Principal’s Message

I would like to start this newsletter by congratulating the entire school on a successful Harmony Day. Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Kearney worked hard with Mrs. Chaouk, Lizzie and Tamara from the P&C for the huge benefit of our kids. This is about our students, parents and teachers working together to promote harmony, tolerance, inclusivity and diversity. What a wonderful day and the Aboriginal Elder and performers were a highlight. Thanks so much to all parents and friends who cooked up a feast for recess and lunch.

Finally please put this SATURDAY 21st March from 8am until 1pm onto your calendar for a whole school working bee, followed by a free Halal BBQ lunch.

No Hat - Play in the Shade:

The prevention of serious skin cancers is a school priority and protecting our kids from the damaging effects of the sun means that we are moving towards a no hat – no play policy. The hats are for sale for $9 (cap) and $10 (bucket style) at the school office. School hats with your name in permanent marker inside the hat is the very best protection against skin cancer which develops from an early age.

3pm Supervision is a parent responsibility:

Thanks so much to the P&C for endorsing the school to focus on our kids who are left at school and not picked up promptly at 3pm every day. Supervision after 3pm is a parent and caregiver responsibility and I am pleased to report that we have significantly improved the unfortunate occurrence of students being left at school by parents after 3pm. The staff of the school would like to work in a spirit of cooperation and care with all parents to make sure that every child is safely on their way home at 3pm every school day.

On Time – In Line – 5 to 9.

Our 8:55am starting bell and morning assembly is a very important routine to begin every school day. All of the educational data shows that kids who regularly arrive at school late miss out on important learning time and student results can suffer. Please work with your child on morning routines and with the school and P&C’s full support we can reduce to NIL the number of children arriving late to school.

We Love books

As noted in our previous newsletter our kids are really excited about key programs including more 21st Century learning opportunities in the 3-6 Primary school and a huge focus on lifting infants reading and literacy data and programs K-2. GSPS is a reading school where all staff place huge value on supporting kids to read a wide range of interesting and challenging texts at school and as a part of our K-2 home reading scheme.

Road Safety

Please have a really important chat at home with your child about the absolute necessity to cross Woodville Road at the lights EVERY SINGLE TIME – at the lights please kids. Crossing any busy road can be really dangerous. By crossing only on a green walk signal you will arrive home safely.

Car Park Access

The two staff car parks are a no access area for students and parents. The school would like to work with all of our students and parents on this important issue. This is a safety issue because staff and delivery vehicles take priority at these gates and pedestrian gates in and out of the school are the ONLY safe and secure option for students and parents who are entering and leaving the school.

Finally please put the date SATURDAY 21st March onto your calendar for a whole school working bee and BBQ lunch.
Calendar

Week 8

Wednesday, 18th March  
Harmony Day celebration
Saturday, 21st March  
Working Bee and BBQ lunch  
- School beautification

Week 9

Monday, 23rd March  
Bagpiper demonstration 12.45pm (Preparation for ANZAC in term 2)

Week 10

Wednesday, 1st April  
Autism Blue Day
Thursday 2nd April  
Easter Hat Parade

2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

The University of New South Wales is offering students an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).  
ICAS is an annual skills development assessment program in the key areas of learning for students in Years 2-6. Assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Maths, Science, Spelling and Writing. The assessments gather performance information through a 30-60 min supervised school test. The assessments will take place on various dates from May to August. The cost of sitting the exam ranges from $8.80 to $28.00 depending on the subjects you wish to enrol for.

If you are interested in enrolling your child to participate in the UNSW International Competitions and Assessments for Schools, please see Mrs DeRome in the office for a registration form by Tuesday, 31st March.

Swimming Carnival

Well done to the Granville South swimmers Claudia and Jackson who competed in the area swimming competition at Homebush this week. They participated in their events with great enthusiasm and should be extremely proud of their efforts.

Autism Blue day

On Wednesday April 1st, week 10 our school will be participating in Autism Awareness Day. We encourage all students to wear blue and donate a gold coin. The canteen will be selling blue items that day to help with the fundraising. All donations will be going towards the Luke Pridis foundation. The event is about raising awareness and supporting and nurturing students, parents and families who are living with ASD children. A special guest will be attending our school that day and talking to students, staff and parents.

Please come along at 9am to show your support and learn more about this wonderful foundation.

https://www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism/world-autism-awareness-day

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Our students this week are learning and participating in many activities which help young children learn about how to get on with others and how to solve their problems without physical or verbal aggression. This annual day which is held this year on the 20th March provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying. No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. Have a look at the website for ideas and suggestions you can do at home as a family with your child/children.


