

Artist: Tyreece Daley

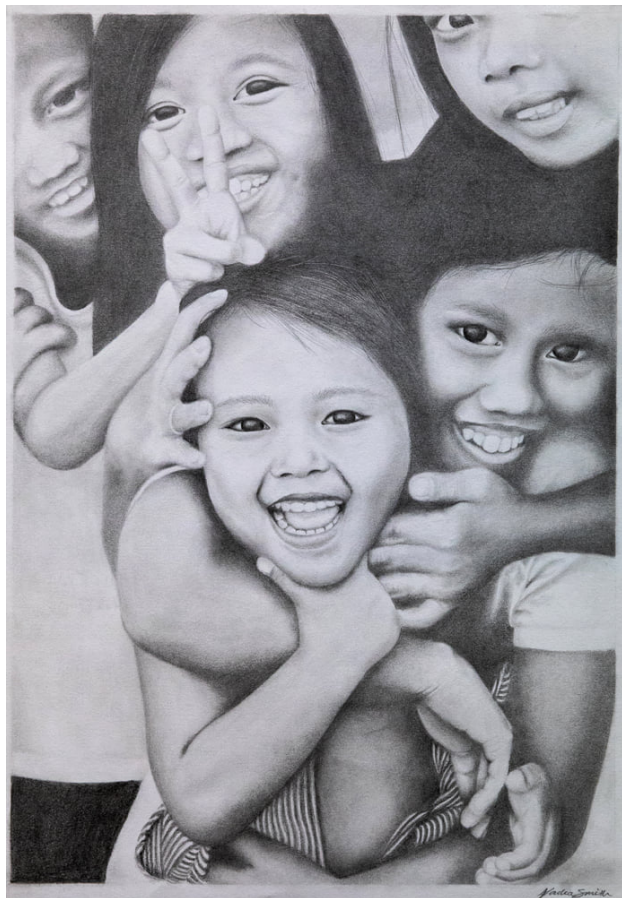
Newsletter

Grafton High School

Term 3 Week 5 2021

From the Principal's Desk

We are halfway through Term 3 and time is flying! While obviously we have been operating under changed circumstances and some additional health restrictions, there has still been plenty going on at Grafton High School to enjoy. We continue to monitor the local health situation, and take our guidance and advice from our organisation, NSW Department of Education, who work closely with NSW Health at a senior level. As previously, any urgent updates will be sent as letters and emails, if and when required. Thanks must go to all students, parents and staff who have continued to push ahead with a positive attitude and a strong community spirit.



Student Achievements

Congratulations must go to a range of students who have been doing us proud in many areas. On the sporting front, our team of athletes who represented the school at the zone carnival at Coffs Harbour enjoyed a positive day out and put in some strong performances. We are also proud of our creative and performing arts achievements, with Nadia Smith chosen as a finalist from 470 entries in an art competition run by New English Regional Art Museum, and Liam Mitchell and his fellow band members from South Grafton HS chosen to move through to the next round of the Surround Sound competition, which is supposed to involve a live performance in Sydney later in the year.

National Data Collection

Attached to this newsletter you will find some information regarding the data that each school must submit for the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) each year. This is a mandatory process that the school must engage in.

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Year 12 Resilience

Our Year 12 students are in their second week of Trial HSC examinations at the time of writing. I expect that this process will provide both some affirmation of the hard work already done, as well as present some clear areas for improvement. It is never too late to seek improvement, and in the face of changing dates and processes regarding the final examinations, I encourage all Year 12 students to simply continue to focus on the things that they can control. Stay in routine, stay focused, and we will overcome the challenges as they arise.

Scott Dinham
Principal



HSC student mental health and wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of students is as important as their studies right now. The [Stay Healthy HSC](#) hub contains information and advice for HSC students and families.

Our message for students is to continue prioritising their health and wellbeing as they complete assessments and prepare for upcoming exams.

Visit the Stay Healthy hub for:

- Information and links to free support services
- Mental health advice and guidance
- Strategies to manage and reduce exam stress

Year 12 Important Dates

- **5 September 2021: PA Day**
- **16 September 2021: Y12 Welfare Day - Mystery Excursion** There will be no formal lessons this day as students will be participating in a range of activities with their cohort
- **17 September 2021: Graduation Assembly**
- **Saturday, 13 November 2021: Formal** Will be held at this stage at the Grafton Race Course. Tickets will go on sale Week 1, we will have to limit tickets due to COVID restrictions. (More information to follow)

Attendance

Regular attendance for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential.

