Principals Report

Spot On student coffee shop

This is the final newsletter for Term 1, 2019. It has certainly been a very challenging term for staff and students alike. As a teacher you can tell that students start to struggle as they near the end of a long term. As a parent I have noticed this with my own daughter as she tries to keep on top of the workload of senior study. The upcoming holidays will certainly be needed to allow for all to re-charge before commencing Term 2. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy Easter and a safe and restful break.

Of course, students will also be participating in the Anzac day march over the holidays and I hope that we will be able to bring you photos via Facebook of our students marching as they do each year to help our community commemorate this important event. The school will hold its own ceremony on the first day back next term.
Debutante Ball

Congratulations to our 23 Debutantes and their partners. I was privileged recently to attend my 9th Grafton High School Debutante ball. The ball is very much a contemporary approach to the traditional custom. Both the debutantes and their partners were presented to myself and the Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis. As each student was presented the School Captains read out their hopes and aspirations for the future (some comical, some serious). The students then danced the Debutante dance. The pomp and ceremony involved means that students not only have to dress formally, they also have to dedicate themselves to several weeks of formal dance lessons, involving a degree of commitment and self-discipline. It was a great evening that was made possible by the hard work of those parents and staff involved. I want to acknowledge the work of our Year 11 Adviser, Ms Wilks, her assistant, Mrs Scott, and Mrs Shirley Kelly from our front office, who assisted in not just the administrative tasks but also in helping out in the kitchen on the night. I would also like to thank our canteen staff for supplying the food for the official guests and to thank our P&C for their organisation and support of this evening. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the work of Karen Crispin, who has been responsible for the overall management of the event for several years now. I believe that Karen will be handing the baton on to someone else for next year and so I would like to end with a final “thank you” to Karen for all her hard work and organisation.

Welcome to Mrs Radnidge

I wish to take this opportunity to officially welcome Mrs Casey Radnidge to Grafton High School. Mrs Radnidge has been teaching at the school since the start of the year and we were very lucky to be able to have her permanently appointed as a Science teacher, replacing Mr Rutledge.
Congratulations to our 2019 P&C executive

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our recently elected P&C executive:

- **President:** Sharyn Ellem
- **Vice President:** Kylie Lavender
- **Treasurer:** Simon Chambers
- **Secretary:** Christine Wright

I would also like to especially acknowledge the contribution of our outgoing President – Dianne Rose. Dianne has been P&C president for a few years now and has remained involved with P&C even after her daughter had finished school. Thank you Dianne.

**Interim Reports**

By now, Years 7 – 11 parents, will have received their child’s Interim Report. These have been handed to students to take home to parents, any uncollected reports are available from the front office. This is an additional school report that staff at Grafton High School have elected to produce at the end of Term 1 each year, above and beyond normal reporting requirements. Its purpose is simply to give parents/carers some general initial feedback on how their child has settled into the year. We follow this up with a parent-teacher evening early next term (Tuesday 14 May), which provides an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and receive more specific feedback.

*Peter South – Principal*

**Year 12 Aboriginal Major Work**

As part of my Year 12 major work, I organised an excursion to Baryulgil Public School. Our Year 12 Aboriginal Studies class went to the school on Wednesday 20th March, spending an awesome day with the students. We attended the local school at Baryulgil as part of my project’s focus on Indigenous education. Baryulgil School welcomed us and made the day an excellent trip for the entire class. The day consisted of doing board games and class work with the 8 children that attended the school. On the day that we visited, the only year 6 student at Baryulgil was away at Copmanhurst School as part of a transition program that introduces these children to other kids getting ready for high
school. We were also fortunate to take a tour of the local area, guided by Lynette Donnelly, who is a local Aboriginal Education Officer who grew up in the region. As a class, we visited the beautiful Baryulgil swimming holes, which is the top point of the Clarence River. Besides learning about Aboriginal education, we also learnt about the asbestos mines which Aboriginal men worked in. This caused detrimental health issues for the Aboriginal community living in the surrounding areas. Learning about the history of Baryulgil was an eye opener as it has not been a public issue for many years. This excursion was a wonderful experience for all those that attended and a big thanks to Baryulgil School for having us for the day.

