Principal’s Report
This week will be a big week to finish off the term with NAIDOC week activities throughout the week. It will start with an opening ceremony at 10 am on Monday, followed by a games day on Tuesday for year 5 students, where our students will assist in the running of games and in cooking for the primary school students. On Wednesday we will be participating in a public speaking competition at Westlawn Public School and on Friday we finish the week with a Touch football competition between staff, students and community. Parents/Carers are most welcome to attend these events. Please just go to the front office and sign in as a visitor and someone will show you down to the event.

Cool for Cats!
You may have read the Examiner last week and heard about year 7 student, Kristal Kemp. Kristal was selected as a cast member for the production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s famous musical – Cats. The musical is being held at the Brisbane Convention Centre from July 4 – 6 and stars Marina Prior in the role of Grizabella. This is fantastic news for Kristal and an incredible opportunity.

On behalf of the school I would like to wish her all the best in the upcoming production. Cats is one of my favourite musicals. I first saw it as a child quite some time ago; it was the first musical I had ever seen. I enjoyed the show so much that, when I heard it was playing up at Brisbane in the holidays with one of our students in the cast, I just had to book tickets for my family. If you do manage to go, keep an eye out for Kristal among the 500 performers (Kristal plays a kitten).

P&C Meeting
A reminder that there is a P&C meeting this Thursday evening from 7:00 pm in the staff common room. All parents/carers are most welcome to attend.

GoArt
A reminder that the P&C’s GoArt exhibition will be held in the MPC from Saturday the 26th of July through to Sunday the 27th of July. The official opening will be held on Saturday the 26th of July at 6 pm. Entry forms are available from the Grafton High website http://www.grafton-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/goart and the front office.

YourTutor
For many students, this time of year heralds the start of more serious study and revision. When students are feeling stressed, we know it can be stressful for the whole household. That’s why we have partnered with the Stellar program to provide students with ‘yourtutor’: online, after-hours homework help.

Students can access yourtutor the minute they are stuck on a homework problem. Whether English, Maths, Science, report-writing or any other schoolwork-based question, a live expert tutor is available to help them work through the problem and figure it out for themselves (without giving out the answer).

Using yourtutor develops a student’s curiosity, critical thinking and independent learning skills, as well as their own confidence. Building these skills and forming these habits is an important step in preparing for the rest of the school year, and importantly, exam season.

Years 9 – 12 students already have their yourtutor access cards and can sign in at www.stellar.edu.au/yourtutor, Sun – Fri, 3 – 10pm

End of the DER Program
The DER (Digital Education Revolution) program was a federal program that supplied students from year 9 onwards with their own laptop computer. The program was supported by a Technical Support Officer (TSO) in every school. Whilst the program ended last year and no further laptops have been issued, students in years 10 -12 continue to use their laptops for learning.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education and Communities has decided not to provide funding to ensure that the TSO role remains to service the remaining laptop computers for the period of their use. This means that, starting term 3 this year, the school will have no TSO position. As a result, any year 10, 11 or 12 student who has any issue with their DER laptop will be required to resolve the issue themselves. This may mean having to contact the supplier for warranty claims etc. It is unfortunate that this has to occur but without any funding for the position I, like most other high school principals across the state, am left with no choice. In closing, I would like to thank our current TSO – Nik Carle for the excellent job he has done and wish him all the best for the future.

Peter South – Principal
CAPA/LOTE
Our CAPA/LOTE department are winding down after a huge term filled with many events.

Term 2 saw the CAPA department holding their annual Variety Night. The Variety Night was very successful and was a showcase of the talents in the school. There were acts from Music, Dance and Drama on display. All students that participated, 84 in total, did so with enthusiasm and put on a spectacular show for the audience. We look forward to the next showcase of the talents within the school.

The School Band & Choir performing.

Our LOTE department recently enjoyed a Japanese drumming workshop. The workshop was put on by TaikOz and it allowed students the opportunity to listen to and participate in traditional Japanese drumming. Students that were involved had a great time showing their skills with the Taiko drums.

Students enjoying Taiko drumming

Our Music department also enjoyed a drumming performance this term. ‘Beating around the Bush’ was held in the MPC and gave students the opportunity to explore a range of different drums. Students were treated to the sounds of traditional drums through to an electronic drum kit. The students enjoyed the display of different drums and learnt all about different drumming techniques. Don’t forget that ‘GoArt’ is coming up. The exhibition will be held in the MPC from Saturday, the 26th of July, through to Sunday the 27th of July. The official opening will be held on Saturday the 26th of July, at 6 pm. Entry forms are available from the Grafton High website [http://www.grafton-high.school.nsw.edu.au/go-art](http://www.grafton-high.school.nsw.edu.au/go-art) or from the CAPA/LOTE staffroom. Be sure to get your entry ready, to submit on time, for your chance to win.

A reminder to Visual Arts students that your subject contributions are now due. Please ensure that you pay these ASAP to the front office so we can continue to supply art making materials. Thank you for your cooperation.

PBL Update
Our schools PBL program has been hugely successful this term. Students are displaying behaviours that reflect our core values (SHARE) and are getting lots of tokens in the draw for our fortnightly SHARE draw on assembly. Our latest winner was Michael Christian from Year 7. Keep getting those entries in for our double draw that will be held next week and for the big draw at the end of the year!

