

Grafton High School

Achieving Excellence

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Friday 26th June 2009



A Great Day At The Canteen

Last Friday was a special "Aussie Bush Tucker" day at the canteen. As well as providing a great variety of different food for students it was a chance to recognise the important role volunteers play in keeping our canteen running as a service to staff and students. Thanks to Penne Davis and the band of volunteers who provide such a great service to our school. The day was so popular that another day, with a different theme, is already being planned.

Planning for the 1st Selective Class on the North Coast

Plans are well underway for the first selective class on the North Coast to start at Grafton High in 2010. Students who have been successful in gaining entry to the class will shortly be notified. Staff are already planning programs to challenge and extend students who are fortunate enough to gain a place in the class. Visits to other schools, links with local Universities, on-line learning and specialist courses are all part of preparations for a very exciting future



Year 9/10 Premier's Debating Competition

On Thursday June 18, Grafton High School represented by Tim Riddell, Tegan Morgan, Eliza Pearson and Honae Cuff, all of Year 10, debated "That we should bring home Australians jailed overseas". They argued the affirmative case against an enthusiastic team from Ballina High.

Grafton High was judged to be the winning team by adjudicator, Mrs Irene Rosenberg. All are to be congratulated on a fine effort. Mrs Ashenden



Year 9 2010 Survivor Wilderness Camp Deposits Due Now Please



Please pay your deposit for this camp to the front office by next Friday 3rd July in order to secure your place. Signed permission notes need to be given to Mr Brown or put in the box in the Science staff room. Priority will be given to students who pay on time.

Permission and information notes were handed out to all students in Year 8 last Friday 19th June. The note gave details on Wilderness Camp activities and outlined the payment options either as one complete payment or by regular instalments. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Brown if you have any questions about this exciting excursion. Only 36 weeks until we go!

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Information



First on the North Coast
Leading the way since 1912



Students enjoying motivational speaker Darren McMahon's message 'My Dream' when he spoke to Years 10—12 last week. Visit www.mydream for more info.
Sue Barnes



Scott Selected in NSW Ski Team

Scott Clark (Year 12) is shortly to head off to the snowfields again. He'll be training and racing while the school holidays are on and during Term 3.

Scott has won selection on the NSW State ski team' based on his excellent performances in international ski races in the last 12 months. Scott has won a full scholarship for training at Perisher which will cover all training fees for the coming season. As well as being results-based the scholarship takes into account attendance at training and attitude.

In addition Scott was awarded \$1000 from the Department of Sport and Recreation to help with travel expenses and racing.

This will be Scott's final opportunity to represent Grafton High at the Interschool's Ski Racing Championships. For the last few years Scott has represented the school in regional, state and national competition. This year he will miss nationals because of the HSC. He will still be competing in the international standard races against open age competitors at Thredbo (NSW) and also at Mt Buller and Mt Hotham in Victoria— and hopes to be selected to attend the New Zealand Winter Games. Scott won't be back in classes at Grafton High until the end of August.

BCU Banking Tips

Watch your money grow

Do you have a savings account? Putting a little bit of money away each week through school banking is a sure and steady way to watch your savings grow! If you make a habit of it, you will soon become a disciplined saver—you'll have the skills you need to save.



Tender

For sale by tender is a Wood Thicknesser. If you have any enquiries you can phone Chris Metcalfe, Head Teacher TAS on 6642 3355 or just place your price in the Tender Box at the Front Office.

Tender closes 3.30pm on Wednesday 7th July.

Maths Gold Brain Teaser

This week's Brain Teaser is presented by Georgia Patterson.

Which is heavier

- A. a tonne of feathers?
- B. a tonne of concrete?

NSW Youth Cup Rowers Based at GHS

Four of the eight members of the NSW Women's Rowing Team to compete at the 2009 Australian Youth Cup have been based at Grafton High for the past week. Johanna Tarrant and Sarah Jones won selection to row as the leading pair crew. Ashleigh Peppernell, currently gaining teaching experience at Grafton High, will compete in the single scull. Rachel Gale from Colyton High School has been in Grafton for the week to train in the quad scull. The crew will compete in a 21km marathon on the Tweed before heading to Sydney for the Youth Cup in July where they will compete against crews from interstate and New Zealand.



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Human Swine Flu Information Sheet

Australia is entering a new phase in our response to human swine flu, known as PROTECT. The change in approach is because the virus strain is currently not as virulent as anticipated.

Generally the virus produces a mild disease in most people, a severe disease in some, and a moderate effect overall. This year it is likely many more people will come down with flu-like-illnesses than in recent winter flu seasons because fewer people will have immunity to the human swine flu virus. The aims of the **PROTECT** phase are to ensure that people at an increased risk of complications from influenza are treated early to try to prevent severe illness from developing, and to help control outbreaks in schools and other institutions.

On the advice of NSW Health we no longer need to exclude staff or students who have been to an area where there is known community or school transmission of human swine flu. **Any staff member or student who has been excluded from school and who does not have flu symptoms can return to school immediately.** The school exclusion policy was inconvenient but it helped to limit the spread of disease in NSW schools.

As the number of cases of swine flu increases in the community, school exclusions and closures are unlikely to help in limiting the spread of disease as many more children will catch swine flu outside school rather than in school. The NSW Department of Health thanks the parents and carers of NSW school students for their co-operation with these measures while they were in place.

We still need to take steps to minimise the transmission of the virus in the community as some people in our school community remain at increased risk of complications from influenza. Instead of excluding people who may have been to an affected area, or who have been in contact with a person with confirmed human swine influenza, we will now be asking any person with flu symptoms to stay at home until they are well. Any student who identifies that they are unwell, or is displaying flu-like symptoms will be sent to a sick-bay area and their parent or carer will be called to take them home.

Please watch carefully for any signs or symptoms of flu-like illness in your child. These symptoms include fever, cough, tiredness, muscle aches, sore throat, chills or shortness of breath. NSW Health has advised if you or your child develops flu-like symptoms you should seek the advice of your family doctor as you would with any other illness.

Parents have an important role to play in helping their children understand and follow the government hygiene advice. Your help to do this is appreciated.

We understand there may be some ongoing concern in school communities. However, we can reassure you that we have taken, and will continue to act on advice we receive from NSW Health to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and students.

You can get additional health information from the H1N1 Influenza 09 section of the NSW Health website at: <http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp>.

Brain Teaser Answer

Answer. If they are both a tonne then they weigh the same amount.

Think Climate Think Change

Tips to combat climate change that EVERYONE can do!

Switch off lights when not in use

Saving electricity is a great way to help prevent climate change

Coming Events

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 25 June | 7.00pm P&C Meeting |
| 1 July | Zone Athletics Coff's Hbr |
| 3 July | Debutante Ball |
| 8 July | Parent Teacher Meeting
(Yr 7-12) |
| 10 July | Last day of Term 2 |

