Dear Parents and Carers

This week’s newsletter is about sharing some of our school practices for parent information.

**Car Park**

For safety reasons it is extremely important that the car park is not used as a pedestrian thoroughfare. For your children’s safety, please use the front gate or the small gate near the tennis courts. Children are not permitted to walk across the car park.

The car park is strictly for staff only. We have limited parking for staff and parking on school grounds is for staff cars, the tuckshop convenor and contractors.

**Attendance**

Our goal this year is to have zero unexplained absences. To assist us in meeting this goal, please contact the school office or complete an absence slip from the newsletter to advise the reason for any absences. Please note that if your child gives us a verbal reason or a sibling informs us, we cannot use this as an explanation for roll recording. We must have notification from a parent or carer to explain student absences. If your child has an unexplained absence, you will receive a phone call from a staff member so that our records are accurate.

If your child is late, or you need to collect them early, please report to the office in the first instance and sign the Late Arrival/Early Departure register.

**Class Communication**

Next week teachers will be sending home information about your child’s class and any information you may need to know about specialist lessons, homework, what students are learning and assessment. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in supporting student learning and teachers will be contacting parents during the term to discuss your child’s education at Grantham School and what we are doing to ensure that every child is improving!
WEEKLY AWARDS
STUDENT OF THE WEEK — 02/02/15

P-1 CLASS
HOPE - For a wonderful start to her first year at school and consistently showing whole body listening.

1/2 CLASS
ASHER - For having a positive attitude towards his learning and making great behaviour choices.
TYLER - For being consistently on task and an enthusiastic learner.

YEAR 3 CLASS
JAMES - For having a positive attitude and working on making good choices.

4/5 CLASS
NOAH - For his beautiful classroom manners.

5/6 CLASS
SARAH (Peer Nominated) - For being friendly and helpful.
CINDY-LEE (Teacher Nominated) - For trying her best and putting in extra time on German homework.

BEHAVIOUR

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.

Our school rules

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be a Learner
Newsletter – Jan 29

Classroom Music Notes
Welcome back everyone to another great year of music at Grantham State School.

I am thrilled to be invited to work in the classes and with the Choir at this great School, and look forward to developing the skills of the children.

I would ask you to take note of a couple of points for families as we start the year:

CHOIRS:
Signup for the choir occurred this week with an Agreement letter sent home to be signed and returned. The choir will start rehearsing in week 3, with very good numbers anticipated for the year’s work.

All children interested in singing are invited to become part of the Choral program, and auditions are not held. Children from grades 3 – 6 are invited to sign up and enjoy the excitement of singing together.

A display folder is required for music / lyrics in which Music and lyrics can be kept for practicing.

RECORDERS:

ALL students in Grades 4 – 6 will be learning the recorder with me in line with Education Queensland’s Classroom Music Curriculum, and ALL are expected to arrive for class lessons with their named recorder in the class basket.

If your child will be starting the year without one, I would ask for a note to come to the Office to let us know when this will be rectified.

SEMESTER 1 DATE CLAIMERS:
Performance Dates are still being confirmed, and a DATE CLAIMER note will be coming home as soon as this is done.

Thank you for noting these.

Brett Gredig.
Classroom Specialist and Choir Conductor.
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.
Tuckshop begins this Friday. Please refer to the tuckshop menu which was sent home with your child earlier this week.
Swimming

Swimming for P-2 is on Thursdays. Please remember to send togs, towel, sunsafe shirt, bathing cap and goggles in a waterproof bag each week.

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 Friday commencing on the 13th 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 Friday from 9:30am – 11:00am
We look forward to seeing you there 😊

STOP PRESS!

Playgroup will now be held on Fridays, beginning next Friday, 13th February.
Advance Notice – International Cycling in the Helidon/ Grantham area

Friday 13 February 2015

Hello! I am providing information on the Zarraffas Coffee Oceania International Road Championship Series in a genuine effort to assist you in planning your activities on Friday 13 February..... and therefore reduce the possibility of inconvenience to you as well as other residents in the Helidon/ Grantham area.

I wish to also notify you that part of the race will be utilising the intersection/ underpass near the Grantham School. We do invite students and families to attend the event.

There will be a total of 5 Championship races for females and males as well as para-cyclists on both days.

You are most welcome to come down to the area opposite to the Helidon Cricket Grounds to see the cyclists prepare to line up for the start of the events.

With the support of The Queensland Police Service officers controlling traffic and the official motoscouts as well as the SES, we are confident of minimising inconvenience to you and others using these roads.

Your support and cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

Remember if you have any concerns please call me on 0419 650 459.

Regards,

John Osborne

Event Manager

Zarraffas’s Coffee  Oceania Road Cycling Championships
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

Toowoomba Netball Musters for 2015
Sunday 1st February, 2015
Sunday 8th February, 2015
9am – 11am at Nell E Robinson Park
Clubs will be set up for you to ask questions and gather information.

Further enquiries: 0487359762
Email—tmbanetball@bigpond.com
www.toowoomba.netball.asn.au

Parade
Parade will now be held on a Monday afternoon at 2:30PM.
Absence Note

Every Day Counts

My child ___________________ was away on _____________________
Reason : ______________________________________________________
Parent Signature__________________
Date______________________

Swimming Volunteers

If you are available to assist with swimming, please see your child’s class teacher.

Reminder

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