Mr Townley

Year 10 Geography
Assessment Task- Upcycling
This year, as a part of our Waste Management topic, Year 10 will be completing an Upcycling project. This task is a creative task that requires the student to build or make something using previously used materials. Another term for upcycling is repurposing. These items can be sourced from various places (home, op shops, recycling depot, etc.), but we have stressed with the students that they ask for permission and help if needed.

The Year 10 teacher will discuss examples of upcycling with their classes to give them some ideas of what to make. In addition, there are many websites dedicated to upcycling where the students can gain ideas.

This assessment task is due Week 3 Term 3. If you have any questions regarding this project please contact the HSIE faculty.

Upcycling Examples below:

Science

This is yr 7 gold studying changes in state between liquids & solids by making ice cream

Rock and Water Term 2
The Rock and Water program focuses on developing the skill of grounding, centring and focusing to enable us to be able to think and act in ways to appropriately handle different situations. Students developed both verbal and physical skills through discussions, games and activities. Congratulations to the students who participated in the girls ‘Rock and Water Program’ this term. The students were Callum O’Driscoll, Jordan Bain, Brooke Blackburn, Kyame O’Brien and Chloe Burton. There were many valuable discussions and opportunities for students to show how strong, insightful and resilient they are. All students made a valued contribution to the group with us all learning from each other. Well done girls.

Mrs Hargreaves
The Gold, Silver and Bronze Merit Award Scheme

After a review of the Merit System at Grafton High School at the end of 2013, we have made some changes to the way in which students are recognised for their contributions to Grafton High School in this format. Several changes were made to the structure of our Gold, Silver and Bronze Merit Award Scheme, and we have had several students take up the challenge to earn these awards.

This semester we have had 10 students successfully complete the Bronze Merit Award. To achieve this award, students have had to simply maintain a consistently high performance in the classroom and wider school settings for a period of four weeks. The students have had their performance recognised through the completion of a card that is signed by their teachers each lesson for four weeks. Students that have received the Bronze Merit Award certificate at our whole school assemblies this semester are Olivia McDonogh, Annabel Green, Micaela Scott, Serina Green, Claire Smidt, Natalie Waterhouse, Ethan Striegher, Caleb Witt, Thomas Rowe and Colby Mcilveen.

Several of these students have also received the Silver Merit Award certificate. In addition to fulfilling the above requirements for another four weeks, these students have had to represent the school or participate in an extracurricular activity. These students are Micaela Scott who is a member of our school band, Annabel Green and Natalie Waterhouse who are delegates on our Environment Committee, and Ethan Striegher who represented our school at this year’s Anzac Day march.

Already we have students who are attempting the Gold Merit Award. In addition to repeating the requirements of the Silver Merit Award, but completing another school extracurricular activity or school representation, the students must complete an activity supporting the wider community. In the past we have had students participate in the likes of the 40 Hour Famine and work as collectors for the Red Shield and Westpac Helicopter appeals.

All students at Grafton High School are encouraged to participate in this Merit Award Scheme. For further information on the Gold, Silver and Bronze Merit Award Scheme, or any other elements of the Merit Awards System, please contact Stacey Martin in the HSIE Faculty.

Upcoming Events:

**Week 9 A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week Opening</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week Games Day (year 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week Public Speaking Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Year 10 Geography Excursion Woolgoolga</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Music Performance Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week Touch football</td>
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**July**

**Week 1 A**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>All students return</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Year 7 – 11 Reports Issued</td>
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**Week 2 B**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45-6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Opportunity Class Placement Test MPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Year 12 Option Expo</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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**Week 3 A**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th</td>
<td>Writers Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
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**Community Notices**

Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre
Far North Coast

Our Centre is here to support family members, friends or neighbours (carers) who provide a significant amount of help to someone who is a frail older person, has a disability, or chronic, terminal or mental illness.

The Centre is funded until June 30th 2015.

What we provide:

- Information on carer support services on the Far North Coast
- Assistance with accessing support services that meet carer and care recipient ongoing needs
- Provision of short-term planned and emergency respite to give carers a break from their caring role.

If you are a carer and you need some help whatever your age - call us on FREECALL™ 1800 052 222*

*(calls from mobile phones charged at applicable rates)
School newsletter 1

Get unstuck!

Homework and study help is available for students in years 9-12.

Your child received his/her personal access card last week, and saw a live demo of how the yourtutor online classroom works.

What is the new school service?

yourtutor is live, one-to-one, on-demand online help during study.

This means, the moment your child has a study question – English, essay writing, maths, science, and more – there is a real-life, expert Australian tutor online, ready to help, 3pm – 10pm Sunday through Friday.

We know it can be stressful for parents to try to help with all their child’s homework, especially during senior school. With yourtutor, we hope there is some additional support to all households.

What does this mean for your family?

- Less stress during ‘homework time’ in your household
- The chance for every child to build up confidence, interest, and performance in subject areas
- No extra travel or appointments needed, students simply use the service from a computer or device, from school, from home, or anywhere else with an internet connection.
- Extremely ethical guidance, a ‘no answers’ policy, students are trained to think for themselves
- Awareness of university study options after Year 12

More about yourtutor

yourtutor is a trusted name across Australia, used by schools and governments for over a decade. The online tutors are Australian teachers or university experts, located across the country. The online staff must go through all necessary checks and a long application process, to make sure only the best are allowed in the network.

Students log in at www.stellar.edu.au/yourtutor
Sunday – Friday, 3pm – 10pm

More about Stellar

Stellar is a partnership between the Clarence Valley Industry and Education Forum (CVIEF), Southern Cross University and the University of New England working with schools in the Clarence Valley to improve participation rates in higher education.