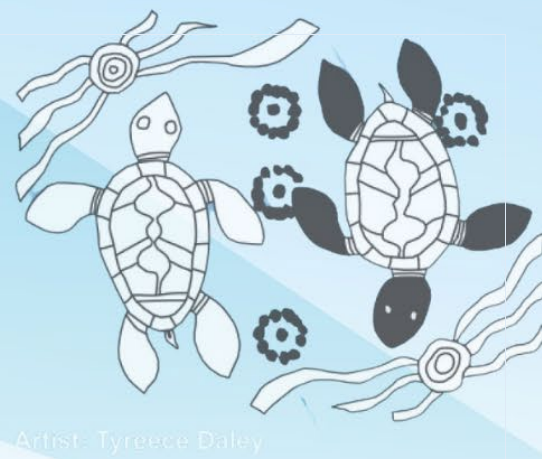


# Newsletter

## Grafton High School

### Week 5 Term 3



Artist: Tyreece Daley

#### From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back to the newsletter for 2023!

You will have noticed the break in newsletters this year. While we have continued to celebrate positive news on our Facebook page, after a few changes in staffing, we have not managed to release a newsletter in quite a few months, and I am sorry about that. In a digital age, I believe this form of newsletter still has an important role in both providing a compiled set of information for our community, as well as providing an important snapshot in time for future reference. Our intention is to release a newsletter such as this twice per term, at the end of Week 5 and the end of Week 10. You will see continued within this that while the year is going quickly, there are plenty of positive things going on at Grafton High School for our students.

After much work behind the scenes, our long awaited construction work upgrading our site is nearing completion, with the junior toilet block upgrade happening at the time of writing. This will hopefully be completed by the end of this term. We have had paint and carpet works completed across most of the school, bringing a renewed sense to our learning environments. We should also see a new bell system installed in September, which will improve both our daily functions and our safety features on site.

Our school also underwent a process called External Validation at the start of this term, which occurs once every four years, and required our school to make a detailed submission to a panel of external principals and leaders, including the Director, Educational Leadership for our network. The purpose of this process is to rate our work in the areas of learning, teaching and leading, with reference to the School Excellence Framework developed by the NSW Department of Education. Our school received very positive feedback on many of the initiatives we have been implementing in recent years, and this process will shape the aspects of our school, and the directions that we continue to work on in the coming years. I will refer more to this process of school planning and improvement in the coming months and years. In the meantime, please enjoy reading about the wonderful things that happen here at our school!

Scott Dinham

Principal

## Diary dates

### On this month

#### August

CHS Debra Hansen 15s Netball North Coast semi final	24
Junior Bangarra Dance Company Invitational Workshop	28 to 1 Sep
RSA Course Year 12	29

### On next month

#### September

Junior Bangarra Dance Company Invitational Workshop	11 to 15
Years 7 & 8 Brainstorm Productions	7
NSW CHS Tennis Championships	19 - 21

## A message from the canteen

Due to the increase in the price of goods. We unfortunately will be increasing our prices at the GHS canteen. This increase will take place as of next Monday 21 August 2023.

## P&C News

The next meeting will be held Thursday 24 August at 6.30pm in the Common Room

### Explaining every absence



If your child is:

- Sick
- Has a medical appointment
- Has to travel for family business
- Involved in Sorry Business



### Let us know

So we can plan continued support for your child's learning and wellbeing

Every day matters



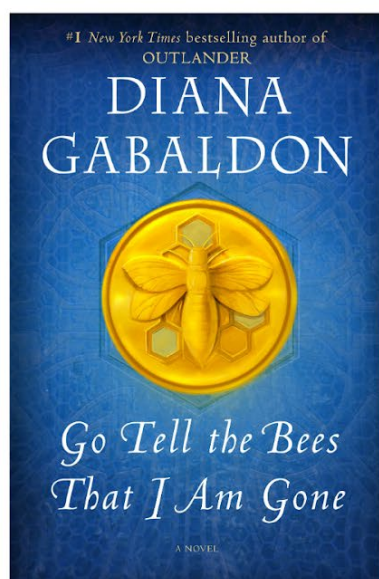
## Book Week in Week 6 from Monday 21st August – Friday 25th August

In Week 6 we will celebrate Book Week. This year's theme is 'Read, Grow, Inspire'. As we have done in previous years, students and members of staff have submitted recommendations for the books that they have been reading. These posters will be posted across the school, so that everyone can be inspired by what others are enjoying. All students who have entered a recommendation will go in the draw to win a prize pack, which will be drawn in Week 6. It is always interesting to see the enormous variety of books being enjoyed by staff and students!

