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Principal’s Report
Apologies for the delay in this week’s newsletter. My chief desktop publisher, Ms Julrianna Matthews from our front office, has been unwell, but in her normal hardworking and efficient manner has now got us back on track on her return to school. Thank you to Ms Matthews for her excellent work in ensuring that we get our newsletter out on a regular basis.

“Tell Them From Me” Student Survey
I am delighted that our school has been selected to participate in a Department of Education and Communities pilot of the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW pilot project is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey will provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is anonymous and students cannot be identified by their responses. The survey is conducted online and will take around 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 19 August and 6 September.

An information sheet and consent form about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 14th August.

Outstanding Performing Arts at GHS
I have had the real pleasure of being involved with a number of students participating in public speaking, musical, drama and dance performances over the last week.

Last Thursday evening I attended a presentation of senior student drama, dance and music performances. These were the performances students have prepared for the practical component of their HSC. These performances were to a very high standard and I thoroughly enjoyed being able to see them all presented in one evening. The quality of work is a credit not only to the students but also to the hard work and expertise of their teachers; Mrs Worrell, Mrs Mills and Mr Townley.

Last Friday I was also privileged to participate in our community if schools “Readings by the River”. Students from our support unit attended in the morning and Mrs Mellefont and I accompanied another group of students in the afternoon. Five students expertly read a variety of excerpts from novels of their choice. I read my favourite childhood story – Green Eggs and Ham. This was the culmination of Education Week, which also included both a static and live display of student work at shopping world. Thanks to Mrs Vreugdenhil, Mr O’Loughlin and Mr Strano for organising this years display.

I have just returned from our community of schools dance performance evening. All of the performances were absolutely outstanding and demonstrated the breadth and depth of student skill across all our public schools. This was a fundraiser for our students attending the Schools Spectacular and the night was an outstanding success both as a fundraiser and as a showcase of student talent.

Finally, I can report that Alanna Harris has left yesterday for her first lot of rehearsals as part of the state Aboriginal Dance Company, in Sydney. We wish her all the best and would like to thanks Mackellar Girls High School and the Biala hostel for their help in making this all possible for Alanna.

Mr Peter South - Principal

Year 10 Work experience Program
Just a reminder to Parents that the Year 10 Work Experience Program this year is running by flexible arrangement. This allows students to negotiate the time of their Work Experience with the employer, their teachers and of course you as parents. The benefits in running a flexible program are many. Students will have access to a wider range of employers at a time that suits all parties concerned. It also allows those “high demand” employers to take more than one student. Students involved in the Work Education program are not required to do another placement; however, they are more than welcome to if they wish. For more information, please contact Mr Barnier.
Upcoming Events:
6-16/8 HSC Trials
6-11/8 PDHPE Ski Trip
19-23/8 Yr 7 – 10 Maths Assessment Week
26/8 – 6/9 Yr 7 - 10 PE Gymnastics
27/8 Yr 8 Police Talks
29/8 Yr 10 Love Bites
9/9 Yr 9 Immunisations
9 – 20/9 Final Preliminary Exams
10/9 Yr 8 Police Talks
11/09 Yr 9 Immunisations
12/9 Yr 7 Stellar 9-11am GDSC
22/9 Last Day Term 3

History Excursion
Cambodia
Part 1
During the July school holidays a group of History students, staff and parent embarked on a 12 day excursion to Cambodia/Vietnam.
A highlight of the tour was the time spent exploring the many temples and buildings in Siem Reap.
The group captivated by the gentle friendly people of the region and the uniqueness of the landscape they call home.

Above- Ta Prohm Temple where "Tomb Raider" was filmed.

Above- Siem Reap Airport waiting for baggage.

Above- Our tour guide explaining the local foods.

Above- "Bayon Temple"

Above- "Rithy Rine Angkor Hotel" where we spent our first night.

Above- Sunet at Bakheng Hill.

Above- Local fresh food market.

Above- Local delicacy "Deep Fried Grasshoppers" mmmmm yum!

Above- travelling on our Khmer style bus.
Go Art

Grafton High School Parents & Citizens Association will proudly present Grafton newest Open Art Exhibition – “GO ART” which will be held over the October long weekend 4 October to 6 October. Grafton High School Multi-Purpose centre will be transformed to accommodate this event, the official opening and announcing of awards will be held 6pm Friday 4 October. The exhibition will open Saturday 5 October: 10.00am - 5.00pm, Sunday 6 October: 10.00am - 4.00pm.

This is a new and exciting art event for the Clarence Valley. It is an open art exhibition, artist and secondary school students are encouraged to enter their artworks.

Sections are offered in all mediums of visual arts along with wearable art and sculpture; artworks will be available for purchase, excluding secondary student’s artwork, unless a request is made by the student to offer their art for sale.

The judge will be Harold Le Jeune from Port Macquarie who is an accomplished artist and teacher. As part of his judging, our major prize will include the Lewis Ellem Award for the most outstanding exhibit.

Lewis was school captain at Grafton High School, Dux and School Citizen of the year in 1934, and he also received a double blue in tennis and cricket. After studying at University, teaching was his occupation for the next thirty nine years, retiring in 1975 from Grafton Public School, where he had spent the last thirteen years of his long teaching career as Principal. Lewis had two very dear passions - education and sport and we are very pleased having him as a representative/patron for our exhibition which promotes the fine arts.

All you eager young artists wishing to enter this fantastic art show, start creating your masterpiece now for this event. Please contact GHS Front Office and pick up an entry form from Mrs Kelly or go to the website: www.fayboydsfineartschool.com or email either info@fayboydsfineartschool.com or GoArt.ghs@gmail.com. Also if any parents could help the P&C at the exhibition please let the office know, as we would greatly appreciate you volunteering some of your time to help us organise this event.

Entries close September 20, 2013. Artworks are to be delivered to Grafton High School Multi-Purpose Centre Fry Street, Grafton 9 am to 5 pm on Wednesday 2 October, 2013

Richard Green
GHS P&C President
WESTLAWN TIGERS SOCCER CLUB

ANNUAL ‘JUNIOR FUNDRAISER’.

A

...GIRLS only NIGHT-out...

THEMED-fancy dress...‘APYJAMA PARTY’

...so save the date...

* WHEN - SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST 2013
* WHERE - CROWN HOTEL GRAFTON (Club Sponsor)
* TIME - 6.30PM START...12 MIDNIGHT FINISH
* TICKETS -$20 inc nibblies,D.J.,games and prizes,1 free drink ticket...BUY THEM at club canteen, from team managers, at the door on the night or from the Fundraising committee

-Kylee Baker...0417263874

-Liz Weatherstone...0402381462

* Bring lots o’ friends, your mum, sisters, aunties, your nan or cousins...a real chance for us girls to kick back or kick up our heels,either way its a fun night-out!!!

*** ALL MONEY RAISED GOES DIRECTLY TO PROVIDING EQUIPMENT FOR THE 'JUNIOR PLAYERS - U/6'S TO U/16'S '.

..........................................A fun and hilarious night-out..........................