SURF SCHOOL

Last Friday students from years 4/5/6 had a great day at Woolgoolga with the surf coaches from Solitary Islands Surf School. From all reports, the students and staff enjoyed themselves whilst learning the fundamentals of surfing and developing a greater knowledge of surf safety and surf awareness. The next scheduled day for surf school is Tuesday 22nd March. We hope to have a number of photo’s up on Facebook and the school website very soon.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This Friday 4th March is our next assembly. Parents/carers and community members are invited to attend. The assembly will be held in the hall and will commence at approximately 9:10am. This week 4/5S will be sharing some of the interesting things that they have been doing in class.

SCRIPTURE CLASSES

Scripture classes have commenced for this year. Any parents/carers who would like to have their child/ren exempt from attending scripture classes are required to provide a signed note requesting that their child/ren not attend these classes. Please send notes to the appropriate class teacher or alternatively parents/carers may prefer to send an email to gillwinga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and this will be forwarded onto the appropriate teacher.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

I would like to congratulate the students and families on the improvement in attendance so far this year. The number of whole day absences is down significantly from the same time last year. Currently 73% of students have an attendance rate of over 85% and 40% of students currently have a 100% attendance rate. This is indeed a great start and we look forward to seeing it continue and improving throughout the year.

LEARNING PLANS

This week class teachers are working on creating Personalised Learning Plans for all Indigenous students and Individual Learning Plans for non-indigenous students who may require additional support. A copy of these plans will be sent home to parents/carers so they can also be involved in the process of supporting and developing goals for their child/children’s learning.

NETBALL

On Friday this week Mrs Magarry will be taking a number of girls to a Netball gala day. This is a great opportunity for the girls to learn some of the skills involved in playing netball whilst developing friendships with students from other schools. Thank you to those parent/carers who have returned the required permission note and money.
RUGBY LEAGUE GALA DAY

Next Tuesday boys from Gillwinga will join with students from other small schools to play in a rugby league gala day with the goal of selecting Clarence Valley representative teams to contest the Mid North Trials in a fortnight. Good luck boys.

COMMUNITY NURSE VISIT

Parents/carers of students in Kindergarten and Year 1 are reminded that the community nurse will be at school on Thursday, March 17th to do a free health check. This check is not compulsory but it is highly recommended. Information and consent forms have already been sent home. If you have not received a form and would like your child/ren to be included in this very worthwhile and free service please contact the front office who will be able to assist you.

NEW SCHOOL DIRECTOR

This year after a number of temporary appointments the Clarence District has a new Director of Public Schools. Mr Ron Phillips, our long serving director, has officially retired and Ms Meghanne Clarke has been appointed as our new Director of Public schools. If for any reason you need to contact the Director of Public School you can do so by phoning district office on 66 415000.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

‘The most valuable antiques are not those you buy in shops, but those who you count as dear friends’ – H. Jackson Brown Jr.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Mon 7th March: Kylie Chalker;

YEAR 7 2017 INFORMATION NIGHT

Year 7, 2017 information night will be held on 16 March in the South Grafton High School library. Parents and students are invited to meet the Principal and Year Advisor and learn about the transition process for Year 6 students.

* Platinum applications for accelerated learning classes will be available
* School scholarship application process will be mentioned
* Current students and parents will talk about their experience at SGHS.

There will be an opportunity to walk through the school.
Challenging and Changing Your Negative Attitudes

The trick to changing attitudes is to look at them and challenge them by asking yourself these two questions:

- "Is what I'm thinking true and sensible or am I just kidding myself?"

  and

- "Is this attitude helping me or hurting me?"

If you find that what you are thinking is not true, not sensible, or not helping you, you can change it.

Keeping a negative attitude is like trying to high jump with a heavy weight on your back. Not only is there no point to it, you are only making it harder.
**DADS are IMPORTANT**

A group for fathers after separation

Are you:
- Separated from your children?
- Isolated with little or no support?
- Stressed by custody and family law issues?

You are not alone.

Dads are Important is a group for fathers to share their experiences, provide support, network and exchange information and get advice on issues such as parenting, relationship with ex-partner, coping with stress and well-being.

Where: 10 Kemp St, Grafton (Sunshine House)
When: 2nd Monday of each month – 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Cost: FREE (light refreshment also provided)

For enquiries or to register phone CRANES on 6642 7257
or email jduffy@cranes.org.au

Please note: This is a support group and as such does not provide legal advice or advocacy

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**Creative Youth**

Creative Youth, is a group held monthly for creative kids who are in Years 3 to 6. Each month explores a different creative theme. This month, enjoy creative cookery and also pizza, games, and cool Bible topics.

**Friday 11th March**

Time 6.00-7.30pm
Place 126 Prince Street, Uniting Church (across from the old Video Ezy)
Cost $3; Contact Ellie on 0422567859 for more information.

This is an activity of the Uniting Church in Grafton

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**Easter Egg Hunt**

You and your family are invited to the 6th Annual Grafton Community Easter Egg Hunt 2016!

**When** Saturday 26th March, 2016
**Where**: New Life Church Shed
Car Arthur & Prince Streets
TIME: 8 a.m. Start

Come along for an enjoyable morning with family + friends, food and fun!

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**South Grafton Junior Rugby League**

Sign on.
South Grafton Junior Rugby League will be doing registrations at training for the month of March, starting on the 1st March. Tuesdays and Thursdays at J.L. Lawrence Field, Ryan St, 5th Grafton. Registration from 3:30pm and training at 4pm. All players are welcome, as we cater from 5yrs – Under 7s to Under 16s boys, and Under 7s to Under 12s for girls. New Players will need to bring a Birth certificate.

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**Live Life Well @ School**

In NSW, most children (90%) do not eat the recommended amount of vegetables.

Raw vegies like capsicum strips, peas in the pod, cucumber, bean sprouts and tomato wedges are often the most popular with younger children as they make great finger foods.
PLAY AND CUPPA TIME

for families with young children

If you have young children, we would love you to join us at Play and Cuppa Time for young families.

10 to 11am    Monday 7th March 2016
Church Hall, Kerrani Place, Coutts Crossing

9.30 to 10.30am    Friday 11th March 2016
St Matthews Anglican Church, Tyson Street, South Grafton

We will love to see you there. If you want any information please call any of the numbers below:

Jan       6644 7973 or 0400 194 533
Carmel    6643 2647 or 0417 047 465
Church mobile  0488 041 133