A term certainly does go by quickly and now we are at the end of another year at Grovely. This year has been one of many changes. Through change there is also growth. The staff is to be commended especially at this time of year. Staffing changes and possible room changes are all additional to everyday runnings of their classroom. The celebrations of learning have been wonderful. Our Community events have always been a wonderful way to come together at the end of each term as we all look forward to tonight!

Next year will see further work on developing a unified vision for the students of Grovely. It has long been “Where Mainstream meets Montessori” over the last 7 years. With the Montessori program almost at capacity, I believe Grovely is entering a new phase of stability and growth. The mainstream numbers are strong. We will have 8 classes at this stage in each pathway. The Principal of Grovely will be announced shortly and I will let you know when I am advised.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their efforts this year. A letter will go out on Monday when staffing is finalised. Thanks for your understanding and patience with this.

This time of year is also incredibly busy in the office and grounds. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Nicole, Annette and Di in the office for the work that they do. Thank you to Steve and the cleaners for the work that they do for our school. Our wonderful teacher aides are also an integral part of what we do. Thank you to them as well.

Graduating Class of 2015
I would like to take the opportunity to wish the graduating class of 2015 all the very best! This is the year of students that were in prep in my first year at Grovely. I have some memories and stories of them to share! It has been a privilege to share the journey with them.

Volunteer of the year
Today the volunteer of the year was announced. This year it is Narelle McDowall. We value everyone that contributes to our community. This was our opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you and acknowledge the time given to Grovely. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our P & C, I have had the pleasure of working with and had an insight into the time that is given by our P & C to benefit our school community. I welcome you to come along to our P & C meetings.

Thank you for the opportunity and support that I have received from the community. It has been a privilege to work with the staff, students and the community in continuing and having input into the direction and life of our school for 2016.

End of year Expectations
As the end of the school year is nearly upon us, there are many things still to be done. Students are engaged in many different events at this time, expectations around their participation and behaviour remains the same.

Report Cards
Our aim is to send report cards home next Wednesday and hopefully we will remain on track.

Have a wonderful break. I look forward to seeing you all in 2016.

Leanne Duncan
Acting Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK

Holidays
It’s hard to believe the year is coming to an end! I hope everyone is feeling prepared for Christmas and the upcoming holidays!!! We would like to remind everyone about safety during the holidays. It is this time of year that people are on holidays and a little more relaxed than normal. Please encourage your child/ren to be aware of where they are and to take safety measures such as wearing bike helmets, staying together with a group of friends and ensuring they follow road and safety rules. We want everyone to enjoy their holiday and return safely to us for an exciting 2016 year of learning.

Reading
We often encourage parents and students to find the time to read more often. We know the more we practise any skill the better we will become at that skill. Reading is no exception. Students have built their reading knowledges and skills over the year. Please read with your child over the holidays and encourage them to read a book every day. You can support them by encouraging them to use picture cues, read a sentence again if it doesn’t make sense, guess a word they get stuck on and see if it makes sense and looks right.

Reports
Reports will be handed out next week before students finish school. As usual we believe this is a formality and both students and parents should already be aware of where they are in their learning. Please make an appointment with your teacher if you have any concerns about your child/ren’s learning.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday. We look forward to an exciting and successful year in 2016 and working together to provide the best for each student at our school. We appreciate the support that our parents provide as we work together to support the learning journey for everyone. Have a great Christmas and I wish you all the best for 2016.

Sue McIvor
A/Deputy Principal

TUCKSHOP/COMMUNITY COFFEE

TUCKSHOP will only be selling pre-packed snacks, drinks and ice blocks on Thursday 10 December. On Friday 11 December the Tuckshop will be CLOSED for stocktaking. Please ensure you send a full lunch with your child on both days.

COMMUNITY COFFEE will be CLOSED on Friday afternoon 11 December. Thank you for your patronage in 2015.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The cut-off date/time for making payments through the school office is FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER @ 9am.

You are able to make payments into the school’s bank account over the holiday period using BPoint. An information sheet was sent home with your child recently. Please refer to this for instructions.

