Dear Parents & Caregivers,

In every school there are times when children are presented with challenges in getting along with others, or working at tasks in the classroom. The staff here at Grantham State School work hard to make our school a place of safe and supportive learning. We encourage students to be resilient in the face of adversity and difficulty. We work with them to build values that will provide them with life-long skills to be productive, successful and happy people.

We are committed to supporting all students and we want parents to feel confident in our school. If there comes a time when you are concerned about your child’s well-being or their achievement we want you to feel comfortable in approaching staff members to move towards a positive outcome. It is really important that in the first instance you discuss any concerns with your child’s classroom teacher. If you feel that you need further support then don’t hesitate to come to the office and make an appointment to see me.

Finding solutions and being proactive is important to all of us here at Grantham State School. We value the support of parents in our efforts to deliver quality education in a safe and supportive environment. Communication and positive partnerships are crucial for success and we encourage parents who have concerns to communicate them to us.

Rebecca Cavanagh

This week our comprehension strategy is:

FACT or OPINION?

This strategy allows students the opportunity to consider what is a fact and can be proven to be true and what is just opinion. In a world where we need to make informed choices it is important that students are given the tools to determine the difference between fact and opinion.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL AND RAFFLE

Thank you for the wonderful support of our mother’s day stall and raffle. We have been able to raise over $400 for our project club. The raffle will be drawn tomorrow after the cross country race at approximately 10:30.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 2

MAY
11th May – School Cross Country
- Pies ready for collection
15th – 17th May – NAPLAN testing
Years 3, 5 and 7
18th May – Zone Cross Country
22nd May – ICAS computer test
24th May – School Photos
29th May – AVA Pet school visit

JUNE
1st June – AEC visit – 6/7
7th June – 2/3 and 4/5 tree planting in Withcott
11th June – Queen’s Jubilee Holiday
18th June – ICAS writing
19th June – ICAS spelling
20th June – School Performance Tours
22nd June – Soccer and Netball carnival

Last day of term

BREAKFAST CLUB

Last year, the school introduced a breakfast club specifically for those students arriving on the early bus and to support families who were in temporary accommodation.

This year the breakfast club was limited to the days when our chaplain Nyree Mannion was here.
This term, Nyree is here on Thursday and Fridays only. Nyree will continue to provide breakfast club on these days. However, breakfast club is unavailable Monday – Wednesday. Breakfast club is for those students who arrive on the early bus unless other arrangements have been made with the school.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Tomorrow at 9:30 we will hold a school cross country race. All students will be required to participate unless they have a letter from their parents explaining any medical conditions that will hinder their participation. Students in grades 4-7 will have the option of joining in a fun run or running in a competitive race.

AASC

Each week we prepare and provide afternoon tea for students attending the Active After School Communities program. It is important that we know if your child is not attending or if they have decided to no longer attend.

Parents, please note that children who are not participating cannot be left unattended at school. Children are not permitted to play on the play equipment unsupervised. If you have one child who is attending the AASC program and another child who is not, you need to make special arrangements with the school if you are collecting both children at the end of the AASC session. All children here on school grounds need to be supervised for safety reasons.

NAPLAN

Next week the students in Years 3, 5, and 7 will be required to participate in NAPLAN testing. It is important that students are in attendance next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for this. If you have any questions relating to this testing please don’t hesitate to see your child’s teacher.

What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. All government, and nongovernment education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

GERMAN HOUSE

For this unit students in Year 6/7 are being asked to build an environmentally friendly house, drawing on the environmental and sustainable aspects of Australian and German housing. They are expected to use materials they have at home, which they then paint or cover in some way to look like the materials they have supposedly built with. There should be no need for anyone to buy materials. Wonders can be achieved with cardboard boxes. These can be easily obtained for free from supermarkets or electrical goods stores.

☐ I am interested in my child/ren attending the hockey after school program.

☐ I am interested in my child/ren attending the dance after school program.

Student names: ______________________________
____________________________

Parent signature: ______________________________
TUCKSHOP
TUCKSHOP HELPERS NEEDED!

If you can help out once a week, once a month or even once a term all help is appreciated. Please contact the school office if you are available to assist.

Please don’t forget to send your child/children’s order along with payment in a paper bag (one for each lunch break). Orders MUST be in each Thursday morning at 9.30am.

Absence Note
Every Day Counts

Dear __________________,

My child _______________ was away on __ / __ / __ due to:-

☐ sickness
☐ holiday
☐ family reasons
☐ other
☐ ______________________

Parent Signature__________________

Date______________________

WINTER UNIFORMS

If you are wanting to order winter uniforms for your children please indicate item and quantity below.

Prices are approximate as they may have increased. If you would like to order, please return form as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Size</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trackpants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fleecy Jacket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flying Jacket</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beanies</td>
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Name:______________________________