Principal’s Report

This copy of the newsletter will be printed and handed out to all year 7 students. The reason for this is to ensure that year 7 parents/carers are aware of how they can make arrangements to receive further newsletters.

For the last two years the school has been emailing newsletters directly to parents, in addition to placing them on the school website where they can be accessed at any time. This has proved extremely popular as it has meant that parents actually receive the newsletter, rather than have it go missing between school and home.

To receive the newsletter electronically, the school needs an up-to-date email address for each parent. For parents new to the school, the easiest way to pass on an email address is to complete the change of details form at the end of this newsletter and ensure it is returned to the front office. Then your email address will be added to the newsletter email list and you will receive the newsletter each week, direct to your email inbox. If you wish to supply an email address for a grandparent or other relative then we can also add them to our mailing list so that they too receive the newsletter.

For those parents without an email address or without Internet access to the school website, a number of newsletters are printed and left at the front office for collection.

P&C Meeting Re-scheduled

Our P&C President, Mr Richard Green, has asked me to let parents know that, due to the Easter long weekend, the next P&C meeting has been re-scheduled for next Wednesday 27th March, starting at 7:00 pm in the common room. All parents are most welcome to attend.

Mower for Sale

The school is in the process of replacing its roller mower. As such, we are selling the old mower through a tender process. The details for the mower are:

- Howard 3 point linkage, 6ft Procut Roller Mower.
- 3 x rotors, 6 blades, PTO drive, heavy duty gearbox.
- Suit 30-40 HP tractor.
- Ideal for grass/lawn/turf mowing in parks, gardens or orchards.

As a tender process, I ask that any offers on the mower be addressed to me as Principal in a sealed envelope, no later than close of school on Friday 5th of April. Please ensure that the offer includes your name and contact details. The mower may be viewed, by prior appointment, at the Grafton High School Farm. Contact Mr Kelemec for further information.

Conflict Resolution Forum

I would like to thank the students involved in the recent Conflict Resolution Forum. I was able to be a part of this process and follow up with a group of students working on refining some clear actions to develop a student-centred response to the issue. The main strategy that students wanted to adopt is based on peer-mediation to resolve conflict. Students involved help develop a plan for the implementation of this process next term, which included establishing school processes, and the selection and training of mediators. Please see the article over page for more on this initiative.

Dealing with Physical Violence

As I have previously repeatedly stated, both through newsletters and to students on assembly, the school has a zero tolerance policy relating to violence. If a student is physically violent toward anyone else and is placed on long suspension, it is a school policy that the student is then banned for 12 months from all non-mandatory excursions and activities (such as discos) and representing the school in sport, creative and performing arts, public speaking etc. After a period of 6 months I can review this decision if the student sees me and has demonstrated that they have changed their behaviour for the better over this time.

Year 9 Laptops

As you will read over page, the Digital Education Revolution (DER) laptop program, funded by the federal government, is continuing this year. As this appears to be the last year of this program (i.e. it appears that current year 8 students will not receive laptops under this program next year), there are some slight changes to the way laptops are issued and managed. It is important that year 9 students and parents have returned the laptop agreements and are familiar with the information over page.

Peter South - Principal
Upcoming Events:
25/03 Yr 10 Creative Writing Camp- Valla Beach
27/03 Didgeridoo Player – 12pm MPC
29/03 Good Friday
01/04 Easter Monday
02/04 – 12/04 HSC Mid-Course Exams
09/04 Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45 – 6 pm
12/04 Term 1 last day
01/05 Term 2 resumes for all students

Year 9 Laptops

As part of the DER laptop program year 9 students will be receiving their laptops this week. Parent information nights were held last week and were well attended by parents and students keen to find out what the program offers them. This year students will be loaned the laptop but it will remain the property of the school. This is slightly different to previous years but the expectations of the students to bring their laptop to school each day, fully charged, remain. Issues regarding damage or warranty with regard to the laptop are the same as previous years and we encourage students to take care of their new laptop.

