



NEWSLETTER GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

TERM 4 WEEK 5

Welcome to Term 4! We are half way through the Term and so far it has been an eventful term, with a very busy end of the year still to come.

In this issue of our school newsletter, you'll find key updates and information on:

- Upcoming events
- Principals message
- Sports News
- Excursions
- Jacaranda
- Important flood funding reminder
- Community News

ON THIS MONTH NOVEMBER

Woolgoolga Multicultural Excursion Y9	13
Year 9 Check-in Assessment	14
Year 8 Check-in Assessment	15
Year 7 Check-in Assessment	16
School Spectacular - Aboriginal Dance Ensemble	19-26
P&C Meeting	23
Rewards Excursion Y7 to Y10	28
All schools 6 into 7 transition	28

ON NEXT MONTH DECEMBER

Year 10 Geography Excursion	4
Multi-Sports Day	5
Presentation Night	6
Variety CAPA night - theme come together	7
Queensland Universities Excursion	7-8
Activities week	13-15



FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK

Term 4 is disappearing quickly, and we are as busy as ever at Grafton HS. End of year activities and arrangements are in full swing, and planning for 2024 is well underway. Year 12 have completed their exams, and we enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebrations at the formal last week. Congratulations to the whole year group, and their year advisors Karla Hubbard and Erin Taylor for finishing the year in style.

We welcomed our new Teacher-Librarian to the school at the start of the term, Lorette Hargreaves. She brings new ideas to the role and to the school, and students should look forward to these.

As we look to 2024, our school day structure will change. After a comprehensive process earlier in the year, we will be moving to a 5 period day (instead of 6), with longer periods. In 2024, the school day will start at 9am, and finish at 3:10pm. This will not change any arrangements with bus travel, as it is very similar to our current arrangements. We have made some other changes to the structure of our curriculum, all in the pursuit of better learning and brighter futures for our students. We believe that based on our process, research and consultation, that the longer period length will allow deeper learning, and less movement and disruption across the school. We have also increased the time allocated to core subjects in Year 8, removing the mini-elective. The evidence clearly tells us that building better core skills in the early years, leads to greater outcomes in the later years of high school, no matter the chosen career path. I am confident that our decisions are setting the foundations for greater success for students of Grafton High School into the future.

I am aware of the pressures on our community at the minute, with many families experiencing the impacts of the rising cost of living we are seeing across many of our essential needs. Our students need to be set up for success by having the right learning equipment, belong to our school by wearing our school uniform, and have their nutritional needs met by eating quality food to provide the energy for learning. As we look to 2024, it is timely to remind all families that if you need assistance in the provision of food, learning equipment or uniforms, please contact our office. Our breakfast club operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, along with other arrangements for food and materials throughout the day. For uniforms, subject fees and book packs, we have a brief student assistance application process that is simple and confidential and will be a real help to some families at this time.

A final reminder that the last day for students is Friday 14th December. While I'm sure the next 5 weeks will go quite quickly, there is plenty to enjoy and look forward to, such as our rewards excursions, activities week, and other end of year festivities.

Scott Dinham





SPORT NEWS



NSW CHS TENNIS

Congratulations to Maia and Elanah for representing North Coast at the NSW CHS Tennis Championships during the week in Sydney. The Girls were a part of the North Coast team that finished with a Bronze medal. Well done girls!

TOUCH FOOTBALL

A big congratulations to all the GHS students who participated in the Clarence Valley Touch Competition. All students sportsmanship and efforts were exceptional. The junior boys finished 2nd, the opens boys team lost 3-2 in their semi final to eventual winners McCauley Catholic College. Both the junior girls and senior girls won their divisions with particular mention of Bridgett in the junior girls and Shanequa in opens girls taking out the best and fairest awards. Well done to all!!



ACTIVITIES WEEK

Activities week will take place in week 10 - Wed 13 Dec to Fri 15 Dec

Activities week booklets will go out to students at some stage in the next 2 weeks, students will be given time at school to make their selections online.



CHS NETBALL

Congratulations to our under 15's Netball Team! Finishing top 10 in the state is an outstanding achievement and we are so proud of you all!

Thank you to all the families for the support while we were there and the support from everyone back home in getting these girls to CHS!

STATE TEN PIN BOWLING FINALS

Last Tuesday 31st October Mrs Moar, Mr Jurd and Andrew, Lindsay, Roman and Kobie, traveled to Sydney to attend the State Ten Pin Bowling Finals run by the Disability and Inclusion Sport Unit.



These boys performed amazingly well and finished a very credible 6th in the state out of over two hundred schools that entered the competition. Thirty schools from around the state competed in the finals at Zone West at Rooty Hill.

The highlights of the trip for the boys was traveling on a plane for the first time, ascending the Sydney Tower Eye, visiting the Sea Life Aquarium, seeing the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House and traveling on the trains and light rail. Many new skills were acquired and it was great to see the increase in the boy's confidence as we maneuvered around the city and the airport.

These four students were fantastic representatives and should be congratulated for the way they conducted themselves over the course of the two days.