Happy Book Week, everyone!



Mrs Castle



This is the latest 'tome' in the Outlander series. I'm about a third of the way through it and loving it for its quirky mix of history and contemporary ideas. I started reading the series way back in the early 90s when the original was still called "Cross Stitch". The story is about a woman who accidentally walked through some standing stones in Scotland and went back around 200 years in time, falls in love with a wild Scot and follows him around the world. This one is set in North Carolina just prior to the war of independence. Might I say, the hero, Jamie Frazer and heroine, Claire get themselves into an awful lot of troubles!

**READ GROW Inspire**

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

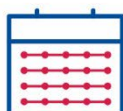
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
(M) (X) (W) (T) (F)  
(M) (T) (W) (T) (F)

=

**4** weeks



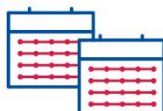
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Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
(M) (X) (W) (T) (F)  
(M) (T) (W) (X) (F)

=

**8** weeks

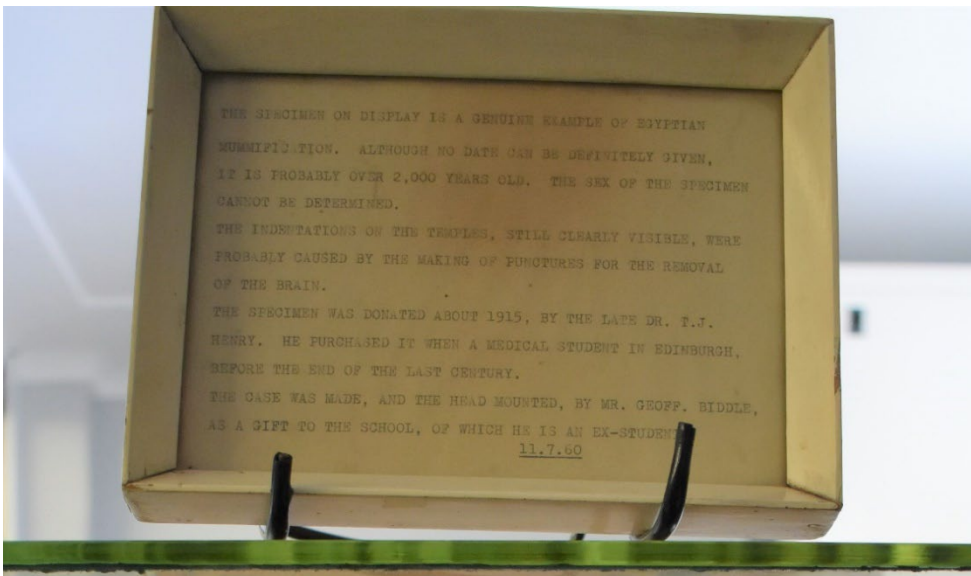


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Over **2.5** years missed

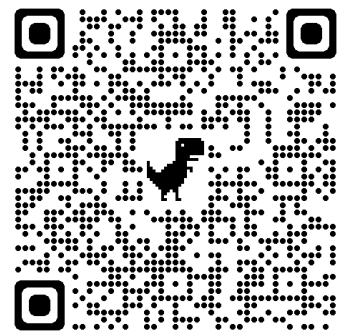


## The Grafton High Mummy Head

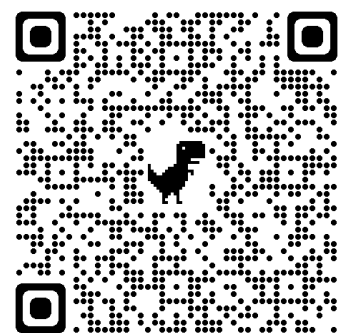


Over the past year, we have been fortunate and super excited to have been involved in the first instalment of Season 3 of the renowned podcast 'Stuff the British Stole'. As part of this, we were visited last year by Marc Fennell and the ABC team, where they interviewed several students and began several months of investigations.

The results of the podcast can be viewed and listened to, and the accompanying article can be read by scanning the QR codes.



Podcast



Article





## Northern Rivers Careers Expo & Post School Options Expo

Students were given the opportunity to attend career expos this term with support from the Educational Pathways Program. Years 10 & 11 students travelled to Lismore for the Northern Rivers Career Expo where they experienced hands-on activities with TAFE 'Try-a-Trade' sessions, a school cook off competition and many industry experiences. Students had an opportunity to talk with industry representatives from many different career areas - the defence force, police & emergency services, universities, TAFE & registered training organisations, employment agencies, local businesses, and government departments. These students left the expo with practical skills and knowledge to help in their career options and future directions.

