on 0423 699 233 or email scotnpeta@optusnet.com.au or contact the school's office. If you're voting at the school on Saturday please also consider demonstrating your support by buying a sausage and a cuppa!!!!!! To those who’ve already signed up, thank you!!!!!!!!

On assembly this week I congratulated students for the way in which they’ve embraced the school year. They’ve returned learning ready, in uniform (with most in black shoes and white socks........) and on time. Keep up the great work! I shared a very insightful and very amusing You Tube clip with them from a child in the US who calls himself Kid President. Kid President calls on all kids to be awesome...... I couldn’t agree more........ Let’s all be AWESOME!!!!!!! I also called on our students who have great things to share to think about how they can motivate and inspire others in our community to think and do great things by sharing messages through video on assembly. Now that would be awesome!

This year whole school assemblies will be held every second Thursday from 2.15pm. Our first student-led assembly will be next Thursday 5 February. Parents are always welcome to attend. The Student Leader Induction will be held at 9.30am on Thursday 19 February in GPAC.

Next Tuesday we welcome our new Assistant Regional Director, Kerri Jones to our community. Kerri will be working very closely with our community and 24 others this year. The model in our region has changed significantly with the number of ARD’s increasing to facilitate stronger working relationships in schools. It will be with much pride that I share our story and school plan as our staff team works with her to do the very best for every child and family in our community.

Vicki Baker

Here’s to an awesome year!!!!!!!

Bouquets .... To Steve our School’s Officer and Janice, Michelle and Ian our cleaning team for ensuring the school was beautifully prepared for the return of students. Your efforts are appreciated. The school looks fabulous.

RED CROSS

Welcome to all families after the holidays!

My name is Tracey, and I am the Red Cross Family Support worker. I’m very keen to meet all of you over the coming weeks and months, so please keep an eye out for me around the place. You’re also welcome to visit me in the Rainbow Room in B Block (underneath the music room) for a cup of tea, a chat, or information about the Family Support Program, and I would encourage you to watch out for flyers and posters regarding upcoming workshops and events.

My contact details are 3855 0166 / 0448 352 536. Looking forward to meeting you, and become involved in your community.

Tracey Scantlebury

GROVELY STATE SCHOOL IS A NUT-FREE SCHOOL

My gratitude also extends to Mrs Buffy Lavery, who acted in my role, my leadership team and staff for ensuring that the school continued to move forward in my absence. I’ve returned with everything in place and prepared for a successful year. Thank you all.

FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK

Welcome back to 2015!! We hope everyone had a great holiday. We are looking forward to another fabulous year at Grovely. Welcome to all of our new students, we are sure everyone is making you feel welcome and showing you around.

The first two weeks

The first two weeks are a crucial time in our classrooms as teachers and students get to know each other and set in place routines and transitions that will help them to know and understand how their classroom works and what is expected of them. Classes create mission statements and rules. We encourage you to discuss these at home as well.

Playgroup

Our playgroup, "Little Blossoms" will run again this year! Little Blossoms runs each Friday from 9-11am in the withdrawal room in E Block. This is located in our Prep area. Playgroup will start again on 13 Feb in Week 3. More details to follow. We’d love to see you there!

Prep

Having spent time with our new preppies who bravely started their first day with eager smiles, we can say they have settled in very well. There will be some yawns at the end of the week and into next week. A good night’s sleep, breakfast and routine all help in this period of time that students adjust to the new school routine. They have done very well!

AFL Queensland are doing Auskick again!!

Last year we had AFL Auskick in our school on a user pay system that ran during the lunchtime. The ALF group runs the program over 7 weeks for $70. We are offering to have them back this year and the sessions will run on a Thursday at lunchtime. The AFL guys will come and talk to the students and send information home with interested students in the coming weeks.

Journey and Discovery

Our first Journey and Discovery will be held on the evening of 13 March and a half day in the morning of 14 March for our Montessori families. This is a great way to build on your understanding of Montessori and we encourage all families to participate. If you are interested in attending please email smciv2@eq.edu.au.

For those students attending the Beginners Music Camp - Have an awesome time! We will see you all in the playground!

Leanne Duncan & Sue McIvor

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

Beginner Music Camps will be held for student in:

• Year 4 - Friday 30 January & Monday 2 February
• Year 5 - Tuesday 3 & Thursday 5 February
• ALL STRINGS – 30 January & 2 February

