Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our new and returning families for another great year at Grantham State School. We have a number of new students joining us this week and it has been wonderful to see how well they have fitted in to our small school. The staff are very excited about the year ahead and we are looking forward to working with you to improve the opportunities for learning for each and every child.

Staffing

I extend a warm welcome to Miss Caley Quinn who has joined our staff this year to teach the Year 3 class. We also welcome Mr Brett Gredig who will be teaching Grade 3-6 music and taking choir. More information about choir will be available next week.

This year Mrs Frizzell will take on the role of PE teacher in addition to her teaching role. Swimming will now be included in our PE program and this term the Prep-2 students will participate in swimming and in term 4 students in Years 3-6 will have swimming for PE. Students in Year 3—6 will have PE on Friday afternoons.

Our Focus

This year we will continue to focus on every student improving. Students will be working with their teachers to set Personal Learning Goals. Personal Learning Goals are about improving a child’s learning and achievement and may relate to work habits, behaviour, reading, writing or mathematics, or a combination of these. Teachers will be arranging parent/teacher interviews later this term to discuss your child’s learning goals and explain how you can support your child in meeting their goals.

Parents

We value parent assistance and welcome any parents who are available to help out in classrooms. Please see our friendly office staff or your child’s teacher to discuss how you can support the learning.

Thank you to the volunteers from the Grantham Rural Fire Brigade for all their hard work in making our grounds look so great!
This year our school will be joining a number of other schools in our area who are adopting the Positive Behaviour for Learning framework.

As the year progresses we will be reviewing how we manage behaviour at our school and consolidating the things we do well and identifying areas for improvement.

We welcome parent support to help us continue to build a positive school culture and clear expectations for behaviour.

We will be forming a team of people to specifically focus on this area of school life and we would love to have one or more parents to help us in this important work. The parent/s would be required to attend 1 training day per term and attend meetings at a mutually convenient time twice per term to review processes and discuss opportunities.

If you would like to be involved, please contact the school office or talk to your child's class teacher.

Our school rules

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be a Learner
P&C NEWS

P&C AGM

P&C Meetings are held every fourth Monday of the month at 7pm.

Our P&C is an important part of our school and we would like to invite all parents to consider becoming a member of our P&C.

The AGM will be held on 23rd February in the multi-purpose room at the school at 7pm.

Uniforms

Due to our increase in student numbers we have run out of some uniforms. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our orders of new uniform items. If you require uniforms, please place your order at the school office and we will notify you when your uniform items arrive.

Second Hand Uniforms

Currently at the school we do have lots of second hand uniforms. If anyone is interested please see the school office.

Tuckshop Helpers Needed

Tuckshop will run on Fridays, for 1st break and 2nd break. If you are able to help out with Tuckshop, especially Friday mornings to help get food prepared, could you please see Theresa Hook or contact the school.

More information when Tuckshop starts and the tuckshop order form will be out soon!
Swimming

Prep-2 students swimming commences next week. Please see the attached letter for further details.

QSchools app

Last year we sent home QSchool app cards attached to the newsletter and for most new families it will be on today’s newsletter. It explains how to download the app onto your mobile phone which will give you the most up-to-date information regarding our school.

Playgroup

Grantham State School is very excited to be hosting Playgroup again this year. This year playgroup will be facilitated by the Early Year’s staff of Grantham State School. Playgroup will be held every Monday commencing on the 9th February. It will run from 9:30am – 11:00am. All are welcome! Playgroup provides many benefits to both children and parents. Practising social skills, normalising group interactions and turn-taking as well as providing foundations for pre-reading and pre-writing skills are just some of the benefits provided to children through attending regular playgroup sessions. Benefits to parents include gaining an increased understanding and knowledge about the School and the support networks available in the local community, as well as developing an increased understanding of the importance of play and early childhood development.

What: Grantham Playgroup
Where: Grantham State School Multi-purpose room/veranda
When: Every Monday from 9:30am – 11:00am
Two well-known and highly respected Toowoomba sporting identities, Richard “Mr Magic” Mitchell (Football - Soccer) and Clarence “Pop” Dickerson (Basketball) have teamed up to run SUPERCAMP (Football and Soccer) during the January 2015 school holiday period – Sunday 11 to Thursday 15 January 2015 - at Harristown State High School.

Supercamp has long been acknowledged as Australia’s premier sports training camp and with the combined knowledge of Richard and “Pop”, who both have been involved in their respective sporting codes for many years, it will undoubtedly continue to be regarded as the number one camp in Australia.

Should you have any questions regarding Supercamp, please do not hesitate to call 0417 196 151.

Regards

RICHARD “Mr Magic” MITCHELL and CLARENCE “Pop” DICKERSON
SAND SAFARI

**Presented by Streets Ice Cream**

Let the magic of this year's Sand Safari experience take you to an enchanted wonderland as the Surfers Paradise Foreshore & various locations across the Gold Coast bring Disney's magical friendships to life. This year's Sand Safari will see the coastline of Surfers Paradise fill with a dozen 10-25 tonne sand sculptures of your favourite Disney friends.

Come and admire the art of sand sculpting as each sculptor competes in this year's Australian Sand Sculpting Championships, sculpting Disney characters and scenes in sand. There'll also be a feature interactive Disney sculpture where you can have your photo taken among the display, along with sand art and bottle workshops.

Running over two weeks, there's plenty of time to grab the whole family for what is set to be an amazing outing, fun for all ages!

**Price:** Free

**Address:** The Foreshore, Surfers Paradise

**Phone:** (07) 5584 3700

**Website:** [http://www.surfersparadise.com/whats-on/free-events/sand-safari/](http://www.surfersparadise.com/whats-on/free-events/sand-safari/)

**Download the event program here**
Welcome to 2015, we hope the holiday season has been great for everyone.

Over the last week Withcott Basketball Club has officially been endorsed as the 6th affiliated club in the Toowoomba Basketball Association (TBA). This will now enable us to enter teams in TBA competitions. We believe that initially we will take to the court with mixed U7, Mixed U9 and a Mixed U11 teams. We will also be hoping to add a Senior B grade Mens and Womens for the Presidents Cup.

Aussie Hoops has been a great success for Withcott in the 5-10yr age group and will again be continuing in Term 1 on Thursday 5th February from 4.30-5.30pm. To register for this please visit www.aussiehoops.com.au and search "4350" or "Toowoomba" and select option 9 "Withcott". All Players will need to be registered online before they take the court. $60 without pack or $95 with pack.

Team Training for 11yrs + now has a dedicated day for training and will commence on Monday 2nd February 5.00pm-6.00pm. All attending will need to register as a member of the TBA from March onwards via link https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regoform.cgi?formID=34157
This covers Player insurance for training and competitions. Training fees will remain at $60 for 8 weeks payable currently by cash at the first session.

For those seniors who wish to register their interest in playing this year please email withcott@toowoombabasketball.com.au

Please also see details below for dates for our free Community Open Court Days

- Sunday February 15th, 12:00– 3:00pm
Absence Note
Every Day Counts

My child ___________________ was away on ___________________

Reason : ______________________________________________________

Parent Signature__________________

Date______________________

Staff Car Park

A reminder that our car park is for staff only. Parents must not park in the car park unless they have permission from the principal.

Reminder

Book club is due back by Tuesday, 17th February.