While parents are legally responsible for their child's attendance, schools are required to document and monitor student's absences.

If your child is away from school for a whole or part day, please inform the school by way of phone, text message, email or a note. Thank you for your support.

Lovebites

Grafton High School will be conducting the Love Bites program again in 2021 as part of the mandatory Australian Stage 5 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Curriculum. LOVE BITES is a successful school-based Domestic, Family Violence and Sexual Assault prevention program that evolved on the Mid North Coast of NSW. Love Bites is based on best practice standards and aims to:

- promote and model respectful relationships for young people.
- raise awareness about Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault, its prevalence and forms.

The program will be conducted in weeks 6, 7 and 8 of this term for all Year 9 students. Information will be sent home with year 9 students informing them of their program date.

Students will participate in this program during periods 1-4 on their allocated day (see below) and if they're absent students will be provided with the opportunity to catch up with a different group.

Date of attendance below in alphabetical groups:

17 th August	ADA – COW
18 th August	COX – GRE
24 th August	HAN – MAD
25 th August	MAG – PUR
31 st August	RAS – WIN



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 16 August 2021

- NAPLAN School Readiness Test

Tue 17 August 2021

- NAPLAN School Readiness Test
- Lovebites Yr 9

Wed 18 August 2021

- Lovebites Yr 9

Thu 19 August 2021

- Science Week: Yr 6-7 Transition

Fri 20 August 2021

- Yr 7&8 Debating
- Science Week: Yr 6-7 Transition

Mon 23 August 2021

- SRC – Write a Book in a Day – M Lynch

Tue 24 August 2021

- SRC – Prefects Speeches at Assembly
- Lovebites Yr 9

Wed 25 August 2021

- Lovebites Yr 9

Thu 26 August 2021

- P&C Meeting 6:30pm

Tue 31 August 2021

- Lovebites Yr 9

Mon 6 September 2021

- Yr 11 Preliminary Examinations begin

Thu 16 September 2021

- Yr 11 Preliminary Examinations finish
- Yr 11 Farm Vehicle Safety Course
- Yr 12 Mystery Bus Trip
- Yr 7 Geography – Shannon Creek Dam

Fri 17 September 2021

- Yr 11 Farm Vehicle Safety Course
- Yr 12 Reports issued
- Final Day Term 3



School Leavers Information Kit

important career conversations with students at home a **Parents and Guardian's Guide for School Leavers** is also available. All three support services can be accessed at www.yourcareer.gov.au/schoolleaver. These initiatives are part of the Australian Government's National Careers Institute.

New EPPP SBAT Mentor

We welcome Donna Kearns as our new School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Mentor (SBAT) at our school for the Educational Pathways Pilot Program (EPPP). Donna has a wealth of experience with school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, and replaces our previous EPPP SBAT Mentor Steve Montgomery, who has taken on another position within the NSW Department of Education. Donna's expertise in Vocational Education and Training (VET) began with TAFE NSW where she provided exceptional support and valuable learning experiences to a multi-cultural student community. Most recently, Donna has been in a School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Officer role with the NSW Department of Education, supporting 53 schools in northern NSW. Donna has been part of local initiatives to promote SBAT opportunities in the region and is passionate about matching student's strengths and interests to successful employment pathways.



An initiative of the EPPP program running at Grafton High School is increasing the uptake of school-based apprenticeships and traineeships. Donna is here to support any student interested in undertaking a school-based traineeship or apprenticeship in Year 10, 11 or 12, and will liaise between the school and local employers to make the process as easy as possible. School-based apprenticeships and traineeships allow students to commence an apprenticeship or traineeship while at school and are a great way to set students up for the career they want while completing the HSC. A school-based apprenticeship or traineeship combines paid work, training and school, and allows students to gain an industry recognised national qualification and credit towards the HSC. Some apprenticeships and traineeships can contribute towards the ATAR. Donna will be visiting Grafton High School weekly to meet with students. Any students, parents or local businesses interested in discussing a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship can see school Careers Advisors Carly Piper and Vivienne Nichols at school or contact Donna on 0428 186 737 or donna.kearns1@det.nsw.edu.au.

Support for School Leavers

A **School Leavers Information Service** is available for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 wishing to access free careers support and advice. Students can book a free 45-minute session with a qualified Career Practitioner over the phone to get personalised and tailored assistance about their education, training or employment options by phoning 1800 227 337 or emailing schoolleavers.nci@dese.gov.au. A **School Leavers Information Kit** is available to help students understand their future career options. To support parents and carers start

House Banner Competition

Grafton High School will be running a Banner Competition for the Houses. This is your chance to leave your mark on GHS and show your artistic flair. This banner will

be the banner of your House and will be printed and displayed throughout the school year at different sporting and school events.



