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Principal Message

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I do hope all of lovely mums from Prep to Year Two enjoyed their pampering afternoon last Friday. The children were so excited to invite them to their classrooms and spoil them with little acts of service and share their very precious handmade gifts and cards. I had the privilege of standing in for one of our mums who was not able to attend and I have to tell you that our little preppies have been beautifully trained to give the best hand massages ever!!!!!! Thank you to our staff for the effort that was put into making this event so special.

Across the school our children enjoyed purchasing little gifts for mum from our Mothers' day stall. A huge thankyou to all the volunteers for making this possible. We had mums who served, who made items and sourced gifts so that our children had special surprises for mum on Mothers' Day. Again another wonderful time in our community.

We finished NAPLAN for 2016 today! Preparation for NAPLAN in 2017 starts tomorrow with quality teaching and learning across our school.

We have some young ones making absolutely remarkable progress in Reading because they have committed to making Reading a regular part of their day.

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School Council

As in Independent Public School we are required to have a School Council. The role of the Council is to provide input into the strategic direction of the school. The Council does not have a financial delegation so the activities that are managed through the P&C and very separate. The membership of this Council includes the P&C President, staff as well as community members. I hosted our very first information session last night prior to our P&C meeting. A Fact Sheet about School Councils is available on the school's website for perusal. If you have any queries in regard to this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Another information session will be offered prior to our next P&C Meeting on 5.30pm on the 8th of June.

Voting for School Council positions will take place at the P&C Meeting on the 10th of August.

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Illness??.

Our Hunter McNeill, our little one with Leukaemia has now finished his chemotherapy. It is important for everyone to be aware that he is still highly vulnerable to illness. It is of the utmost importance that chicken pox and other communicable diseases are communicated to the school. It is very important that the guidelines of communicable diseases are followed stringently. While Hunter is at risk there are also many students who are at higher risk and are required to take precautions to reduce the impact of some diseases. Please ensure the school is notified.

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Volunteers, your help is needed urgently!

The safety of our young ones is our highest priority. Concerns have been raised at the last two P&C meetings regarding the safety of students needing to cross Brays Road. I have been working

Contact Details

Address 19 Wesley Street
GRIFFIN
QLD, 4503

Phone 07 3490 3777

Email admin@griffinss.eq.edu.au

Web www.griffinss.eq.edu.au

Absentee line 07 3203 9027

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with personnel from Main Roads, the Moreton Bay Regional Council and Education Queensland's Infrastructure Branch to consider options that will minimise the risk to students.

One suggestion that was put forward as a short term solution was to have a 'Walking Bus' program. This would involve having an adult volunteer take the students across the road each afternoon as a group and being available in the morning to ferry the students as they cross. The Department of Transport and Main Roads would be able to provide some training. If you can assist on any morning or afternoon please contact the office on 3490 3777.

I have been in contact with a number of families who live on the western side of Brays voicing my concerns in regard to the safe crossing of their children. Parents are urged to ensure that their children have the skill set required to safely cross this busy road. It would be absolutely wonderful if folk from this sector of the community could volunteer to assist with the 'Walking Bus' initiative.

We are also seeking volunteer assistance with the Look Out program. Currently teacher aides are being paid to do this task at a cost of over \$200 per week. This resource is taken directly from the support we would provide to students. This program is operating very smoothly and one that can be easily accommodated by volunteers. Again if you can give 20 minutes any afternoon of the week to do this task your support would be appreciated greatly. Please contact the office.

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Update



Mr Alizzi has taken Long Service Leave and Mrs Appleby will continue to take Year 4 Yellow.

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P & C Day

In recognition of the wonderful work that P&C's do in schools across Queensland a day each year is designated to celebrate. On the 13th of May at 2pm our school will be hosting an afternoon tea in the Resource Centre for all members (or prospective members of the P&C). Please mark this in your diary.

Commendations to our wonderful P&C.... Just so you know....

Our entire P&C executive are volunteers who are all new to their prospective roles. They are all working mums who've made our school, our community, your children their priority. Since being formed in late 2015 our P&C have worked tirelessly to understand the expectations and the possibilities that this role presents. The documentation associated with this role is significant so the hours that it has taken to 'unpack' this has been significant.

As we've evolved they've brought our community along with them. At each of our meetings we have a strong representation of very interested parents, many who've also given significant time to support the activities of the school. We have others who cannot attend meetings but work quietly away in the background

We have parents who've baked, who've covered books, helped in classrooms, made resources, assisted at our disco, in the coffee shop, on the mother's day stall, with school banking, at the uniform shop.... so many people doing what they can to create a community that does absolutely outstanding things for kids. Every 'bit' helps no matter how small. To each and every one of you, thank you....

As principal, I am incredibly proud to work in partnership with our executive team and parent community. To Natasha, Gez, Jennifer, Danni and Sarah thank you so much for your commitment, your time and leadership. You need to be commended for the truly outstanding work you're doing.