For any queries please contact:
Penny Hall (Percussion) phall35@eq.edu.au
Jamie-Lee Melvin (Strings) jfmel0@eq.edu.au
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eel you can be a strong, positive
ve
ental hire fee. If you
-5 to 27 May at Currumundi. If you did not return
just the bloke’,
Cathy Longford
Thank
items can be left at the office or at my room
needed,
uniforms in reasonable/good condition to assist families in
UNIFORM DONATIONS
me through the school office.
information or assistance visit
presented to a
resolution and friendship. I aim to provide a caring presence,
myself to all our news families and explain my role as Chaplain.
Welcome
27 Feb
19 Feb
13 Feb
6 Feb
30 Jan
6 Feb
12 Feb
13 Feb
7 Feb
27 Feb
6 Feb
20 Feb
6 Mar
26 Feb
13 Mar
27 Feb
20 Mar
27 Mar
2015 fees and returned the completed declaration form. If you
students owning their own instrument, a letter and invoice
were sent home at the end of October with full details. If you have
not already returned the signed form along with the $100 music
levy ($180 if borrowing a school instrument), please pay by
Wednesday 4 February.
New Students – By now families whose children are borrowing a
school instrument have paid their $80 instrumental hire fee. If you
are paying by instalments please check your dates.
Year 5 & 6 Camp
Last year “Expression of Interest” forms were sent home for the
camp to be held 25 to 27 May at Currumundi. If you did not return
this form, please complete and return by Tuesday 3 February. The
school will then be able to finalise the cost of the camp and send
out a letter detailing full costing and the deposit required.
WANTED! “JUST THE BLOKE”
The Grovely Music Department is looking for ‘just the bloke’ to run
a boys’ only music interest group at school to enrich the lives of
our boys through singing.
FINANCE MATTERS
Student Resource Scheme 2015
We have had an excellent response to the 2015 Student Resource
Scheme. However, there are still some families who need to
complete the form and return ASAP.
• On Friday, invoices were mailed to the families who
returned their forms in 2014
• For the families who included their credit card details on
the reverse of the form, these payments were processed
on 21 January 2015 and receipts sent home this week.
• If you have not returned the completed participation
form, please complete and return by Wednesday 4 February.
• Families who have indicated that they do not wish to
participate in the scheme, a list of items you will need to
purchase and provide for your child will be sent home.
Montessori Program 2015
Thank you to the many families who have made payments for the
2015 fees and returned the completed declaration form. If you have
not paid or returned your declaration form please do so
ASAP. If you are paying by instalments please check your dates.
Instrumental Program
Continuing Students - 2015 Instrumental Music Levy
For students owning their own instrument, a letter and invoice
were sent home at the end of October with full details. If you have
not already returned the signed form along with the $100 music
levy ($180 if borrowing a school instrument), please pay by
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WANTED! “JUST THE BLOKE”
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a boys’ only music interest group at school to enrich the lives of
our boys through singing. If you are ‘just the bloke’, with a strong
interest in all things musical and feel you can be a strong, positive
influence please contact Annie Rossouw on aross172@eq.edu.au
COMMUNITY INFORMATION
DEFENCE COMMUNITY ORGANISATION is hosting a family day &
expo to welcome Defence families to Brisbane on Sunday 15
February from 10am-2pm at El Alamein Oval, Gallipoli Barracks,
Enoggera. Call 3354 0500 for more information.
WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES – 1300 264 625 / 1300 ANIMAL
Acts of cruelty or neglect - RSPCA Inspectator 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

CHAPLAINS CHAT
Welcome back to another school year. I would like to introduce
myself to all our news families and explain my role as Chaplain.
My role at Grovely State School is quite varied and can include
pastoral care, programs that assist with social skilling, conflict
resolution and friendship. I aim to provide a caring presence,
listening ear and relevant support to students, staff and families
that are going through tough times. My room (the Rainbow
Room) is located under B block and is open each lunch time for
children who wish to play, do craft or other activities. Please
feel free to drop by and introduce yourself.
GET STARTED - The Queensland Government has funding
available to assist children and young people who can least
afford it to join sporting and recreational clubs. Children are
able to receive vouchers of $150 per child, per year to be
presented at participating clubs to assist with registration and
associated costs. Applications close on 10/04/15 and must be
presented to a Get Started club by 11/05/15. For more
information or assistance visit www.nprsr.wld.gov.au or contact
me through the school office.
UNIFORM DONATIONS - I am seeking donations of school
uniforms in reasonable/good condition to assist families in
need. If you have uniforms that no longer fit your child or are
needed, please consider donating them to the school. Washed
items can be left at the office or at my room under B block.
Thank you.
Cathy Longford

STUDENT LEADER INDUCTION
19 February – 9.30am @ GPAC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN
30 Beginner Music Camp – Year 4 students
30 Beginner Music Camp – Strings students
31 Election BBQ - GPAC

FEB
2 Beginner Music Camp – Year 4 students
2 Beginner Music Camp – Strings students
3 Beginner Music Camp – Year 5 students
5 Beginner Music Camp – Year 5 students
5 Assembly
11 Meet n Greet
13 Playgroup commences
13-14 Journey and Discovery
19 Student Leader Induction – 9.30am GPAC
19 Assembly

MAR
5 Assembly
19 Assembly

APR
2 Assembly
2 End of Term 1
3-19 Easter Vacation
20 Term 2 commences

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COMMUNITY COFFEE

BAKING ROSTER

STUDENT LEADER INDUCTION
19 February – 9.30am @ GPAC