



Grafton High School

Achieving Excellence Since 1912

1 June 2018

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Useful Contacts:

- Kids Helpline (1800 551 800)
- Lifeline (13 11 14)
- HEADSPACE (1800 650 890)
- eheadspace.org.au

Principals Report

My apologies for the delay in the newsletter. We missed last week's deadline as we were in the process of trying to finalise enrolment policy for 2019 and decide on Year 6 students seeking enrolment at Grafton High School in Year 7 next year. I wanted to hold off on publishing this newsletter until I could finalise this process, so I could report back to all parents (see below). I will be asking for this information to be shared across our local primary school newsletters.

Non-Local Enrolments

After determining anticipated enrolments for 2019, including expressions of interest forms for all Year 6 students moving into Year 7, we have estimated the number of places available, as per the school's enrolment policy. The anticipated enrolment for 2019, excluding non-local students, is currently 932 students.

Grafton High School currently has an enrolment ceiling of 980 students, set by the Department of Education, based on the number of available classroom spaces at the school. Every school is required to set an enrolment buffer to allow enough spare places to enrol any local students starting later in the year. The enrolment buffer for Grafton High school has been set at 5%, or 49 students.

Unfortunately, based on these projected figures, the school has no places available for non-local students in 2019. Where previously, the school has been able to consider enrolment for non-local students with a sibling already at the school or for non-local students who attended a local primary school within our school's drawing area, we now can no longer enrol non-local students based on these criteria. As such, for the remainder of 2018 and moving into 2019, the criteria for non-local enrolment will be:

- medical reasons
- compassionate circumstances

Only extremely exceptional cases that meet these criteria can be considered by the school enrolment placement panel. When considering an application to enrol, the panel will consider whether any exceptional circumstances/needs can be met elsewhere at the student's local school.

Please be aware that students who gain state-wide selective high school entry to the school's Selective Class, or students placed in our Support Unit, automatically gain enrolment, regardless of their residential address, as placement in these classes is determined externally to the school.

Unfortunately, we currently have 47 non-local Year 6 students who have been unsuccessful in gaining enrolment at Grafton High School in 2019. These enrolments were assessed against the non-local criteria published earlier in the year. I realise that this news will be a great disappointment to many families. Given the number of non-local students seeking enrolment and the increasing demand for local student enrolment at Grafton High School, it is unrealistic to maintain a waiting list, as demand far exceeds available places and students on the waiting list would be unlikely to gain enrolment.

As such, I recommend that any Year 6 students who receive notification that they are not successful in gaining enrolment, contact their designated local high school regarding their enrolment for 2019. It is important that these students then participate fully in the transition activities offered by that school.

Grafton Local AECG Meeting

The Grafton local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) will be meeting on June 6 at 1 pm at the Gummyaney Aboriginal Pre-School. All Aboriginal parents and interested community members are invited to attend. The next meeting will include a presentation outlining the NAPLAN assessment to improve parent understanding of the nature of the NAPLAN exam and results.

13 Reasons Why Season 2

Parents may be aware that this series has returned. A number of expert mental health organisations have expressed concern over the impact the series may have on adolescents. To assist parents, I have included in this newsletter a copy of an article from the Black Dog Institute. To view this article online; and to access other resources and support, please click on the following link: <https://blackdoginstitute.org.au/news/news-detail/2018/05/17/help-seeking-built-into-release-of-13-reasons-why>

Go Art is almost here!

The P&C Go Art exhibition will be held in the school MPC over the upcoming June long weekend (9-11 June, 2018). See the Go Art website: <https://www.goartprize.com/> for more info. Please encourage your family and friends to come along and support this great event.

Grafton Eisteddfod

On Friday 11 May, students from years 8,9,10 and 12 competed in the 64th Annual Grafton Eisteddfod.

Our students competed in monologues, duologues and group sections. The adjudicator, Mrs Christmas (Yes, Christmas and her dogs name is Holly Christmas!), gave us great feedback for future performances. We were all really nervous, however, we pushed past our nerves and performed to the best of our abilities. The day at the Conservatorium was a fun and exciting experience.

