

Anchored in Excellence....

Community Newsletter #8
September 18th 2015



Buddy and Bella in their unisex uniform.

Reminders:

Consultation Meetings Values and Behaviour

Wed October 7th

Wed October 14th

Public Meeting

Wed Oct 21st

Venue:

Murrumba Secondary College,
Performing Arts Centre 6.30pm

Expressions of Interest/Enrolments

This week Expressions of Interest have continued to come in.

I have now have over 130. Expressions of Interest. Thank you to everyone who is doing their utmost to ensure that people are aware that a new school community is on its way!

A letterbox drop to homes in the Griffin area yielded significant interest. Another letter box drop will happen in mid-October.

From Vicki Baker, the Principal

It is very hard for me to believe that I have now been principal of the new school at Griffin for an entire term. So much has been accomplished in a very short time.

- The entire teaching team is now in place and you will all be very pleased to know that we now have three male teachers on staff.
- The uniform and logo is decided.
- Expressions of Interest for enrolment are coming in steadily.
- Two very successful Public Meetings, a number of community consultation meetings and a P&C Information session have been held..
- Construction of the school facility has progressed and is on schedule to meet all anticipated timelines.

But most importantly, there is a positive excitement within the Griffin community about the new school that is coming.

I've spent a considerable part of this week preparing for work with the teaching team. Over the holidays staff have committed to two very important processes in preparation for the arrival of students and families in 2016.

In the first week staff will gather to engage in a professional learning session to consider a school-wide phonemic awareness program. In the second week, they will gather again meeting with a number of resource providers to purchase resources for the school. As you can imagine, this is a really exciting process.

This week I am elated to be able to introduce the school's newly appointed Business Service Manager to you. Her name is Rachael Steinhardt. Rachael has significant experience working in schools having been part of the administration team at Undurba State School for a number of years. Her most recent appointment was Executive Services Officer in the Regional Office in Brisbane. While Rachael has really enjoyed this role her heart is in schools. She is extremely pleased to be joining our community and will commence work on October 6th. I welcome her knowing that she will be a vital and valuable member of our community.

I am now in the process of recruiting teacher aides. At this time, because of anticipated enrolment in the first year, the number of staff in this role will be quite small and drawn from the Education Queensland transfer list.

From last week..... We need to think about an interim P&C.....

I do hope I gave you food for thought last week in regard to the vital role that P&C's play in shaping strong, cohesive school communities. Those successful in being elected to the executive positions will fulfil very important roles and become the public faces of our community. I hope there are many considering these positions. Now is not the time to be shy. If you'd like further information please feel free to contact me on 0409 461 023 or Robyn Kelso on 3352 3900.

Nominations will be sought in late October with the view to having an Interim P&C established in the school by the end of October. Links to the following websites might be useful.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/parent-involvement-checklist>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/getting-parents-involved-schools>

<http://www.pbs.org/weta/twoschools/getinvolved/empowering/busy.htm>

New school in Griffin

Anchored in Excellence

Food for thought:

Curiosity and Powerful Learning

The students at Griffin will be literate, numerate and curious.

Curiosity will be deliberately nurtured to engage students in deep learning. Curiosity is rich territory for students and teachers alike. It enlivens classrooms and enlightens learners.

Curiosity and Powerful Learning, is a proven, research based framework for school improvement that identifies strategies that will nurture within our students an abiding curiosity about their world.

Wayne Craig from McRel International states: Curiosity drives the impulse to learn. It thrives in the presence of high expectations and authentic relationships.

Curiosity is an achievable goal for our students if we make it tangible. If we make it something they can focus on. So let's be clear. Curiosity is represented by the learning skills and the spirit of enquiry we want all our students to acquire. Curiosity is explicit in the classroom strategies we use to develop, refine and inspire our students' learning skills.

***The cure for boredom is curiosity.
There is no cure for curiosity.***

Anon

Recently asked questions...

Q: Will out of catchment enrolments be accepted?

A: The decision to accept out of catchment enrolments is based on the school's overall capacity. Once the number of in-catchment enrolments is determined, those who've presented an official enrolment form and live out of catchment will be advised in early November.

It is critical that once enrolment forms are made available that they are returned promptly. Offers of enrolment will be made in order of receipt of completed enrolment forms.

***Please note:* Those living in-catchment will be required to provide proof of residency.**

Photo Gallery

From Friday the 11th of September...
Enjoy!!!!



This is the front of the administration building. No, that's not the Principal's carport..... It's the walkway that flows through the middle of the school.



How impressive.



More stunning rock walls!