Laptops will be issued to students throughout this week once the majority of agreements have been returned and the laptops have been allocated to each student. We look forward to seeing them used to enhance the learning that occurs in the classroom.

If you have any queries regarding the DER program then please contact the school to talk with our Technical Support Officer, Nikolaus Carle or Deputy Principal, Daniel Moar.

Deb Ball
A meeting for the Deb Ball will be held on Wednesday 20th March 2013 at 5.15pm in the common room.
All parents and daughters that are interested in being debutantes (year 11) are encouraged to attend.
Mr Lasker

WELFARE NEWS – School Conflict Forum
There were a number of key findings as a result of the School Conflict Resolution and mediation Forum. 36 students and 8 members of staff and community combined for a three hour planning meeting to provide suggested directions toward the creation and support of positive relationships at Grafton High School.

Grafton High School
School Conflict Resolution and Mediation (SCRAM) Forum
Participants were involved in a number of activities to promote positive ways of thinking around problem solving and resolving conflict.

The school would like to acknowledge the contribution made to the school direction by its student population. Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution made by Senior Constable Benfield of the Coffs/Clairence Local Area Command and the year 12 drama class for their valuable insight.

The planning group will now action plan for implementation of the identified strategies for the school.
UPDATE OF STUDENT DETAILS

DATE: __________________ DATE OF CHANGE: __________________

STUDENT NAME: ___________________ YEAR: _______ ON TRAC: _______

Complete sections where the student’s details have changed. This form contains 2 pages – please sign on page 2.

SECTION A: NEW INFORMATION

Address: ________________________________________________________

Email: __________________@______________________________

Phone: ___________________ Work – ____________________________

Mobile: Name __________________ Number – ________________________

Mobile: Name __________________ Number – ________________________

SECTION B: EMERGENCY CONTACTS-(OTHER THAN PARENTS/CARERS)

NAME: ___________________ NUMBER: _______________________

Relationship to student: ___________________ MOBILE: ____________

NAME: ___________________ NUMBER: _______________________

Relationship to student: ___________________ MOBILE: ____________

SECTION C: SCHOOL REPORTS

If duplicate copies of school reports are required for additional parent/carers not living with this student please complete the section below.

Name: ___________________ Relationship: ____________________

Address: ________________________________________________________

Suburb: ___________________ State: _____________ Postcode: ___________

SECTION D: NEWSLETTER- IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO ACCESS THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE, www.grafton-h.schools.nsw.edu.au PLEASE INDICATE BELOW –

☐ I would like the GHS newsletter emailed to me

______________________________@______________________________

______________________________@______________________________

☐ I would like my son/daughter to bring the newsletter home from school each week.

*Additional copies are available from the front office.
UPDATE OF STUDENT DETAILS (continued)

Update of parent/carer education and employment details

It is important that the information below is kept updated. This information is private and confidential and only used for school purposes and not shared with other agencies or organisations outside of the Department of Education.

Please ask for assistance completing this form at the front office.

Name Parent/Carer 1: ___________________________  Name Parent/Carer 2: ___________________________

Occupation: ___________________________  Occupation: ___________________________

School Education –
Please tick the highest level of education you completed.

- Year 12
- Year 11
- Year 10
- Year 9

School Education –
Please tick the highest level of education you completed.

- Year 12
- Year 11
- Year 10
- Year 9

Education Qualifications –
Please tick any qualification you have completed.

- Bachelor degree or above
- Advanced Diploma
- Certificate I to IV
- No non-school based qualification

Education Qualifications –
Please tick any qualification you have completed.

- Bachelor degree or above
- Advanced Diploma
- Certificate I to IV
- No non-school based qualification

Additional information regarding your child (e.g. medical details, court orders etc)

Note – no changes to student details will be made without signed authorisation

Parent/Carer Authorisation –
Name: ___________________________  Signature: ___________________________

OFFICE USE - ERN SAMS BUS OFFICE STAFF TO SIGN