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As a reminder I am including our three priority areas for this term in our newsletter.

•Reading: Our aim is to have EVERY child reading EVERY night. The secret to reading success is no secret at all. It simply comes down to what we call 'reading mileage'. The more you read, the better you get! Every student in the school has now been issued with a Reading log to record their home reading.

•Attendance: At the end of last term students who attended for more than 95% of the time were given a special attendance certificate. Those who had 100% attendance received one that congratulated them for this. While children absolutely need to remain at home when they are ill, it is in their very best interests that they attend school EVERY day when they aren't.

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•Arriving on time: Every day we have a significant number of students who are late for school. The bell for the commencement of the school day sounds at 8.50am. Students who arrive late miss out on critical aspects of learning every day. Their arrival also impacts on the 'flow' of the classroom as teachers have to stop to ensure they are informed of what is required. A smooth start to the school day is often a key component in a successful day.

As partners in learning, parents are urged to partner with us to make these priorities also

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Access roads around our school are 40 at ALL times



Please note that all access roads around our school are 40 at ALL times, not just during school zone times. Your attention to this supports the safety of our precious children and our crossing supervisor. She has reported two near misses because of driver inattention. Please take care. We have also had one reported incident when a child has been left unattended in a vehicle. Unfortunately the parent could not be identified at this time. Please be aware that all such incidents will be reported to the police.

Dates to Remember

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Upcoming events

16th- Bike Ed -Year 4/5 Yellow

17th May 2016- Assesmbly

17th May 2016- Bike Ed - Year 6 Yellow

18th May 2016- Bike Ed - Year 4 Yellow

25th-27th May 2016 - Year 5 & 6 Camp

27th May 2016- Year 2 Yellow Community Coffee

2nd June 2016- Reading Session

Premier's Reading Challenge 2016

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The Premier's reading challenge commences on Monday 16th May

Premier's Reading Challenge 2016 Monday 16th May – Friday 26th August

The Premier's reading challenge commences on Monday 16th May. For a student to successfully complete the Premier's Reading Challenge they must read or experience the number of books indicated in the table below. Experiencing a book can include classroom or at home activities such as shared reading, listening and reading along with a book, or being read to.

Year level Number of books

Prep - Year 2 Read or experience 20 books

Years 3 - 4 20 books

Years 5 - 9 15 books

The Premier's Reading Challenge is not a competition but a way to encourage students to develop a love of reading for life. Through the challenge children and students are given an opportunity to develop their appreciation of the English language and are encouraged to explore and enjoy a wide range of literary texts.

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Children and students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland.



Care Instructions for Uniforms at Griffin SS

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Uniform at Griffina??..



FOR BEST RESULTS

- Warm Machine Wash
- Do Not Bleach, Wring or Soak
- Tumble Dry on Low Heat
- Line Dry in Shade. Avoid Direct Sunlight
- Warm Iron on Reverse Side
- Dry Cleanable

Uniform at Griffin.....

We are proud of our very high standards..... all the way down to our plain black shoes and plain white socks.... There are a number of students wearing incorrect footwear. It would be appreciated greatly if this could be addressed quickly. As children grow out of black shoes that are in good condition, we would greatly appreciate these being donated so if and when needed these could be made available to others.

News from Mr Flanagan

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Music News

Music lessons have now started and are in full swing, with 15 students in grades 4, 5, and 6 all attending regular weekly lessons on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and percussion. These students will continue to work through the set Instrument Music curriculum for the remainder of the year with the goal of a full performance event later in the year. Lessons occur in the music room with Mr Flanagan every Friday, who counts himself extremely lucky to have such great students to take advantage of the amazing facilities and quality instruments we have here at Griffin SS. If you have any queries regarding instrumental music here at Griffin, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Flanagan through the admin team.

Also, just a special recommendation for Eli in grade 6 who did a phenomenal job performing on his violin for our school's ANZAC Ceremony, well done Eli!

Photos from Instrumental Music



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Murrumba State Secondary College Open Day

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 Thursday 9th June 2016



Murrumba State Secondary College Open Day

Thursday 9th June 2016
 3:30pm-7:00pm

Join us for information sessions and campus tours starting at 3.30, 4.30 and 5.30pm.
To book, go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au - booking code 'b2hzt'.

P 07 3490 3222
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Message from P&C

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Thank you



Thank you to our Volunteers for assisting and making our 1st Mothers' Day stall such a success.

We raised \$742.00

Thank you to our students for purchasing gifts for your Mum's.
We trust all had a lovely Mother's Day

Some photos from our Mother's Day stall



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How to read with my child

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Reading Information Session for Parents



On Thursday 2nd June 2016 @ 6pm we will be hosting a Reading information session for parents in the Resource Centre

This session will be discussing practical, hands on strategies for assisting your child to read.

If you are able to attend, please R.S.V.P Alexandra at alofi3@eq.edu.au