Results:

Open Monologue

- Morgan Koekemoer (HC)

Under 16's Monologue

- Lachlan Scott (1st)
- Isabelle English (2nd)
- Darian Thompson(HC)
- Zahlia Tibbs (HC)

Under 14's Monologue

- Torin Leek (1st)
- Brooklyn Paget (HC)

Under 16's Duologues

- Isabelle English & Lachlan Scott (1st)

Under 14's Duologues

- Whitney Moon & Brooklyn Paget (1st)

Under 16's Grouped Devised

- Year 10 Drama (1st)

Consisted of: Katelyn Philp, Emma Druce, Lachlan Scott, Claire Fahey, Darian Thompson, Isabelle English.

Under 14's Group Devised

- Year 8 Drama

Consisted of: Laura Hennessy, Rogan Mcguire, Whitney Moon, Brooklyn Paget, Lucy Herring, Madeleine Kennedy, Jonathan Pierse.

Many thanks to Ms Mills for her guidance, support and patience
GHS Drama Students

HSC Minimum Standards

Many parents would remember last year when it was announced that a minimum Literacy and Numeracy standard would be introduced in order for a child to receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC). This minimum standard was initially linked to the performance of Year 9 students in NAPLAN. While a student is still able to sit the HSC and even gain university entry without meeting this minimum standard, they will not receive the HSC credential (i.e. the actual award of the Higher School Certificate) if they do not meet the standard. Students can meet this standard at any time up to and

even in the years after they complete the HSC.

Earlier this year the state government announced that the minimum standard would be changed to reflect a separate test of literacy and numeracy proficiency, rather than NAPLAN. This allows students to attempt this test at multiple times up to and beyond their HSC, giving them numerous opportunities to meet the standard. Mrs Martin has already begun organising this testing for our Year 10 students and many will have already completed practice tests in preparation.

For the information of parents and students, I have included a flyer in this newsletter that explains the minimum standard and the online testing.

Peter South – Principal

Upcoming Events

TERM 2

WEEK 6

- 4/6 Senior HSIE excursion, Drama Eisteddfod, Go Art entries close
- 5/6 Senior HSIE excursion, Dance Eisteddfod
- 6/6 Senior HSIE excursion
- 7/6 Senior HSIE excursion, Yr 7 Languages excursion
- 8/6 Dance Eisteddfod, Go Art entries drop-off

9 – 11/6 Go Art Exhibition

WEEK 7

- 11/6 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- 12/6 Yr 10 Reading test
- 14/6 AIME excursion
- 15/6 Elective Art excursion

WEEK 8

- 18/6 Yr 10, 11, 12 Drama performance
- 19/6 Yr 10 Writing test
- 20/6 Yr 10 Numeracy test
- 21/6 Science & Engineering challenge

WEEK 9

- 26/6 MNC Dance Festival
- 27/6 MNC Dance Festival
- 28/6 Yr 8 Languages excursion

WEEK 10

- 2/7 NAIDOC week
- 6/7 Last day – term 2

HAVE A VOICE!

SPEAK UP Plus enter the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$200 grocery vouchers

COMMUNITY SURVEY 4 – 17 JUNE 2018
2018 LOCAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
www.ncphn.org.au/speakup
What you tell us today, can improve local health tomorrow...
Complete the survey online today – anywhere, anytime.

Open to Northern NSW and Mid North Coast residents 15 years and over. Tell us what YOU think about using your local health services. Your feedback helps organisations to plan and make decisions about future local health solutions.

phn
NORTH COAST
An Australian Government Initiative

Help-Seeking Built Into Release of 13 Reasons Why

Published: 17 May, 2018

The release of 13 Reasons Why, season 2 will be launched with safe and informative resources in a collaboration between headspace and Netflix.

When Netflix launched the much talked about first series of 13 Reasons Why – a fictional show depicting the death of a teenager by suicide and its impact on those around them – many people the world over were left confronted by the difficult subject matter that the show covered. While it was certainly a conversation starter, there were questions about whether the show prompted discussions about suicide in a helpful way.



