Principal’s Report

It is with sadness that I acknowledge the recent passing of Mr Lewis Ellem.

Lew Ellem started his secondary education at Grafton High School in 1930 at 14 years of age. He went on to become School Captain of Grafton High School in 1934. He was dux and school citizen of the year, as well as receiving school blues for tennis and cricket. Lew then went on to university to study as a Primary School teacher and was the Principal at Grafton Public School for 13 years.

Lew continued to have a connection to Grafton High School right up until his passing. He was the keynote speaker at the Captains Breakfast as part of our centenary celebrations. He has also been a major sponsor for Lew Ellem prize for our P&C GoArt exhibition for the last two years. We hope to carry on this prize in his name into the future.

Lew had fond memories of his time at school, he had a great sense of humour and it was always fascinating to hear him reflect on his youth. I am sure he will be missed by many. On behalf of the school I would like to pass on our condolences to Lew’s family.

Primary School Visits

Each year the school conducts a range of activities to help transition year 6 primary school students to high school. This includes visits by staff and students to primary schools. We also run a number of high school “taster days” and an orientation day, where year 6 students come to our school for the day to experience what it is like to learn in a large high school.

Later this week the Year 7 Adviser for 2015 – Ms Tracey Wilks and I will be visiting Grafton Public School, Copmanhurst Public School and Westlawn Public School. This visit is just an informal gathering where students will be introduced to various staff members of Grafton High School. We will also be bringing past students to talk to the group about their experience at high school.

We will be at Grafton Public School on Thursday 28th August from 10.10am and then Copmanhurst Public School from 12pm. On Friday 29th August we will be at Westlawn Public School from 10.15am.

All students from the smaller primary schools attending Grafton High School in 2015 are invited to attend the session at Westlawn Public School on Friday morning at 10.15am.

Uniform Order

Due to popular demand we are running a second order for our new school jersey. Please see the last page of this newsletter for the order form. All forms and payment must be in by the last day of term (Friday 19th September) to be included in this round of orders.

Year 12

All year 12 students have been presented with a letter outlining the support that will be available for them in the lead up to the HSC. The letter also outlines my expectations of student behaviour and commitment to their studies over this period.

The letter also lists some key dates for year 12, which I am repeating here for everyone’s reference:

- Year 12 Slave Day fundraiser – 16/9/2014
- Year 12 Mystery Tour - 18/9/2014
- Farewell Assembly - 19/9/2014
- Fundraising BBQ – 2/11/2014
- Year 12 Graduation Ball – 12/11/2014

The year 12 slave auction will be conducted by staff from Elders Real Estate and run along the same lines as last year. Students will be able to purchase year 12s as individuals or in pairs. The maximum price for an individual is $50 or $100 for a pair of slaves. Money must be paid by the purchaser at the completion of bidding for that slave. NO IOUs will be taken.

I have been questioned about the idea of a “slave day”. This has been a tradition at the school for some time and is meant to be a light-hearted play on the slavery of ancient times, with the novelty idea of year 12 being at the beck and call of the rest of the school for a day. In no way is this meant to be a reflection on modern slavery or making fun of the misery that slavery has and still is causing in parts of the world. If anything it should make us thankful that we live in a country where slavery is morally unacceptable and illegal.

Overall, I seek the assistance of parents and students to make the period leading up to the HSC exams as safe, respectful, productive and hopefully as enjoyable as possible.

Peter South - Principal
New Books to GHS Library

Writing Clementine by Kate Gordon.

Clementine Darcy is floundering. She wants to be the kind of a fish who swims to the swish of her own fins - upstream, not simply carried along by the current. But she is finding the swirling waters of school and home difficult to navigate: her friendship group is splintering, her brother Fergus won't leave his room, her sister's life is not as perfect as she thought...

And then there's the New Boy, who is dapper and intriguing, but hiding secrets of his own. Clem is desperate for everyone - including herself - to be happy, but she discovers that her idea of helping doesn't always work as well as she imagined. Can Clem be the girl she wants to be? Will she learn to accept that there are things she can fix and things she cannot? Will she find a way to know the difference?

Upcoming Events:

August
Week 7 A
26th Year 8 Police Talks
27th Year 10 Love Bites
28th Aboriginal Performance 9.30am
10.30am
28th P & C Meeting
28th 2015 Year 7 Advisor to Westlawn PS + Copmanhurst, Lawrence, Baryulgil & non-Local Primary Schools

September
Week 8 B
1st - 5th
Week 9 A
8-12th Year 11 Final Preliminary Exams
10th Year 10 Creative Writing Camp Valla Beach

Week 10 B
15-19th Year 12 Graduation Assembly
19th Last Day Term 3

October
Week 1 A
6th Labour Day Public Holiday
7th School resumes for all staff & students
8-10th Year 10 Final Exams MPC

Week 2 B
13-17th HSC Exams MPC

Week 3 A
20-24th HSC Exams MPC
23rd Year 7 2015 Taster Day GPS
24th Year 7 2015 Taster Day Westlawn PS + Copmanhurst, Lawrence, Baryulgil & non-Local Primary Schools

Week 4 B
27-31st HSC Exams MPC

November
Week 5 A
3rd, 7th
4th
Week 6 B
10-14th

WANTED!
The science department is looking for donations of LARGE fish tanks please.
If you have any tanks please contact Mrs Blackburn at GHS.