Year 12 students attended the Coffs Clarence Post School Options Career Expo where they also had the opportunity to discuss with universities, employers, training providers, TAFE and employment agencies their future pathways and learn about the variety of post school vocational options. This event was also supported by the Educational Pathways Program.



## NSW Training Awards Ambassador Visit

On 28 June a group of students from year 10 had the opportunity to listen to Jordan Peterson a NSW Training Awards Ambassador about his career journey and the advantages of choosing a vocational education pathway. Jordan talked about his struggles through school until he started his vocational pathway by selecting a VET subject in Year 11. This took him into his first apprenticeship and built the foundations of a successful career.

This event was organised by the Careers team and provided by the Educational Pathways Program (EPP) operating at our school this year to ensure students leave school well prepared for higher education, training or work.



## Year 10 Career talks

On Friday 21 July our Year 10 students were lucky enough to have 14 professionals from our community visit Grafton High School and participate in Year 10 career talks. This was an opportunity for students to gain information directly from those working in a range of different careers.

Students were given the opportunity to select what career they would like to gain more knowledge from, and our wonderful speakers did an amazing job. Grafton High School would like to thank the business's for allowing their staff to take time out to participate in the talks and we would also like to give a big thanks to all the amazing speakers, each and every one of you were an inspiration to our students as this is an important time in our students lives as they make decisions on what career they may like to have in their futures.

Mark Stephenson – Stephenson Partners

Glen McClymont – Caringa

Dave Dart – Ray White TKG

Dell Gorrington and Greg Sunderland – NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services

Neil Gorrington – Uniting Preschool

Brad Crispin – Transport for NSW

Jacob Weatherstone – Twin Rivers Constructions

Kerrie Di Mattia – Dimattia & Co Hairdressing

Darryl Smidt – Clarence Valley Surveyors

Dr Tom Granleese - NSW Department of Primary Industries







## Mid North Coast U15's Netball Champions

Congratulations to the girls who played an amazing undefeated day of netball. Goodluck in the next round, contesting for North Coast Champions.



## NSW All Schools Cross Country

Congratulations to Jye, Av, Nate and Breanna for representing our School at the NSW All Schools Cross Country in Sydney, you did us proud.

## NSW Open Hockey

Congratulations Marty and Joey on your series wins representing NSW CHS Open Hockey teams. Joey was integral in the close win over CCC scoring the winning goal. Marty was named in the NSW Open All Schools Girls Hockey Team. Well done to both of you



## Tennis News

Congratulations to the girls tennis team for becoming North Coast Champions. Also, well done to Maia and Elanah for being selected in the North Coast Tennis team competing in Sydney at the NSW CHS Championships at the end of this term. Good luck girls!







# GHS 2023 SKI TRIP

The GHS annual ski trip was a huge success, the students had a great time. They were lucky enough to experience snow fall and participated in ski/snowboarding lessons. They had a lot of fun on the slopes. Thank you to our awesome teachers who went along for the ride.



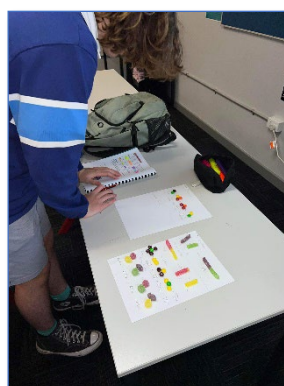


# IN THE CLASSROOM



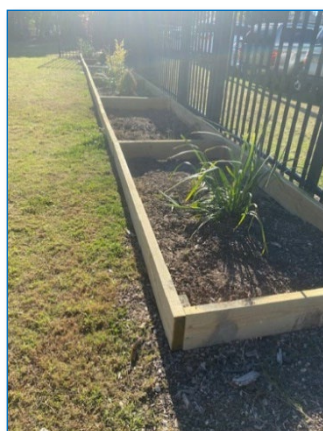
## Year 11 Chemistry

Year 11 Chemistry modelling different chemical reaction types using lollies.



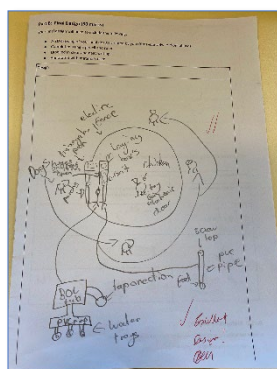
## Year 12 VET Construction Class

Well done to the Year 12 VET Construction class on the completion of stage 1. Garden beds along Fry Street are now ready for the next group to plant out. These students work very hard to complete a great job.