Ahead of the second season, the national youth mental health foundation [headspace](#) [↗](#) have teamed up with the global streaming giant in an effort to generate more helpful conversations about the subject matter.

headspace CEO Jason Trethowan is hoping to take the difficult topics that the show brought into mainstream discussions and encourage a safer, more informed dialogue.

“Our aim is to ensure that young people, parents and schools are supported and equipped to have constructive conversations about the themes that are depicted in the show,” Mr Trethowan said.

Alongside warnings and help-seeking information that will be displayed at the start and end of each episode, headspace have developed resources for young people, parents and schools to address the themes depicted in the show. They include advice on viewing the show safely, self-care tips and pointers on how to have difficult conversations.



Conjoint **Associate Professor Josephine Anderson, Clinical Director at the Black Dog Institute**, approves of the move to provide strong resources to teens, parents and teachers when pop culture addresses heavy subjects.

“I think there is a need to react thoughtfully and appropriately to an issue like this. Young people, may be vulnerable to the sensationalising of topics like suicide, especially when portrayed in a TV series or film they are likely to find attractive,” said Dr Anderson.

“On the other hand, we need to dispel the myth that talking about suicide will inevitably harm young people. There is evidence that says that won’t happen if the topic is raised in a sensitive fashion.”

While there is no way of stopping people from watching the series, we can put measures in place to provide positive influence and make sure they do it is being viewed safely. Dr Anderson highlights that it also offers the chance for the wider media community to promote positive help-seeking among young people and their families.

“We really encourage those advertising the show beyond Netflix, like journalists and reviewers, to take the opportunity to promote these resources in addition to providing warnings about the topics it depicts.”

“What we want to do is reach young people wherever they are, through every channel they are using, so they know that even if they are feeling very troubled and hopeless about their situation, there is always help available.”

The resources will be available from 5pm on Friday 18th May, 2018 and can be accessed via [13reasonswhy.info](#) [↗](#) or on the [headspace website](#) [↗](#).

If you or someone you know is in crisis please call one of the following national helplines:

LIFELINE COUNSELLING SERVICE - 13 11 14

KIDS HELPLINE - 1800 55 1800

SUICIDE CALL BACK SERVICE 1300 659 467 (cost of a local call)

IMPROVING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS

February 2018 update

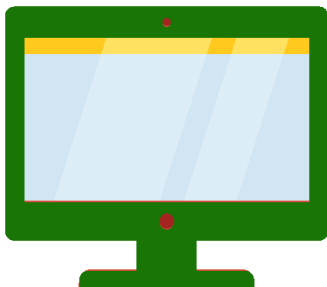
A minimum standard of literacy and numeracy is required for your child to receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC).



Meeting the HSC minimum standard will mean that your child has the literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for success in learning and life after school.

THE ONLINE TESTS

Most students will show they have met the HSC minimum standard by passing minimum standard online tests. Students master basic skills at different stages so there are **multiple opportunities** available to pass the tests, from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.



There are three 45-minute online tests:

- ✓ a multiple choice **reading** test
- ✓ a multiple choice **numeracy** test
- ✓ a short **writing** test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt

2017 NAPLAN TESTS

If your child achieved Band 8s or above in one or more of the 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN tests they are recognised as having met the HSC minimum standard in that area/s and will not need to sit the corresponding online test/s.

Guarantee your place at Uni.

**Keen to start a new career,
or perhaps you didn't finish
school, and think Uni is not
an option? Think again!**

Southern Cross University's award winning on-campus and online Preparing for Success Program can get you there. This 3-month short course **guarantees entry into a range of bachelor degrees** and is fully funded by the Australian Federal Government, which means no cost to you.

The program will teach you how to manage your time, write essays, and undertake research – providing you with the skills you need to succeed at university and the confidence to progress towards a new career.

Don't miss this opportunity as places are limited for our late June intake.

Learn more
ourcourses.scu.edu.au
or call 1800 626 481





SOFTLY, SOFTLY!

A WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION WITH A DIFFERENCE!
Saturday 9th June & Sunday 10th June 2018

We are inviting both amateurs and professionals with an interest in wildlife, photography, wild places or all three, to join us for two unique days of photography in and around the magnificent world heritage Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks.

