



Grafton High School

Achieving Excellence

Tuesday, 9 December 2014

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Principal's Report

This will be the last newsletter for 2014. I would like to particularly thank Julianna Matthews in our front office, who pulls together the newsletter each week. I would also like to thank our editors, Kerrie Tarrant and Gwen Landenberger, for their efforts in proofing and passing on articles to the Daily Examiner for their weekly schools section.

I will cover my wrap-up for the year in my speech at presentation evening on Wednesday, but suffice to say it has been an extremely difficult year for our admin staff in particular, as they have attempted to work through the pilot of the state-wide LMBR administration computer system. With little to no effective support, we have had to do our best to manage the many issues that have arisen and continue to arise from a software system that is still sub-standard and malfunctioning. I thank those parents who have been patient through this period. It is a credit to our admin staff that they have managed to deal with these issues so professionally and in a way that has not had any net effect on our core business of teaching and learning.

Finally, on a more positive note, I would like to wish all our parents/carers, students and staff a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Congratulations

Last week I mentioned that 5 of our students received North Coast Sports Awards. In particular, Sarah Kitcher and Jacob Purser received North Coast, "Blues". I have been unable to obtain Jacobs citation at the time of writing but have included Sarah's citation below as it highlights the quality of our student involvement in representative sport:

Sarah has completed Year 12 at Grafton High School and is a focused and dedicated sportsperson. She is always positive and encouraging to all players on her team, and is prepared to give extra encouragement and support to younger, less experienced players. She listens and takes on board all advice from her coach. On court, Sarah is a very fair player. She respects all decisions made by umpires, and is a competitive player who never gives up. Sarah earned respect from her team mates, and was voted the 2013 'Players

Player' for North Coast. She is highly respected by her team mates and was voted 'Captain' of the North Coast team for 2014: a role she performed admirably. Sarah's ability was acknowledged at the State Championships, as she was selected in the NSWCHS Open Girls Netball team for 2014. Sarah is also a competent umpire and assists in many school and association competitions throughout the netball season. Sarah is an exceptional netballer and truly deserves this North Coast 'Sporting Blue'.

Uniform

I would like to remind parents of our uniform requirements (see last page of newsletter) before they outlay money for uniform items in preparation for next year. Please remember that sometimes students tell you what they would like the rules to be, rather than what they really are. For example, parents need to be aware that I have told our female students on many, many occasions on assembly and via newsletters that black shorts are only to be worn with sports uniform. To assist parents, the P&C Uniform shop will be open during the holidays (see below).

Final P&C Meeting for 2014

A further reminder that the final P&C meeting for the year has been re-scheduled to Thursday 11th December at 6 pm in the staff common room.

Peter South – Principal

Canteen Uniform Shop

The canteen will be open for uniform sales and book pack / calculator sales on Wednesday 21st, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd January 2015 from 8am -2pm.

If you have uniforms that are no longer needed, they can be donated to the clothing pool. All donations are gratefully accepted.

To continue to provide the large range of food that is on offer to your children, Jenny and Noelene at the canteen (6642293) are in need of volunteers to help prepare the food.

If you can help out on one day a month please let them know. Even 2 hours from 9am – 11am would be appreciated and of great assistance.

We would like to thank you for your continued support of the canteen and wish you and Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Jenny and Noelene.

PBL

Our final SHARE draw for the year was a huge success. This draw was our final weekly draw for the year which saw us giving out two City Beach vouchers to Lily Steele and Jaydon Sands, both of Year 7. We also had three canteen vouchers that were won by Alyssa Wilson & Jade McDonogh of Year 8 and Olivia Woods of Year 10.

After the final weekly draw we held the draw that everyone had been working hard towards. This was our draw for the two iPad minis that were donated by Grafton Shoppingworld. The draw was done by two Grafton Shoppingworld representatives, Kelle & Crystal, and the winners were Hayley Connolly of Year 7 and Jaydon Pearson-Rolls of Year 9. Both these winners worked very hard throughout the year and were rewarded for showing the Grafton High Core Values.

A huge congratulations to all our winners and many thanks to our major sponsor Grafton Shoppingworld for all their support throughout the year.



Above: Mr Townley, Mrs McLennan and Kelle Murphy from Shoppingworld begin the draw.



Above: Lily Steele and Jaydon Sands were the lucky winners of the Gift Vouchers from City Beach"



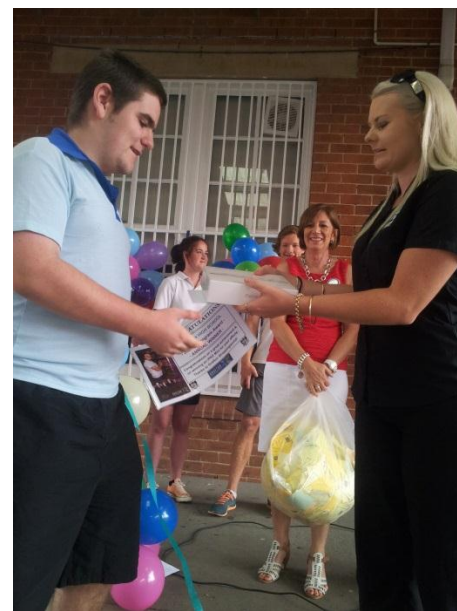
Above: Kelle and Crystal present Alyssa Wilson, Olivia Woods and Jade McDonogh receive their canteen vouchers.



