Wednesday, 10 September 2014

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Principal's Report

SRC Induction

I would like to congratulate our newly elected 2015 SRC representatives:

Year 8 - 2015
- Victoria Clark
- Milly Deefholts
- Lachlan Firth
- Joshua Hiatt

Year 9 - 2015
- Brodie Gough
- Kate McGuire
- Jake Connolly
- Jacob Thompson

Year 10 - 2015
- Jordan Smith
- Macaela Scott
- Natalie Waterhouse
- Annabel Green

Year 11 - 2015
- Lauren Pryor
- Amy Riddell
- Tom Grantley-Davies
- Jimm Woodley

Year 12 Prefects - 2015
- Emily Allen
- Ganiva Drew
- Acacia Endean
- Zak Masters
- Jack Nelson

In particular, I would like to congratulate our school captains and vice captains for 2015:

Captains:
- Jemma Clark
- Ryan Lecchi

Vice Captains
- Kara Sutherland
- Noah Reardon

I want to thank Mr Strano for his organisation of the elections and all those staff who supported him in this process. As I said in my speech at the induction assembly on Friday, we have what I believe to be a fair and open process, based on our country’s own electoral process. With the assistance of the Australian Electoral Commission (who supply a kit to schools for the purpose of conducting elections), we run a preferential voting system, where all students and staff each get a vote.

No one gets more than one vote and there is no vetting or manipulation of the results. To maintain standards, the SRC has set criteria for students to be eligible for nomination and to maintain their position. These criteria encompass attendance, behaviour, uniform and academic standards (in terms of effort and participation). The end result is that I am always confident that whoever is elected to a position on our SRC will be the sort of student we would be happy to have representing our school. As such, I would like to thank the outgoing captains, vice captains, prefects and SRC representatives for their efforts and contribution to the school this year. I look forward to working with our newly elected representatives over the coming year.

“Tiddalick” the Archibull Cow

Grafton High School won the privilege of being the only North Coast School to participate in the 2014 Archibull Art for Agriculture Competition.

The painted Archibull will be revealed at the official unveiling next Wednesday, 17th September. Our official guests will be able to see cotton plants growing at the School Farm and will tour the farm with student guides. I will include photos in following newsletters.

The theme for the 2014 Archibull Prize is Sustainable Agriculture.

Our task was to present the cotton industry on an Archibull cow, and on other multimedia platforms.

As cotton production is not known as a major agricultural industry on the North Coast, this created a steep learning curve for us. The project has involved Grafton High students from years 9 & 10 with external support from our local community. Year 10 Agriculture students have been the core group.

Our journey to find out about the cotton industry involved research in class, growing cotton at school, then an excursion to explore the cotton growing areas of Narrabri and Wee Waa, learning first hand all aspects of the cotton Industry.

We appreciate the support from the sponsors of the Archibull 2014 competition. In particular we thank The North Coast Local Services who helped support our excursion to Narrabri and Wee Waa.

Peter South - Principal
New Books to the Library

The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness

Prentisstown isn’t like other towns. Everyone can hear everyone else’s thoughts in an overwhelming, never-ending stream of Noise. Just a month away from the birthday that will make him a man, Todd and his dog, Manchee -- whose thoughts Todd can hear too, whether he wants to or not -- stumble upon an area of complete silence. They find that in a town where privacy is impossible, something terrible has been hidden -- a secret so awful that Todd and Manchee must run for their lives.

But how do you escape when your pursuers can hear your every thought?

WANTED

The science department is looking for donations of LARGE fish tanks please.

If you have any tanks please contact Mrs Blackburn at GHS.

Upcoming Events:

### September

**Week 9 A**
- 10th Year 10 Creative Writing Camp Valla Beach
- 11th Bernina Trunk Show
- 12th Year 12 Slave Auction

**Week 10 B**
- 16th Slave Day
- 18th Year 12 Mystery Bus Trip
- 19th Last Day Term 3
- 19th Year 12 Graduation Assembly

### 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
- 14th Year 7 Immunisation
- 15th Senior Geo Ex Field Work

**Week 3 A**
- 20-24th HSC Exams MPC
- 21st Senior School Day: SCU Coffs
- 21st Year 12 English Study Day: Community Centre
- 23rd Year 7 2015 Taster Day GPS
- 23rd Year 9 Immunisation
- 23rd P & C Meeting: 7pm

### November

**Week 4 B**
- 24th Year 7 2015 Taster Day Westlawn PS + Copmanhurst, Lawrence, Baryulgil & non-Local Primary Schools

**Week 5 A**
- 3rd-5th HSC Exams MPC
- 4th Year 7 2015 Parent Information Night GHS 6pm

**Week 6 B**
- 10-14th Year 7-9 Exams
- 11th Year 9 Police Talks
- 12th Year 12 Graduation Formal
- 13th RRISK Year 11

**Week 7 A**
- 17-21st

**Week 8 B**
- 24-28th Heron Island Excursion
- 24th School Spectacular: Sydney
- 27-28th Queensland University Excursion
- 27th P & C Meeting 7pm

### December

**Week 9 A**

**Week 10 B**

**Week 11 A**
- 15-17th

**Week 12**
- 17th Last day 2014 for Students
- 18-19th Staff School Development Day

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Sports Camps Australia

SERIOUS. FUN.

Larry McIntosh MC Hockey Skill Set in partnership with
Aussie Athletes Agency college hockey showcase

Camp Location: Clarence Valley Regional Hockey Complex
*Lower Fisher Park* Grafton, NSW

**Camp Director:** Larry McIntosh

**Dates:** September 26th - 27th

**Times:** 9.00am - 3.00pm

**Fees:** $200

**Skill Level:** Intermediate - Advanced

**Age Group:** Year 10 through to Year 12

**Gender:** Girls


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Three Flags, One Nation

On Wednesday 6th August 2014, our Year 11 Aboriginal Studies class held a forum, ‘Three Flags One Nation’ as part of their preliminary course assessment task. As part of this, community members were invited by students to share their stories and wisdom with a selected group of students and teachers. The main purpose of this event was to bring forth issues in our society that are generally overlooked, through personal experiences of discrimination and equality.

We believe the day was mutually beneficial to all involved. For community members, the day presented an opportunity for them to establish connections with younger generations. For our class and the student body, the day provided an invaluable cultural experience which many would not have been exposed to. Some indigenous community members shared their stories of struggles and triumphs throughout their upbringing and adulthood.

Although only on a small scale, the theme of closing the gap was certainly achieved through the spirit of sharing and community which was celebrated by all who attended. This was a central focus of the day which could not have been achieved without the help of Fran, Bernadette, Helen, and Mr Robertson. We appreciate the attendance of all community members, guests and students, who helped to make this day truly worthwhile.

In addition to this, we invited the year six students from Grafton Primary School to listen to the Dreamtime stories our class had created for them. The stories were well received and we all found it a worthwhile experience. This again allowed us to connect with members of the community we would not generally interact with.