Email: granvilles-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Library News

A reminder as we get closer to the end of Term 1 that Week 8 will be the last week to borrow. This allows for all library books to be returned to the library during the Week 9 library sessions.

Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC)

Keep your eyes out for information on this important challenge. I have yet to distribute to the classroom teachers the relevant information and recording logs for each class.

I would love to see every student at GSPS register for this challenge and have a go at completing it. It is not hard, you can choose a huge variety of books from the list. The Challenge ends 21st August so there is plenty of time to read the required number of books.

K-2 students must read 30 books. All teachers from K-2 will record the PRC books read in class.
3-4 students must read 20 books.
5-6 students must read 20 books.

I will arrange for the reading log sheets to be handed out in Week 8.

Good luck.
Mrs Stayte

Easter Hat Parade/Guessing Competition

The Easter Hat Parade will be held on 2nd April at 2.30pm. The school will be holding an easter egg guessing competition and raffle. We would greatly appreciate any chocolate egg donations— all children who donate will get a ticket for the draw. Please give them to class teachers by Wednesday 25th. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Torrence

The Music Bus

The Music Bus visited Granville South on Wednesday in the middle session, to give all students a brief demonstration. It was a great opportunity for parents to also view the Music Bus. Each demonstration/explanation lasted for approximately 15 minutes, allowing small groups of children to walk through at the completion of the introduction. All expression of interest forms are due back by Wednesday 25th March.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

At GSPS, our expectations are:

1. BE SAFE
2. BE RESPECTFUL
3. BE A LEARNER

Behaviour Award System

Granville South has a whole-school, cumulative behaviour award system. All teachers use this system as part of the positive reinforcement they use in the classroom, playground and during other school related activities.

The Granville South Behaviour Award System is based on school commendations. This year the school staff and parents will be working together to refine the awards process and one that will allow the awards to carry over each year to make the gold medal or similar achievable by every student in their schooling life.

The following students have already received 10 commendation awards this year. They will receive their Bronze award at the morning assembly on Monday 23rd March.

BRONZE AWARDS
CONGRATULATIONS:

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<td>Tyrell Wong-Tung KM</td>
<td>Mustafa Dib 3/4V</td>
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<td>Antonio Khouri 1/2S</td>
<td>Arif Azimi 5/6G</td>
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<td>Ahmed Abbas 1/2S</td>
<td>Zachariah Chaik 5/6G</td>
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<td>Roukeya El-Dhaibi 1/2C</td>
<td>Magenta Pope 5/6G</td>
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PSSA Results

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<thead>
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<th>Round 1 – GSPS V Granville East</th>
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<tr>
<td>T-Ball</td>
<td>Softball</td>
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<td>Boys: 14-15</td>
<td>Boys: 7-6</td>
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<td>Girls: 1-10</td>
<td>Girls: 1-12</td>
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Class Spotlight- 1/2T, 1/2P & 1/2S

STAGE 1

1/2 T had the pleasure of hosting the first Stage 1 Assembly for 2015. These assemblies are designed to allow teachers and students to share what they have learnt during the week with their peers and parents. 1/2 T had spent the week focusing on the text ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’ by Helen Oxenbury and Michael Rosen and used their knowledge of the story to perform a small chant that outlined the story sequence.

During the Assembly, Stage 1 teachers handed out merit awards to some of our wonderful students. The first award was given to a student who put in great effort during literacy lessons and the home reader program, and the second award was given to a student who had demonstrated positive behaviour inside and outside of the classroom. Overall, this assembly was an enjoyable and rewarding experience for the performing class and their peers. We hope to see lots of parents at our next Wednesday afternoon assembly at 2.30pm.

Last Thursday, Mrs. DeRome visited our class to tell us what school was like when she went to school. First, we asked some questions about when she was small. Next she showed us the dress. After that, she showed us the toy metal train. Then she showed us the typewriter. Finally we got to use the typewriter.

- Layla -

In week 7 1/2 Papaya were proud to host the stage 1 assembly. We would like to thank all the parents that came and supported us as we lead our peers, presented our learning and performed our item to the 1/2 classes. Mr Becroft would like to thank the year 2 students who ran the assembly smoothly delivering their parts perfectly. Please celebrate with us the students whose excellent efforts were recognised by their peers at the stage 1 assembly.

In week 6 1/2 Coral presented the item ‘When the King rides by’ to the stage 1 assembly.

As part of our History Unit ‘Families: Past and Present’ 1/2 Scarlet invited Mrs DeRome from the office down to our classroom to ask her questions about what school was like for her. Mrs DeRome brought in lots of things from when she was at school. We got to sit in the old desk to ask our questions. We wrote recounts about all the things that were shown to us.

Kindergarten Lime Numeracy groups

Email: granvilles-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au