Entry Fee: \$10 per camera

For more information contact Lee on 0448 997 285 or Mann River Caravan & Canoe Park on (02) 6647 4662 or email hope@mannriver.com.au



CRANES TERM 2 Workshops 2018

Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child	Emotional intelligence is known to support well-being and promote resilience. In this workshop parents are provided techniques for teaching children how to identify emotions and manage their own emotions and the emotions of others for parents and carers of children 2 to 16	CRANES @ GRAFTON 9.30am to 12.30pm May 16th
Bringing Up Great Kids	The Bringing Up Great Kids program uses ideas of mindfulness and self reflection techniques to review and enhance patterns of communication. The aim of the program is to address the sources of unhelpful hurtful attitudes. There is one session each week for six weeks (see below for venue details)	CRANES @ GRAFTON 9.30am to 12.30pm May 25th-June 29th
Toddler Tantrum Toolbox	A workshop that provides information and strategies on handling meltdowns and tantrums (did you know there was a difference?) Suits parents with children in the 2 to 7 age range The workshop will be held In Maclean and then Grafton	CRANES @ Maclean 9.30am to 12.30pm 7th June CRANES @ Grafton 9.30 to 12.30pm 14th June
How to Talk So Teens will Listen	This half-day workshop provides parents with information about teens intellectual and emotional development and using this knowledge to communicate more effectively. The workshop will be held In Coffs Harbour	CRANES @ Coffs Harbour 9.30am to 12.30pm 27th June
Managing Anger	In this workshop we discuss managing strong emotions and strategies for parents and children to express anger in helpful ways. Suits parents with children aged 7 to 17. The workshop will be held twice (March and April) in Grafton	CRANES @ Maclean 9.30am to 12.30pm 28th June

CRANES' workshops are FREE of charge
 Free childcare is also available at some venues
 Bookings essential

NOTE: To be eligible for our free workshops you must have a child in your care, seeking access to or restoration of a child or support someone who does. Grandparents and foster and kinship carers are most welcome!

VENUES	
CRANES Grafton	11 Kemp St.
Maclean TAFE	Woombah Street (next to high school).
Coffs Harbour	St John Paul College 421 Hogbin Drive.

Call CRANES for enquires or to register (no referral necessary)

Ph: (02) 6642 7257 Email: FaRS@cranes.org.au

CRANES' Family and Relationship Services is funded by the Dept. of Social Services



ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA

Discover Engineering South Grafton

A free forum for all high school students interested in learning about engineering as a career choice

- Why be an engineer?
- What do engineers do?
- What is it like to study engineering?
- How do you become an engineer?

Discover Engineering provides the opportunity for high school students interested in an exciting career in engineering to hear real life experiences from young engineers across the various engineering disciplines who will share their career path and practical first hand knowledge. University representatives will also be available to advise on course information.

Wednesday 20 June 2018, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

South Grafton Ex-servicemens Club
 2 Wharf Street, South Grafton
 Enquiries: 02 4911 7310

This is a free event. Light refreshments will be served.
 Registration is essential for catering purposes

Register online

Other locations for Discover Engineering 2018
[Port Macquarie](#) | [Coffs Harbour](#) | [Ballina](#) | [Newcastle](#)



/EngineersAustralia



/EngAustralia

Sponsored by



Loving LIFE Day

!!!YOUNG TALENT QUEST!!!

Chemist Warehouse VALLEY'S GOT TALENT!

Saturday 4th August 2018
 Starting 12 noon
 Market Square, Grafton

For two age groups
 Under 10 yrs & 10 to 14 yrs

Singers, poets, novelty acts, dancers, musicians etc are all invited to apply...

ENTRIES CLOSE 27th JULY 2018

Cash Prizes & Trophies awarded to the Winners in each age group!!!!

Entry forms available from:

Loving Life FM 103.1
 91 Fitzroy Street
 Grafton NSW 2460

OR

Buckley's Grafton Music
 2/137-139 Prince Street
 Grafton NSW 2460

Enquiries:
 Julie Dickson (02) 6642 5097