Tuesday, 8 September 2015

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Vale Kiara Joe

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Year 12 student Kiara Joe. Kiara passed away tragically last Tuesday evening. Kiara was well known and well liked and loved by her year group, staff and all others who knew her. She will be deeply missed.

I have today sent home a letter with students explaining arrangements for Kiara’s funeral service this Thursday. The family has indicated that staff and students who knew Kiara are welcome to attend.

Kiara’s passing comes shortly after the tragic loss of ex-student Jamie Windred, as well as the loss of students from South Grafton High School and Maclean High School, and the earlier loss of ex-student Clinton McGrail-Skinner. These losses have been felt across the whole community. I would like to thank staff, students and parents for the manner in which they have dealt with and supported each other over these last few weeks. I would particularly like to acknowledge the caring professionalism of all our district school counsellors, who have supported students across all schools. Additional counselling has been made available last week to students and staff. Counselling will continue to be made available as we lead into the holiday period.

Principal’s Report

On a more positive note, congratulations to our newly inducted Student Representative Council (SRC) members and in particular to our newly elected 2016 Prefects and Captains:

- Boys Captain: Ryan Moore
- Girls Captain: Candice Ingram
- Vice-Captain: Thomas Grantley-Davies
- Prefects: Tenayah Mcleod, Amy Riddell, Lauren Pryor, Olivia Woods, Jim Woodley, Brayden Richardson.

Year 11 Exams

In light of the funeral for Kiara Joe being held this Thursday, all Year 11 yearly exams on Thursday are being re-scheduled to next Thursday 17th September. This Thursday is now designated as a study day for Year 11 and as such they are not required to attend school on that day. Year 11 are expected to return to school on Friday 18th September.

Pop Stars

Congratulations to all of the cast and crew of our combined High Schools Musical – Pop Stars. I was privileged to be able to view the show last Friday evening. The musical certainly brought back memories of the 90s, the era of boy and girl bands. Our students really enjoyed themselves, as did the audience. I again need to acknowledge all those staff who supported the musical. Without their hard work and dedication these sorts of shows and events would not be possible.

50th Reunion

Last Saturday saw almost 100 past students return to the school as part of the “Class of 65” reunion. I was honoured to be able to take former students on a tour of the school and show them all the improvements to facilities over the last 50 years. Many of the past students reflected fondly on their time at the school. Some were particularly interested in seeing the Deputy Principal’s Office (where they had received the cane as students) and also the Egyptian mummy, which is on display in the school library. I was presented with a book on the Sixties, as a gift to the school library, signed by those ex-students in attendance.

Peter South – Principal
With the impending upgrade of T-Block, a new home was needed to be found for Spot On Coffee. A new site was selected near the entrance to the Staff Common Room and the transfer was carried out during the July vacation. The shop was built by constructing a new wall, installing power, a sink, reconfiguring and resizing the available stainless steel counters. This was a great feat of recycling and was completed with very little disruption. The work was carried out by Bale Constructions who should be commended on a job well done.

The new location has proved to be a great success and clearly demonstrates the business adage that the three most important factors in retail are: location, location and location. The combination of the new location with the smell of freshly ground and brewed coffee wafting down the corridors of D Block has meant a substantial increase in patronage. Since reopening on the 15th of July 2015 over 20 new loyalty cards have been issued as more staff enjoy the wonderful beverages the students produce. Although the sharp influx in orders has been daunting at times, with record sales occurring day after day, the hard working Spot On Coffee staff of Shania Compton, Jonathon Corney, Jesse Gibson, Maddy Sheehan, Jayde Timmins and Kain Wilson have met the challenge.

They have shown great initiative by suggesting and trialling ways to alter and improve procedures for greater output and smoother operation. These students should be congratulated for the dedication and team work they have displayed. The continued growth and improvement in their skills clearly displays the benefit of this important program. A special mention for Maddy Blackadder of Year 12 and Savanah Montgomery of Year 9 who have taken over responsibility for our laundry and are doing a wonderful job. The advice and assistance of Mr Jurd and Mr Barnier is also much appreciated. Well done team.

Upcoming Events:

**TERM 3**

Week 9

7-18/09 HSC Preliminary Exams

Week 10

18/09 Year 12 Formal Assembly

18/09 Last Day Term 3

**TERM 4**

Week 1

5/10 Labour Day Public Holiday

6/10 School resumes for all staff and student

7/10 Stellar – Year 9

12/10 to 6/11 HSC Exams

Week 2

15/10 Year 7 Immunisations

Week 3

20/10 Parent Chromebook Info for Year 7 2016
Grafton High School 2015 School Magazine

Grafton High School provides families with the opportunity to purchase a school magazine annually. The ‘Graftonian’ is a valuable keepsake of the years’ events. It includes coloured photos of students, samples of student’s work, information and photos of school events, sports pages and other event pages. Great for each student to have as a keepsake of 2015 at Grafton High School.

Cost per magazine is $15.00. Please place orders as soon as possible.

To enable us to keep the magazine at an affordable price we ask for donations from families or businesses. By supporting the magazine you are helping to keep the valuable tradition going and you will also have your name or business printed at the bottom of a page in the 2015 school magazine, example below.

Donation from family

This page sponsored by
The South Family

If you are interested in sponsoring a page at a cost of $10 per page please complete the tear off slip and return it to the office with the money enclosed before Monday 14th September. The due date is set at the 14th September as the magazine needs to be submitted to the printers. Ad space for local businesses also available. Contact ryan.martin35@det.nsw.edu.au for more details.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Ryan Martin
School Magazine Coordinator

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SCHOOL MAGAZINE SPONSORSHIP - $10 per page
I would like to sponsor _____ page/s. $_______ is enclosed well as a business card or details for sponsorship.

______________________________ (signed)

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SCHOOL MAGAZINE PURCHASE - $15 a copy
I would like to purchase _____ copies of the 2015 Grafton High School Magazine. Enclosed is $______.
Name of child: ___________________________ Grade ____________
Signed: ___________________________ Date: ________________
Grafton District Tennis Association and Domino's Grafton present:

Gain Confidence And Develop Your Game

All standards welcome
For all kids in the Clarence Valley District. Come, enjoy tennis, have fun, socialise.

ANZ HOT SHOTS tennis

For orange, green and yellow ball players

Competition to run over 7 weeks (including grading)

$50 (includes pizza and drink)

We seek parent's/older sibling's assistance with running the competition to umpire (we will teach you how), mentor and encourage the kids.

Fridays 5.00 - 6.30pm at the Grafton City Tennis Centre
Start: Friday, 9th of October

Expressions of interest contact...

Phil phone: 0422 586 089 or
Simon phone: 0423 308 038

Early interest is vital to finalise teams and organise the competition!

Entries close: 2.10.15