What does your banner need?

- Banner must include the House Colour
- Banner must include the House name
- Banner must be school appropriate
- Banner must include pictures and/or text
- Banners that make the final voting round will be selected by the House Captains and chosen based on design and wow factor

How do I enter?

You design a banner and submit to either Mr Townley or Mrs Brejwo via email or in person.

How many times can I enter?

Students can only enter 1 time.

Can I enter with a friend?

Students can create a banner with other people from their House. Each student will get 5 House Points and it will be counted as their 1 entry.

What do I get?

Each entry gets you 5 House Points. The winner for each House gets 50 House Points. There will be a public vote held via the school's Facebook Page of the winning banner for each House. The winner of this vote will get their House an extra 100 points!!!

When do entries close?

Entries close Friday Week 7 (27/08/21) by 3:15pm.

How is the winner chosen?

Students will be sent a Google Form with the finalists in Week 8 to vote. Students will only be sent a Form for their Houses banner options and only be able to vote for their House banner.

Mr Townley and Mrs Brejwo

Yr 9 IBL

Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) is an exciting subject where students get to explore a passion project from almost any perspective. In their group projects, students made their own surfboard, explored the culinary delights of the world on a Lazy Susan and made their very own range of makeup. These are just a sample of the fantastic products students came up with. Well done, Year 9 IBL!

Mrs Brejwo and Ms Singh



PDHPE - GYMNASTICS

The PDHPE program for Years 7 and 8 for the next three weeks will be gymnastics on a class by class rotation.

We encourage students to attend this program with great positive energy and willingness to be engaged in a safe and enjoyable learning experience.

The PDHPE faculty encourages families to have a conversation with their students around their **RESPONSIBILITY** for **SAFETY** while engaged in this learning environment.

Students understand there is a clear line between having fun and being silly and look forward to high levels of fun and enjoyment in the coming weeks.



Year 11 Business Studies Market Day



NAPLAN School Readiness Testing

Our students in Years 7 and 9 will be participating in SRT Week 6 Monday 16 August (Year 9) and Tuesday 17 August (Year 7). Students will need to bring headphones for use during their test.

What is the school readiness test (SRT)?

SRT is an opportunity for schools to set up and run simulated tests in preparation for NAPLAN Online.

Participation in SRT will allow schools to engage and become familiar with the online assessment platform and reflect on any areas that may need to be addressed ahead of moving online in 2022.

SRT Test Structure

SRT consists of:

- an omnibus test (combination of numeracy, reading and conventions of language questions) – 45 minutes
- a writing test – 42 minutes.

LONG WAY HOME WRITING COMPETITION - LOOK UP

Congratulations to the following GHS students whose stories will be published in 'Stories from the Clarence Valley 2021 - Look Up'.

Year 10

Nadia Smith - Bridge to Equanimity



Year 7

Kiera Banfield - Look Up

Harmin Singh - The Blue Sky

Annabel Dungey - The Rain

Neve Rhodes - The Window

Hayden Luxton - Annoyed

Daisy Ada - Learn a Lesson



Winners will be announced in September. We look forward to reading more from these talented writers.

Zone Athletics Carnival

The carnival was held on Monday 19th July (Monday Week 2, Term 3). Congratulations to the following students:

Eliza Berrick – 100m, 200m,

Shakeia Williams – 400m

Shanae Crispin – 800m, 3000m, Discus

Mishelle Hancock – High Jump

Erin Foster – Discus

Taleah Woods – High jump

Mason Cone – 100m, 200m, long jump

Aidan Rasborsek – 100m, High jump

Marcus Makejev – 100m, 200m, long jump

Daniel Lavender – High Jump, long jump, triple jump, javelin

Brock Harrison – shot put, discus

Blake Gaddes – Shot put, discus

PARENT CAFE

CARING THROUGH
COVID -19
@

NSOA IN THE HUB ON MONDAY 16
AUGUST 2021
10AM - 12PM

TO REGISTER - TRYBOOKING.COM/BSQOE
OR CALL RUTH OR KATH AT NSOA ON 66403800
RSVP BY 12 AUGUST 2021

Parent Cafes host open, honest and fun conversations about keeping our families healthy, safe and strong.
We are parents supporting parents through good times and struggles as we examine the role of relationships, resilience, knowledge, support and communication in our families lives.
Childcare and meals always provided at Parent Cafe.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC.