SBAT

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

At GHS we have a number of SBAT students.

School based apprenticeships and traineeships allow students to make an early start on their career while they're still finishing school.

Opportunities are available across a wide range of occupations. Each offers students the chance of getting paid for real work experience, while gaining a nationally-recognised qualification and contributing towards their HSC studies.

If your student would like information on SBAT's they can speak with Mr Hartmann.



MEET HARRY

Harry is doing a School Based Traineeship as part of his senior studies at GHS. This is offered through the Educational Pathways Program that GHS have on offer for students.

As one of his HSC subjects, Harry is completing a Certificate 111 in Real Estate. He combines this with one day per week paid work at Dougherty Real Estate in Grafton throughout Year 11 and 12. He loves going to work and will still gain his HSC at the completion of his studies. It's a win win for Harry!

GHS would like to thank Dougherty Real Estate for their efforts in working with GHS to give our amazing students a head start in the workforce.



OUT AND ABOUT

EXCURSIONS



AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY

A small group of Yr 9 & 10 Agriculture Technology students embraced the opportunity to attend an excursion on regenerative agriculture at the Trenayr TAFE Campus. The 'Seeds of Hope' field day allowed students to participate in hands on workshops on landcare, soil science, native bees, cane toads and beneficial insects. All students represented our school well with impeccable behaviour and positive attitudes on display. We would like to thank Mr Youman and the EPP program for providing funding for our students to participate.



FRANKENSTEIN EXCURSION



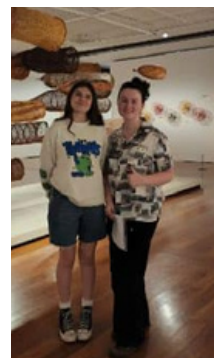
At the end of October some very lucky Drama, Art and English students had a day trip to Brisbane to visit QPAC and to see the theatrical production of Frankenstein.



The Frankenstein Excursion is an opportunity for Art students to view a range of high quality art works in the Queensland Gallery, and to analyse a creative set and costume design in action in the theatrical performance.

It also allows Drama students to see a high quality, professional theatrical production in a large theatre.

Finally, it gives Year 11 Advanced and Year 10 Select English students to see a multimodal adaptation of a story that they studied as part of their creative writing modules.





JACARANDA

At GHS we are very proud of our Jacaranda festival and the students look forward to the community events the Grafton Jacaranda Festival hold every year.

Along with our annual Jacaranda morning tea that is hosted by our support students, this Year we had a Jacaranda door competition and all staff got involved to decorate their faculty doors.



JACARANDA MORNING TEA

Last Monday the 30th October, SLIP and Wise classes continued their long standing tradition of hosting the Jacaranda Ambassador's party for morning tea. Our classrooms were decorated with all things purple, and students had been cooking and freezing scrumptious hot and cold items for weeks.

This year the students were delighted to meet Toby, the Jacaranda King and past Grafton High student as well as Matron of Honour Renee, Princess Tilly and Princess Sarah. Guests were presented with beautiful rose shaped purple candles that students made at school.



GHS JACA DOOR COMPETITION

Grafton High School faculties have been getting into the community spirit this week and each faculty has decorated their staffroom door for Jacaranda.

We had some very special judges vote for their favourite faculty door and we had our Jacaranda King present the trophy to the winners at the at the whole school assembly.

AND THE WINNER IS

**T
A
S**



We had the privilege of our Jacaranda King, Toby Powers attend GHS as a special guest at our school assembly and present the beautiful trophy that was made by the TAS staff.

Congratulations to our TAS faculty, your door looked amazing and the annual trophy you crafted from jacaranda wood looks beautiful, we all look forward to trying to win it next year.



Support Unit Staff

Meet some of the team



MRS LAURO

Favourite Memory at GHS: Watching SLIP 2 play on equipment at Jacca Park for community access

Favourite Movie: 'Holiday'

Favourite Book: 'Ikigai'

Favourite Song: 'Wish you the Best'



MRS REARDON

Subjects you Teach: each: TAS

Favourite Memory at GHS: Teaching all the wonderful students throughout my years here at GHS.

Favourite Book: Reading books to my grandchildren



MRS COLES

Favourite Memory at GHS: When a year 8 student was asked to spit their gum into the bin and it flew across the top and landed on my feet.

Favourite Book: 'The Resilience Project'

Favourite Song: 'Wildest Dreams'

Favourite Movie: 'A Dog's Purpose'



MISS DUFFY

Subjects you teach: English, Maths, Science

Favourite Memory at GHS: Inclusive sports days at Toormina and Woolgoolga

Favourite Movie: 'Wayne's World'



MRS WEBBER

Favourite Memory at GHS: Water play with WISE 1

Favourite Book: 'The Power of One'

Favourite Song: 'Thunderstruck'

Favourite Movie: 'The Grinch'



MR COOPER

Favourite Memory at GHS: Watching students do well

Favourite Book: 'Harry Potter' (all)

Favourite Song: 'Living on a Prayer'

Favourite Movie: 'Tropic Thunder'