## Year 7 Mandatory Tech - Agriculture

This term, 7TM8 have been working on designing a chicken coop, developing their creative and critical thinking skills, and improving their 2D and 3D design and drawing skills to create a practical and functional chicken coop which they could build at home.



## Dance workshop

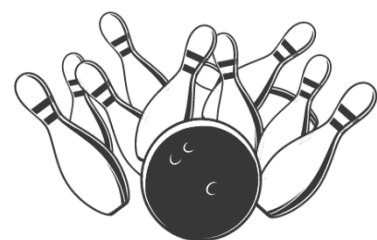


Some of our students were lucky enough to participate in a dance workshop provided by the NSW Department of Education's Arts Unit. Grafton High School hosted students from Grafton Public School for the day and everyone had a great time.

## GHS Tenpin bowling team

The Grafton High Ten Pin Bowling team played Maclean High for a chance to represent North Coast. Andrew, Kobie, Lindsey and Roman all played really well. Currently we do not know if we are progressing in the competition as there are 18 schools playing at different North Coast Venues. The three schools with the highest combined scores from two games will go on to Sydney in November. Fingers crossed for our boys.

The score was Grafton High 903, Maclean High 689. Special mention to 'Mr Casual' Lindsay who top scored for the day with a massive 151 in game 1 and 'Mr Consistent' Roman who scored 115 and 117 in each of his games.





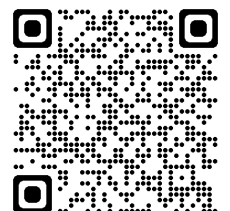
## Year 11 VET Primary Industries work placement

From pollination and honey production, to hive maintenance and the health of individual colonies, our Year 11 VET Primary Industries work placement students were buzzing with excitement as they experienced a glimpse into the unique diversity of the beekeeping industry. Thank you to Min Fuller, Wayne Fuller and the rest of the team from Bee Services for all your knowledge and encouragement you gave our students.



## From the Newsroom

Did you see our Year 11 VET Primary Industries work placement students in the Clarence Valley Independent. If you missed it check out the full article by scanning the QR code.

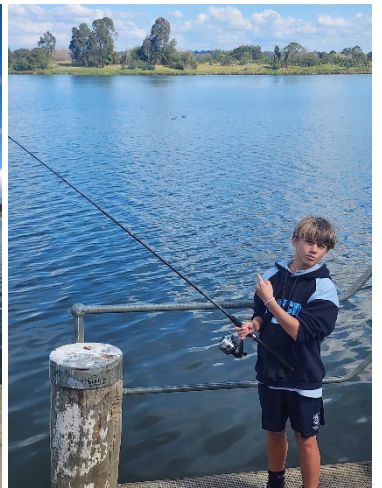
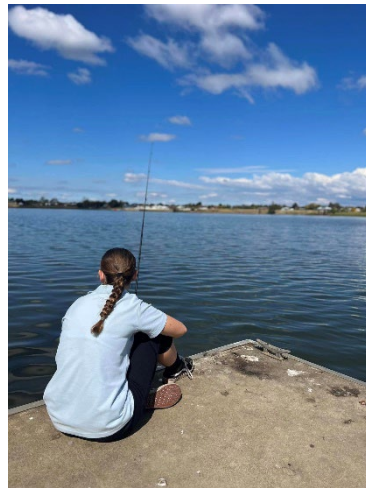
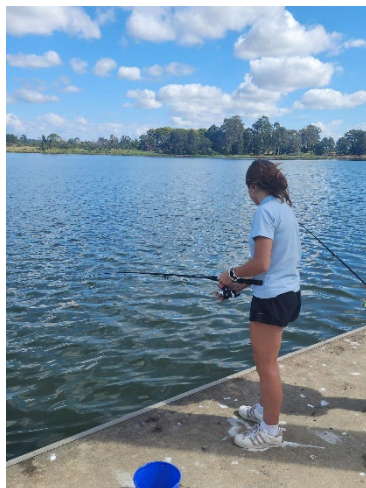




## Year 9 Marine Studies "Fish Harvesting"



Year 9 Marine Studies were very happy to see the sun come out before heading to the Clarence River for a spot of fishing. As part of the module "Fish Harvesting" students have been learning about different methods of commercial and recreational fishing. The excursion allowed students to demonstrate the skills they have learned, particularly how to set up a rod and reel, bait a hook and cast a fishing rod. We are looking forward to repeating the excursion in weeks 7 and 9.







