Tuesday, 26 March 2013

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Principal's Report

Last Thursday I had the great pleasure of travelling to Parliament House in Sydney for the presentation of the NSW Board of Studies Brother John Memorial Prize. This prestigious prize was awarded to only two students from across NSW. One of these students was Bethany-Kate Richmond (Year 12 – 2012), who achieved outstanding HSC results, earning top bands in 4 subjects and second-top bands in all other subjects. In outlining her achievements I thought I would reproduce the citation from her nomination for this award:

“Bethany-Kate is an outstanding recipient of this award. Her academic achievements have been of the highest standard over many years and have included her consistently coming first in her classes and achieving outstanding results in comparison to state standards. Her School Certificate results included all Band 6 results, with her LOWEST mark being 91%. With such dedication to her studies, Bethany-Kate can expect equally impressive results in the upcoming HSC.

Bethany-Kate has made an amazing contribution to our community, acknowledged through her being named the Clarence Valley 2012 Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year. One of her most significant achievements has been as the YMCA Youth Parliamentarian for the state seat of Clarence. Bethany-Kate introduced her own bill to parliament called the “Safe Haven” bill, which was passed by state cabinet to be considered for state legislation. The bill aimed to provide anonymous drop-off centres for women with unwanted babies so that they could be safely left for adoption rather than being abandoned in an unsafe manner that might cause harm or even death to the child.

Bethany Kate is an exceptional student and citizen with a very promising future. She is a credit to her community, her school and herself and is to be congratulated on her effort and her many outstanding achievements.”

Bethany-Kate has gone on to begin studying Secondary Teaching this year at the University of New England. I wish her all the best for the future. Her example epitomises the high expectations I hold for all our students, especially in the areas of citizenship and academic achievement. I hope others are encouraged to follow her example.

CHS Junior NSW Championships

Last week Georgia Allen competed in the CHS Tennis at Parramatta, Sydney. Georgia competed in the 15 years and under event, winning the singles title. Georgia and her partner Lisa Mays (Sydney) were also runners up in the doubles. A huge congratulations goes to Georgia as she now holds the title of NSW Junior Champion. Photos to come.

Vietnam Excursion – Bunnings BBQ

The History faculty have organised a special excursion to Vietnam and Cambodia over the upcoming school holiday period. To help raise funds for this trip Grafton High School students will be running a BBQ at Bunning between 9 am and 4 pm this Monday 1st April (Easter Monday). Sausage sandwiches and drinks will be on sale, so if you are out and about on Monday drop in, grab something to eat and support our students.

Interim Reports

In 2012 the school undertook a formal evaluation of its academic reporting system. A recommendation of this process was that we report on student progress at three points through the year: an Interim report in term1, a mid-course report and a final report at the end of the year. The Interim report is a quick summary of how students are progressing to give some initial feedback to students and parents. These reports will be handed out next week and will be followed up with a parent-teacher evening on Tuesday 9th April from 3:45 – 6 pm in the staff common room and library. All parents are invited to attend and discuss their child’s progress with their teachers. No appointments are necessary.

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 – 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

World Maths Day

Listed below are the results for the top 10 students who participated in the World Maths Day as part of “Team Grafton”, enjoying a day of Maths gaming on March 6th. Over 20% of our junior students correctly answered 55,000 Maths questions in 4,090 sixty second games with 22 students completing all 50 games of the challenge. Well done everyone and thanks to Mrs Gorham for supervising the competition. For a second year running we would like to thank our World Maths Day sponsor – The Bank of Queensland and manager, Mr Peter Gibbons for attending the school assembly last Friday to present the certificates. Well done Team Grafton, see you all in March 2014!

The top 10 results were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Games Played</th>
<th>Total Correct Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Zietsch</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Wall</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zakary Masters</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Crispin</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison Vidler</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Hobbes</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey Allamby</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Picone</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Pryor</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy McGee-Gunn</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>984</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs Merry

Spot on Coffee @ GHS

2011 saw the introduction of ‘Spot on Coffee’ at Grafton High School (GHS) where four selected Year 10 students received training in preparing and serving espresso coffee. To date, eight students have been successfully trained and many have gone on to gain employment in the hospitality industry.

Today, two years on, Spot on Coffee is still going strong selling much needed refreshments for the staff at GHS. This year will see another four students gain valuable work training with students also having the opportunity to complete a ‘Certificate of Attainment in Preparing and Serving Espresso Coffee’, a nationally recognised accreditation.

An added bonus of the program is that students gain self-confidence, particular in interacting with teaching staff, have improved attendance rates and behaviour at school. Attendance of students who worked in the program for past two years, has risen on average by over 15%!

Thank you must go to Careers Advisor, Mr Barnier, for his ongoing support, Mr McArthur for his role in supervising the students, Mr Norton and Mrs Christiansen for their patience and the staff of GHS for their ongoing support of the program.

Mower for Sale

The school is in the process of replacing it’s 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.

P and C Meeting

Grafton High School P & C Meeting is being held on Wednesday 27th March 2013 at 7pm, in the common room at GHS. All welcome.

Community Notices

FNC NSW Futsal
(5 a side indoor soccer)

Grafton Winter Futsal
All age groups, men’s, women’s, mixed, 8 yrs, 10 yrs, 12 yrs, 14 yrs, youth
Starts 1st May 2013. For further information contact FNC NSW Futsal Robyn Lawrence – 0488288827
Are YOU a young carer?

Do YOU look after someone who has...

* long term illness?
* disability?
* mental illness?

Do YOU do things like...

shopping, cooking, cleaning, paying bills, help with showering & dressing, give medication & offer support

We may be able to help YOU!

The Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre will talk to you and your family about how we may be able to support YOU!

Freecall™ 1800 052 222*

*(Calls from mobiles charged at applicable rates)
FUTSAL OPEN DAY
www.futsalfnc.com.au

GO FOR THE GOAL

Exhibition Games
Clinics
Games and much more:

FREE BBQ Provided

Grafton Sports Centre
27th April 2013
10am till 2pm

COME AND TRY AND HAVE SOME FUN. IT’S FREE AND OPEN TO ALL AGES

Contact:
Robyn Lawrence
0488 288 827
regionalcoordinator@futsalfnc.com.au

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