MRS MOAR

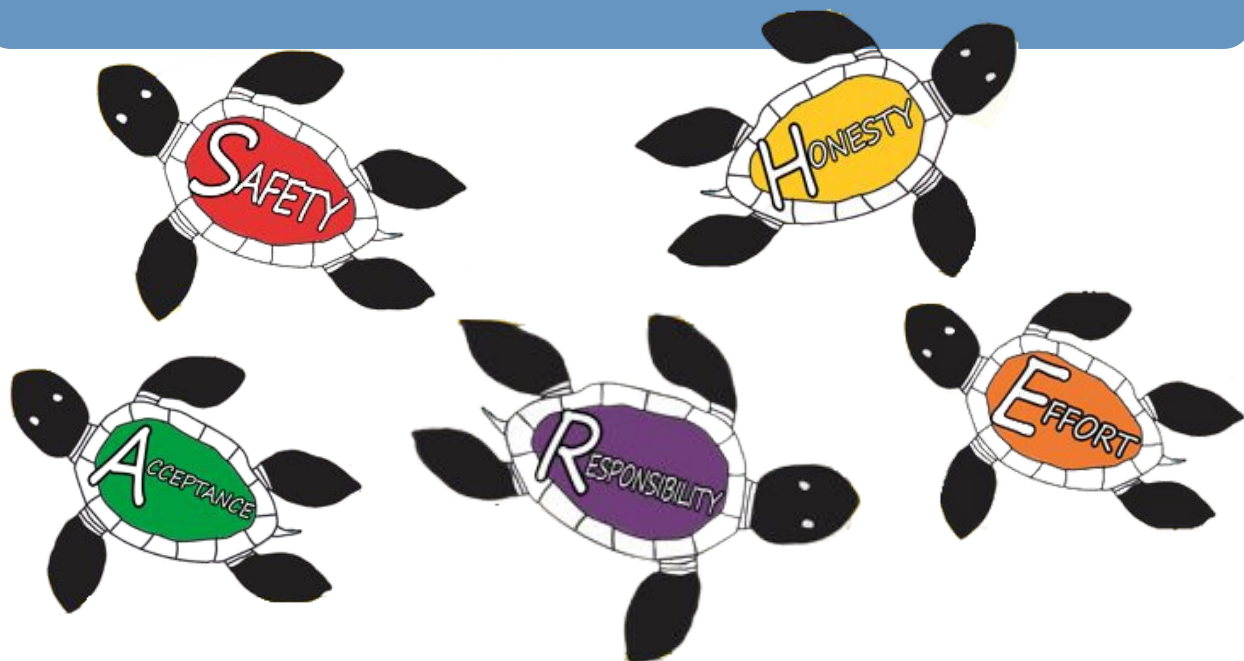
Favourite Memory at GHS: I love our support unit farewells we have for year 12 students.

Favourite Book: 'My Brilliant Career'

Favourite Song: 'What's Up'

Favourite Movie: 'Grease'





P & C MEETING Thursday 23 November at 6.30pm

FLOOD MONEY REMINDER



Your flood funding \$\$\$ will not be available after 17 November 2023.

The time is fast approaching, so if you have a credit save some \$\$\$ and look to pay your elective fees for 2023 or purchase uniforms from our canteen for 2024.



We hope all students, parents and school staff have a great end to the year over the next 5 weeks. The last day of term 4 for all students will be Friday 15 December 2023.

Don't hesitate to contact us



grafton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



02 6642 3355

You can find important updates and further information on our website, parent portal app and social media channels



www.grafton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au



facebook.com/GraftonHighSchool



Parent portal - grafton-h.sentral.com.au/portal/login





COMMUNITY NEWS

TRIVIA night fundraiser

Supporting Westlawn Preschool

Please join us for a fun filled night of
trivia & games to raise money for our
not-for-profit Community Preschool

6:30pm Sat 25th November
@ Clarence River Jockey Club



Scan QR code for
more information
& to book your tickets



Westlawn Preschool Inc ~ westlawn@westlawnpreschool.com.au ~ 6642 2942



WE ARE LITTLE ATHLETICS

Season 2023-24 Open Now



WHEN: Wednesdays 4:30pm

WHERE: Terry West Oval, Junction Hill

AGES: 3 -16 yrs

COST: \$100-\$150 yearly registration

REGISTER TODAY!

www.revolutionise.com.au/graftonathleti/home/

REAL FUTURES **Youth** **CONNECT**



Are you 15-24 years
old, live in the
Northern Rivers
and keen to work?

JOIN YOUTH CONNECT!

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- ✓ Connect with employers
- ✓ Write your resume
- ✓ Apply for jobs
- ✓ Get your birth certificate
- ✓ Set-up MyGov and your TFN
- ✓ Sit your licence

JOIN OUR INFO SESSION:

CASINO

Casino Community &
Cultural Centre, 35
Walker St, Casino

WEDS 25 OCT

9:30am - 3pm

CONTACT:

John Clancy: 0483 135 875
john.clancy@realfutures.net



REGISTER



Youth Connect is a partnership between NSW Reconstruction Authority and Real Futures