Community Notices

Coutts Crossing Cricket Club
SIGN ON DAYS Friday, Sept 5 and 12 at Ellem Oval nets 4-6pm Friday. Then on Saturday Sept 13 from 2pm a sign on at the McIntosh Park nets in Coutts Crossing.

New Players Welcome

Teams games and training all at Grafton and South Grafton Fields
Come join the fun from Milo Cricket to u16’s contact barbwillis4@gmail.com


Saturday Evening 16/05/15
We are currently searching for everyone to be able to pass on the invitation, and would appreciate any help you can give us in this endeavour. This is a huge task as you are probably aware. There are over 250 names on the list, the bulk of them have been found but further assistance would be most gratefully welcomed.

We would also be interested to hear from any of our former teachers that may be interested in attending. Teachers that taught at the school between 1985 - 1990 that you still have contact with or contact details for.

The best contact for any queries or information you have regarding this event, or details to pass onto others for contacting us is best sent to this email address. Alternatively you can phone me or pass on my number 0416 015 328.

If you require anything further please feel free to get in contact.
Xanthe (Stanmore) Brennan
Grafton Amateur Swimming Club

Come along and join in the fun on Swimming Club nights!

Our 2014 / 2015 Club Night Season is
starting on
Wednesday 15th October 2014 at 6pm
at Grafton Olympic Pool

Minimum age is 5 years, with race
distances starting from 25m

FREE COME & TRY NIGHT
Grafton Olympic Pool
Wednesday 8th October at 6pm

For further details please email
pattison.5@bigpond.com

Discover The World on a WEP Student Exchange Program!
Are you ready for a bit of excitement and culture in your life?
Looking to push your boundaries in 2015? Why not participate in a
semester or year-long student exchange program to one of over 20
countries, including popular destinations such as the USA, France,
Argentina and Italy? Applications for January programs are still
open but will close soon! Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime
opportunity to do something out of the ordinary, with a WEP high
school exchange!

Georgie (17) currently in Argentina: "Everything's going really great here! I especially get on
really well with both my sisters and their friends, so that's a nice relief. I've even started
playing hockey with my younger sister, despite knowing absolutely nothing about it, and I'm
having lots of fun. I absolutely loved orientation week, it was so much fun and definitely,
definitely worth it. I think everyone should have one, it was the perfect transition to life here
in Argentina, so thank you very much for that!"

Early Bird Special!
WEP is offering students in years 9 to 12 (excluding year 12 students in VIC) a $500 discount
off the 2014/15 program fee towards a semester or year program to any of the following
countries departing in July - September 2015: Brazil, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy,
Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Norway, Thailand or the USA. Simply submit your
full application online before 28 Nov '14.

Find Out More!
• Visit www.wep.org.au and request a
  FREE information pack for you and your
  parents. Our brochure contains everything you need to know about
  WEP's not-for-profit student exchange
  programs to help you and your parents
  make this important decision.
• If you have any questions about any of
  our exchange programs please feel free
to give us a call on 1300 884 733 or
  email info@wep.org.au.

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the
Education Departments in VIC, NSW and QLD.

ENTRY FORM

NAME: Click here to enter text.
ADDRESS: Click here to enter text.
CATEGORY: PRIMARY SCHOOL □ HIGH SCHOOL □ OPEN(18+)? □
PHOTOGRAPH TITLE: Click here to enter text.
DESCRIPTION OF PHOTOGRAPH: WHAT IT’S LIKE TO “BE YOUNIQUE”: Click here to enter text.

☐ I understand that my work will be displayed on public exhibition and that the Clarence Valley
  Mental Health Month Committee, may use my image for advertising and promotional purposes.
☐ I have obtained consent of the people featured in my photography and explained to them
  that their image will be displayed publicly and may be used for advertising and promotional
  purposes.
SIGNED: Click here to enter text. DATE: Click here to enter text.

ENTRIES TO BE EMAILED TO yuniquegrafton@gmail.com BY THURSDAY OCTOBER 2ND 2014.
FILE SIZE TO BE NO GREATER THAN 2MB. IF YOUR ENTRY IS SELECTED FOR DISPLAY, A LARGER FILE
SIZE MAY BE REQUESTED.
GHS Junior Jersey order form - 2014

Full Name (Print)_________________________ Year Group __________

The jersey is a polycotton fabric in light blue, dark blue and white colours with the school crest on the front.

Please CIRCLE the size of shirt that you want to wear.
Sizing samples are available for you to try on at school in the PE house
Size required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>XS</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>XL</th>
<th>2XL</th>
<th>3XL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Pay $63 to the front office by Fri 19th of September 2014

Return this completed sheet to the box in the PE house.

I confirm the size required is correct. I will have paid in full by Fri 19th of September 2014.

Student signature ___________________ Parent Signature ___________________

Jerseys will be available as soon as possible, hopefully 6-8 weeks after order is sent.

Please contact Mr Hartmann if you have any questions.