

Grafton High School

Achieving Excellence

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Friday 21st August 2009

Key Events in Term 3

The Grafton High School Spring Fair is fast approaching. On the afternoon of Friday 11 September staff, students and school community will have a lot of fun raising money for worthwhile projects around the school. The success of the Spring Fair in recent years has been the high level of participation by staff and students. The date has been changed to avoid a clash with the Year 7 camp. Staff, student and parent groups who would like to raise funds for a project that benefits our school should contact the Front Office to have their activity approved and included in the program.

Year 12 parents should set aside the morning of Friday 2 October for the very special *Year 12 Farewell Assembly*. This is a time when we celebrate the outstanding contribution our current Year 12 has made to Grafton High as they finish 13 years of formal schooling.

Beginning in Week 9 (21 September) *Year 11 sit exams* to complete the Preliminary component of their HSC studies in readiness to commence the HSC component in Term 4. *Year 10 Yearly Exams* will be held in the final week of Term 3 as a further step in preparing for School Certificate Exams in November.

Following a recommendation from the school Professional Standards Team students in *Years 7-10 will be issued with an Interim Report* toward the end of this term to provide additional feedback on the level of engagement in learning.



Young People and Risk Taking

Risk taking in adolescence is not only normal; it is an essential part of learning and personal development. Every healthy adolescent takes risks as he or she grows towards independence. Most researchers agree that if there is no risk there is no growth. A common problem for some young people is their inability to evaluate the potential risks and consequences of everyday behaviour. 77% of adolescent deaths are caused by road crashes—many of these are the result of risk taking.

Road safety research shows up to 85-90% of road crashes are caused by human factors—tiredness, inexperience, alcohol use, speeding and failing to use a seat belt. Road crashes occur but many 'accidents' on the road are preventable.

REDUCE RISK—INCREASE STUDENT KNOWLEDGE

PDHPE Faculty

Mrs V Nichols (HT Welfare)

In this Issue

Page 1 Key Events in Term 3

Page 2 Photography Excursion

Page 2 Visual Arts Excursion

Page 3 Online Education Sites



First on the North Coast
Leading the way since 1912

Time for a Spring Clean in the Holidays

The spring fair will be held on September the 11th. Week 7, next term. We are keen to start a Bush Tucker Garden at school, and are having a stall at the Fair to raise money for the purchase of plants and landscaping supplies.

Donations of unwanted books, magazines, videos, CD's, DVD's, jigsaw puzzles or plants in pots would be very much appreciated. They can be given to Mrs Caley in the Science department.



Quote of the Week

Everyone is influenced by kindness

Think Climate Think Change

Take public transport, ride or walk whenever you can. Catching the bus or train, riding your bike or walking is better for the environment than travelling by car because it reduces the amount of traffic on the road.

Maths Gold Brain Teaser

This weeks brain teaser is presented by Jackson Shoobert
How is the moon like a dollar?

AFL Development Squad

AFL Development Squad Training at Ellem Oval, 5.00-6.00pm, Thursdays for 6 weeks. Contact Hugh O'Toole for details 0412943771

Photography Excursion

On Wednesday the 12th of August, Year Ten photography students attended a photography workshop with local photographer Simon Hughes. We walked to many known sites in Grafton, such as the skate park and the Cathedral. After lunch we returned to Simon's studio where we were taught about lighting and portrait photography. It was an enjoyable day for all, thanks to Mrs Lucas and Simon Hughes.

By Erin and Courtney



P&C Meeting This Week

This Thursday all parents are invited to our monthly P&C Meeting. Be among the first to see the amazing transformation of the old D-block labs into brand new learning spaces for our students.

Become actively involved in your child's school education from 7.00-8.30pm Thursday 27 August.

AFL Development Squad

AFL development squad training at Ellem Oval, 5.00- 6.00pm, Thursdays for 6 weeks. Contact Hugh O'Toole for details on 0412943771.

Premier's Reading Challenge 2009



The Challenge for this year's award concludes this month. The final day for GHS students to add titles to their entries will be Friday 28th August. Most students involved have been adding titles to their entry forms on-line. They must therefore notify their English teacher or the Teacher-Librarian that they have submitted an entry, so that entries can be validated before 1st September.

Mrs J Skinner (Teacher-Librarian)

Drum Tuition

Creative Drum tuition with experienced drummer and teacher. Twelve years teaching experience, 26 years drumming experience. Cover all styles.

Phone Michael on 0415161651.

Visual Arts Excursion

On Thursday the 13th of August Year 9 Visual Arts class got the opportunity to be part of a Claymation workshop produced by Basil Grumble. We had a fun day constructing characters out of plasticine and in the end made a short animated story.

By Nateesha



Online Education Sites.

Parents might like to have a look at these tutoring sites. SKWIRK is a subscription site offering a free trial until the end of term 3, while MathsOnline is a free service. Information below is taken from their websites.

Mrs J Skinner
Teacher Librarian



What is Skwirk?

Skwirk is an online education portal offering syllabus-specific content for school students. Skwirk covers the core subjects including Maths, Science & Technology, English, History, Geography, Commerce and Economics.

All year 9 students can have **free access until 2 October 2009**.

Furthermore, we're offering discounted rates and extended subscription periods to the parents of those students who would like to continue using Skwirk after October.

To try SKWIRK or find out more information, log on to www.skwirk.com.au

Username YR9.NSW.1 Password green



Maths Online is a high quality, independent online maths tutoring program based on Australian state curricula for Years 7 - 12. Maths Online was developed by experienced Australian teachers. The program features hundreds of fully animated and narrated maths lessons with over 15,000 exam-style questions to test a student's mastery of maths.

Who can access Maths Online?

Maths Online is provided free of charge to every secondary school student in Australia. This has been made possible by McDonald's Australia and its hundreds of franchisees who have covered the costs of supplying the program

Brain Teaser Answer

Answer: They both have 4 quarters

Coming Events

- 21 Aug Yr 9 (2010) subject selection due
- 27 Aug P&C (7.00pm)
- 28 Aug Year 8 2010 Language selections
- 31 Aug Year 7 Immunisation
- 11 Sept Spring Fair
- 2 Oct Yr 12 Farewell Assembly



BCU Banking Tips

Saving up for something big?

To help you reach your savings goal. Attach a cut-out picture of the item you're saving for in the space provided. Work out how much you can save each week and how long it will take you to reach your goal. Then start saving. Having your goal constantly on display will help keep you on track with your savings.