CHAPLAINS CHAT

Summer Holiday Camps
SU – (Scripture Union – employing body of School Chaplains) provides a range of great camps for children in primary and secondary school each school holidays. There are a number of camps for the upcoming Christmas holidays, they are run over a week and range in price from $250 - $300. Some of the camps available for primary age children are:

- Schoolzout  – Year 6 only, Dec 14th – 18th
- Camp 628 – Year 6 – 8, Jan 10th – 14th
- Nanabyte – Year 5 – 7, Jan 10th – 15th
- Summer Splash – Year 5 – 6, Jan 18th – 22nd

If you are interested, however the cost in an issue, please talk to us as there may be the possibility of full or part sponsorships. For more information on the camps go to www.sucamps.org.au or contact us through the office.

Cathy Longford

RED CROSS WORKSHOPS

THE POWER OF CHOICE – will be held on Wednesday 9 December from 9.30am-12.30pm in GPAC Marshalling Room. This 3 hour workshop invites you to come and explore in a very interactive, stimulating and fun way the power of choice, and the concept of paradigms in one’s personal development. RSVP by Tuesday 8/12/15 to Tracey Scantlbury 3855 0166/0448 352 536 or ts scantlebury@redcross.org.au Please note there are no babysitting facilities and we ask you to make your own arrangements for your children.

REMINDER

School Resumes on
Wednesday 27 January 2016.

P&C

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop will be open on the following days:

- Thursday 10 December 8.30-9.30am.
- Thursday 21 January 9.00am – 12.00pm
- Friday 22 January 9.00am – 12.00pm

P&C website - www.grovelyschool.com.au

P&C payments - pay.grovelyschool.com.au or via the QKR! app on your phone. (includes tuckshop, community coffee, uniform shop, special events and more).

YMCA OHSC

VACATION CARE - School Holidays are fast approaching and we are open for Summer Holiday Club. We have some exciting theme days, activities and 2 excursions. If you would like to book your child; whether it is casual or permanent; feel free to email me at AGR@y mcabrisbane.org or pop up to our YMCA room located in the Prep building upstairs.

If you are new to the school and would like to tour of our service, please call to make an appointment. Our team members will show you around and explain all things OSHC. We look forward to meeting you!

YMCA Grovely OSHC
P: 07 3855 9997
M: 0438 155 230
EMMANUEL UNITING CHURCH ENOGGERA are offering a fun children’s holiday program from 9am, BBQ Dinner at 5pm & Community Christmas Carols at 6pm on Friday 18 December. Call the Church Office on 3355 2162 or Jess Pinkerton on 0438 168 706 for more details.

CAROLS ON THE BEACH — bring a picnic blanket and enjoy an evening of song with the whole family the 2015 Surfers Paradise Carols on the Beach on Sunday 20 December from 6.30-8.00pm. Get set for a night of fantastic family entertainment and an all Aussie line-up of carols talent. For further information or to download a copy of their program of events please visit http://www.surfersparadise.com/whats-on/free-events/carols-on-the-beach

GRASSHOPPER SOCCER HOLIDAY CLINICS will be held at Hilder Road State School from 15/12/15-16/01/16 for children aged 5-12 years. For details call 0430 588 067 or check out www.grasshoppersoccer.com.au

SHN YOUTH ACADEMY is offering a 3 day holiday program from 21-23 December from 8.30am-12.30pm at the Everton Hills PCYC. Multi-sports activities include cricket, soccer, NRL, AFL & rugby to name a few. Children 6-12 years welcome. Cost is $150. Call 3137 1096 or email enquiries@lifestylebreathrough.com.au for details.

PURE TENNIS ACADEMY is teaming up with the Ferny Hills swimming pool during the December/January holidays to bring you the Smash and Splash Holiday Camp. Please check out their website for more information and to book: http://fernyhills.puretennis.com.au/book-into-holiday-camps/

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PURE TENNIS ACADEMY is offering tennis lessons at Grovely State School each Thursday morning before school during the school term, commencing on 28 January 2016. Book by 5 December to receive discounts.

WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES – 1300 264 625 / 1300 ANIMAL Acts of cruelty or neglect - RSPCA Inspectorate 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

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Staff of Grovely State School would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays and stay safe, we look forward to seeing you all in 2016.