Above – Kelle draws the name for the first iPad.



Above: Hayley Connolly lucky winner of the 1st Mini iPad donated by Grafton Shoppingworld.



Above: Jayden Pearson-Rolls was the winner of the second Mini iPad kindly donated by Grafton Shoppingworld.



Thank you Grafton Shoppingworld for your generous donation of the two Mini iPads for GHS PBL initiative.



Grafton High Rowing Regatta

Grafton High Rowing Club hosted a fantastic Regatta on the 23rd November. All our rowers competed admirably despite the extreme heat. Max Van Haren was on fire rowing one of the fastest times on the day taking out 4x first place and 3x 3rd placings with Adam Pryor powering on to claim 3x 1st and 1x 2nd place. No one left empty handed, with 12x 1st place medals being awarded, Emily Ashenden glided into 1st with Grace Moar in the double skull, Sarah Kitcher scored a 1st place and went back in the water for 2nd place in her double skull events with 2nd and a 3rd in the single sculls. Bethany Van Haren placed 2nd in the single scull and teamed up with Lauren Pryor to take home 3rd in the double scull event. A great effort from the team. Well done!!



North Coast Sports Awards



Above: Bonne Moon



Above: Georgia Allen



Above: Sarah Kitcher

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky.

Standing on the fringes of life offers a unique perspective...but there comes a time to see what it looks like from the dance floor.

Since its publication, Stephen Chbosky's haunting debut novel has received critical acclaim, provoked discussion and debate, grown into a cult phenomenon with over three million copies in print, spent over one year at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, and inspired a major motion picture starring Logan Lerman and Emma Watson.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is a story about what it's like to travel that strange course through the uncharted territory of high school. The world of first dates, family dramas, and new friends. Of sex, drugs, and The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Of those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.



UNE is hosting the
ConocoPhillips
Science Experience
13-15 January 2015

for all year 9 and 10 students
who are looking for a
hands-on science experience

Register at:
scienceexperience.com.au

Contact: Richard Willis
p: 02 6773 2615 or
e: rwillis@une.edu.au



Upcoming Events:

December

Week 10 B

- 10th Presentation Night – 6.30pm
- 11th P&C Christmas Meeting – 6 pm
- 12th Battle of the Bands

Week 11 A

- 15-17th Activities week and year 11 subject seminars
- 17th Last day 2014 for Students
- 18-19th School Development Day 2015

January 2015

21st, 22nd & 23rd

Canteen Open for Uniforms 8am – 2pm

- 27th Staff Development Day
- 28th Year 7, 11 & 12
- 29th All Students

Grafton High School Uniform

ALL Junior Students (Years 7-10)

- Plain royal blue jumper, school jacket or Junior Jersey
- Fully enclosed shoes/joggers, which are flat shoes or shoes with a minimal heel, that have a good grip and fit well. (No thongs or sandals will be permitted)

Junior Girls (Years 7-10)

- Blue tartan school skirt
- Blue tartan school shorts
- Plain black long or ¾ pants (no brand/make of any jeans is acceptable, no tights)
- Plain white shirt with collar and sleeves (No T-shirts)
- White socks/black stockings, if cold
- **Black shorts ARE NOT to be worn with normal school uniform, they are SPORT uniform only.**



Junior Boys (Years 7-10)

- Plain sky blue shirt with collar and sleeves (No T-shirts)
- Plain grey shorts/pants (no brand/make of any jeans is acceptable)
- Plain black track pants
- Plain royal blue jumper
- Grey/white socks



ALL Senior Students (Years 11-12)

- School jacket
- School Senior Jersey
- Fully enclosed shoes/joggers, which are flat shoes or shoes with a minimal heel, that have a good grip and fit well. (No thongs or sandals will be permitted)

Senior Girls (Years 11-12)

- Navy blue skirt
- Navy blue shorts
- Plain black long or ¾ pants (no brand/make of any jeans is acceptable, no tights)
- Plain white shirt with collar and sleeves (No T-shirts)
- Plain navy blue jumper or cardigan
- White socks/black stockings, if cold



Senior Boys (Years 11-12)

- Plain white shirt with collar and sleeves (No T-shirts)
- Plain grey shorts/pants (no brand/make of any jeans is acceptable)
- Plain royal blue jumper
- Grey/white socks



Physical Education/Sport Uniform – Girls and Boys

- Sky blue shirt with contrast royal blue collar and tab front.
- Plain black shorts (no coloured trims)
- Plain royal blue jumper
- Plain black track pants
- Fully enclosed joggers, that have a good grip and fit well. (No thongs or sandals will be permitted)
- White socks