Kendal Scott – Year 12

The Future Through Culture

For my Aboriginal Studies major assessment, I held a performance night on 2nd April at the Aboriginal Healing centre on the topic of culture. The theme of the night was “The Future Through Culture” and the main focus was to show the importance of culture and unity in order to progress as a nation towards the future. The night entailed a smoking ceremony and group participation in a traditional Bundjalung welcoming dance, 2 song performances by Maddy Ellem, a collection of poems written and read by Aunty Jo Randall and a display of artworks made by students from Grafton High School and Dean Loadsman. The night was an enriching cultural experience for all those who attended and it was great to see the community coming together. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Townley, Maddy Ellem, Dean Loadsman, Aunty Jo, Fran and Bernadette for all their effort and help.

Taylah Sutherland – Year 12
Tell Us What You Think About Parenting

The Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland is conducting research into parents’ opinions about parenting and parenting programs.

If you have a child between 2 and 12 years, we would love to hear your views on parenting and the services that are available to you as a parent. You will need to complete a short survey.

To find out more, please visit: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parenting
MAY
THE 4TH
6.00PM

FUNDRAISING NIGHT

STAR WARS
TRIVIA NIGHT

ALL PROCEEDS TO CLARENCE VALLEY RIDE FOR YOUTH
Tickets from The New School of Arts, South Grafton
or at the venue Roches Family Hotel
Tickets $10 pp or $60 per table of 8.

We acknowledge the Bundjalung Nation, the traditional custodians of this land
CLARENCE YOUTH SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
WEEK 1

Proudly supported by

We acknowledge the Bundjalung Nation, the traditional custodians of this land.
CLARENCE YOUTH
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
WEEK 2

Free activities for young people 10 - 18!

DESIGN AND PRINT
Tuesday 23rd April 1pm - 3pm
Lawrence Hall
To book contact Allira 0428 420 908

CHILL, CHAT AND MILKSHAKES
Wednesday 24th April 2pm - 5pm
Market Square, Grafton
Just turn up!

DESIGN AND PRINT
Wednesday 24th April 10:30am - 12:30pm
Iluka Library
To book contact Allira 0428 420 908

YOUTH DROP IN PIZZA/ACTIVITIES
Friday 26th April 2pm - 5pm
New School of Arts Neighbourhood House
South Grafton
Just turn up!

LASER TAG AND LUNCH
Friday 26th April 12pm - 4pm
Hakea Park, Yamba
Just turn up!

YOUTH DROP IN PIZZA/ACTIVITIES
Friday 26th April 3pm - 5pm
CWA Hall, Maclean
Just turn up!

For more information, check out our Facebook pages "New School of Arts" or "Clarence Valley Youth". Some workshops have limited spaces and may require bookings, please book to avoid disappointment. To make a booking or for more information, call 0439 219 047. All children under 10 must have adult supervision. Age restrictions apply for some activities. Outdoor activities will be postponed in the case of wet weather. Check our facebook pages for updates.

We acknowledge the Bundjalung Nation, the traditional custodians of this land.
Join Telstra Grafton Shoppingworld for their FREE Kids Tech Party!

11AM & 1PM DAILY | FREE

Give your child the opportunity to create and explore with the power of emerging digital technologies! We are looking for 10 – 12 kids (Ages 5 yrs +) to join us daily for some Digital making fun, we will be playing with Robots, coding, making digital banana pianos and having a crazy time with circuits! What to bring? Raid your recycling, we need cardboard tubes, small boxes and plastic containers. Why? All will be revealed at our Kids Tech Party! Bookings are essential on 6642 8488.

THE SMILEY’S PRESENT PJ MASKS PARTY!

TUES 23 - WED 24 - FRI 26 APRIL (CLOSED ANZAC DAY)

PJ MASKS SHOW + MEET & GREET

11AM & 2PM DAILY | FREE

Head on down to Grafton Shoppingworld these School Holidays to meet Catboy, Owlette and Gekko to embark on superhero adventures that are filled with action in our live PJ MASKS Shows, presented by the Smiley’s!

Along the way solve mysteries and learn valuable lessons, plus have the chance to meet your favourite characters and have your very own photo taken with them!
Grafton High School
Quality Teaching, Quality Learning, in a Caring Environment
Page 10 of 10

PO Box 458, 97 Mary Street Grafton NSW 2460
Phone: 02 6642 3355, Fax: 02 6642 3184
grafton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.facebook.com/GraftonHighSchool
www.grafton-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

We acknowledge the Bundjalung Nation, the traditional custodians of this land.