Well done to all the students who entered this years Long Way Home Writing Competition. The judges have made a shortlist of 60 stories, all to be published in Stories from the Clarence Valley 2023 – Grow.

Congratulations to our 6 students; Samara, Olive, Nadia, Vinh, Bella and Charlie who are finalists. Winners will be announced on 28 August. Good luck.



## Byron Bay Writers' Festival Roadshow

Some students from years 7-10 were fortunate to participate in two writing workshops as part of the Byron Bay Writers' Festival Roadshow.

Stage 4 spent time with Jo Yang, 2022 Australian Slam Poetry Competition winner, preparing, planning, sharing and composing their own slam poems. Stage 5 workshopped with award winning novelists, Peggy Frew and Peter Polities, where they shared their ideas about powerful descriptive writing.





# Baryulgil NAIDOC Day

Miss Sieradzan and Mr Robertson took a group of GHS students to Baryulgil PS to help run their first NAIDOC Day in many years. Our students ran a traditional game for the younger students, which they loved.



It was a great day for our youth and elders





# YOUTH CHOIR

## Just Sing!

CVCON  
CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM

## CVCON YOUTH VOICES

want you! students Yr5 - 12



**Mondays 5.00 - 6.00pm**



**Phone or email now to book your place.**

Ph: 6643 3555 | [cvcon@cvcon.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cvcon@cvcon.nsw.edu.au)

# CVCON

CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM

## SHARON DAVIDGE FLUTE



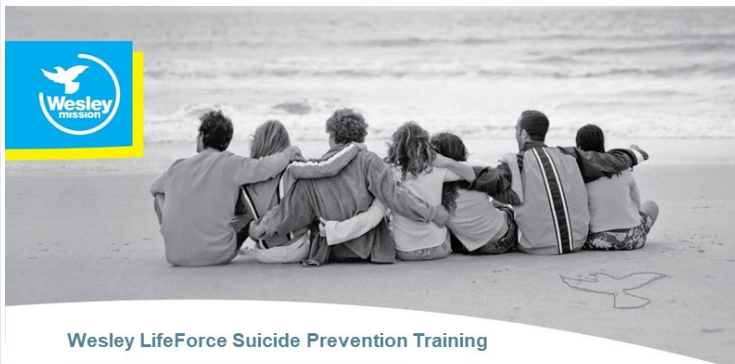
**SUNDAY 27 AUGUST  
3:00PM**

**CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM**

8 VILLIERS STREET, GRAFTON

**ADULT: \$20 CONC: \$15 CHILD: \$10**

FOR BOOKINGS VISIT [WWW.CVCON.NSW.EDU.AU](http://WWW.CVCON.NSW.EDU.AU) OR PHONE 6643 3555



### Wesley LifeForce Suicide Prevention Training

**Essential skills training to recognise and respond to someone at risk of harm.**

**Educating, empowering and resourcing local Australian communities**

#### Program outline

Wesley LifeForce offers suicide prevention training to educate and provide people with the tools to recognise and help someone who is at risk.

Since 2002, we have provided suicide prevention skills training to more than 33,000 people in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote Australia.

#### Training session details

**Date: Tuesday, 22 August 2023**

**Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm AEST**

#### Free event

Morning tea and lunch will be provided

#### The outcomes

- understand risk and protective factors
- how to identify the warning signs that someone may be at risk of suicide
- how to ask directly about suicide intent
- understand what local and national resources are available to support a person at risk.

#### Location:

Grafton District Services Club Ltd

105 – 107 Mary Street

Grafton, NSW 2460



**Register online:** [Wesley LifeForce Suicide Prevention Full Day Workshop, Grafton NSW Tickets, Tue 22/08/2023 at 9:00 am | Eventbrite](#)

**Or email** [lifeforce@wesleymission.org.au](mailto:lifeforce@wesleymission.org.au) **or call** 1800 100 024

The Wesley LifeForce Suicide Prevention Program gratefully acknowledges the funding provided by the Australian Government.

**Do all the good you can  
because every life matters**

## IMPORTANT UPDATE



### OUT OF THE SHADOWS WALK 2023

### YAMBA JUST ANNOUNCED

**10th September 5:15 am for 5:30 Start**

We are delighted to announce we will be holding a walk in Yamba this year.

**This is in addition to the Coffs Harbour walk - also on 10th Sept at 4pm**

Join us as we walk together to raise awareness, remembering those we have lost to suicide, those who have attempted suicide, and those who are living with the grief of losing someone.

**RSVP AND WALK ROUTES HERE**

