

Grafton Public School Newsletter



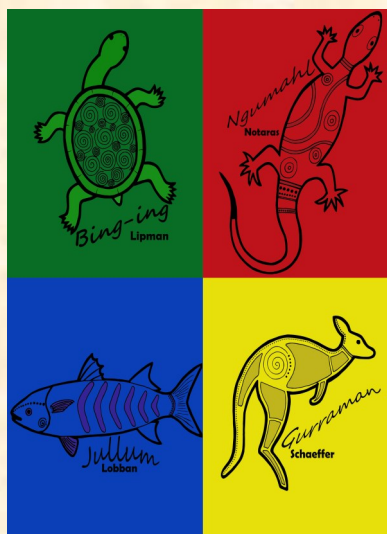
A Tradition of Excellence

Locked Bag 9024 Grafton 2460 PHONE: Primary - 66421000 Infants - 66422286
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Term Calendar - [Click Here](#)

Term 1 Week 1: Friday 29th January 2021

School Website - [Click Here](#)



IN THIS WEEK'S NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

- * Swimming Carnival
- * School Photos

Thursday 4th February- Swimming Carnival
Thursday 25th and Friday 26th February - School
Photos



GPS Swimming Carnival

The first event on the school calendar for the year will be our GPS Swimming Carnival. This will be held next Thursday 4th February, commencing at 9.30am. All students in Years 3-6, and highly competent Year 2 swimmers, will be attending with both competitive and novelty events being held throughout the day. Permission forms will be issued today and must be returned ASAP. **Cost is \$5 (\$3 entry plus \$2 slide) - Season ticket holders must still pay the \$2 for the slide. This money must be paid to the class teacher as soon as possible.** Non-competitive swimmers will all be wearing wristbands for safety reasons which identify their skill level.

The morning bell will go at the normal time. After a short assembly and marking of rolls, houses will assemble for the march down to the pool under teacher's supervision. All events are programmed to get underway at 9.30am.

Children should come dressed in their swimmers under suitable casual clothes (may we suggest house shirts/ colours) with their hat on and sunscreen applied. Recess, lunch and water bottle should be packed for the day. Students will get an opportunity to buy from the pool canteen during the day at designated times.

This is going to be a great day for all, with lots of fun events planned including the slide.

House meetings will be held later today to plan winning strategies and house captains will be elected on Monday!!!

LIPMAN

LOBBAN

NOTARAS

SCHAEFFER

The Primary Canteen will be closed on Swimming Carnival day. For Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2, this will be a normal school day.

Brief but Important.....

* Our school's Term 1 Calendar is currently being prepared and will be distributed to parents hopefully within the next week or so. On it will be many important dates for the term.

* We always encourage all students to take pride in our school by wearing full school uniform daily. This includes black shoes (black joggers are acceptable) and a school hat. Weekly awards will be given to children wearing their uniforms and Year 6 students will have to wear their uniform as part of the Star Award system. Students representing the school at cultural and academic events will be required to wear full school uniform. Students without a school hat on will be directed to play under the shade shelters during recess and lunch.

* Bus Travel Home: We understand that from time to time appointments crop up, child-minding arrangements may change, or maybe the weather changes plans, meaning children may be required to walk home from school or be collected by non-family members etc.

Please ensure that any changes to travel home arrangements for students who normally go by bus are made by either note or, early in the day, via email or phone call. If the school has not been notified by an adult, the student will travel via their normal arrangements, i.e. by bus. We have had some distressing incidents in the past where students have not travelled home by bus because of misunderstanding verbal instructions given before leaving home in the morning. A note avoids this confusion.

* Date for your diaries: our School Photos will be taken on Thursday 25th February and Friday 26th February.

Photo order envelopes will be distributed to all students soon. Orders must be returned to class teachers any day prior to photo day. As some of these envelopes were pre-printed late last year, we ask parents to please ensure that all current details on the envelope are filled in (for example class).

Family photos will again be offered like previous years. Family photo order envelopes are available from either office.

More details about School Photo days will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

School Fees

All students are currently being invoiced all applicable fees. An invoice will be issued for each student in the coming weeks and then posted home.

This invoice will outline to parents the majority of fees applicable for the entire year. We have included school fees, textbooks, fees for extra curricular activities such as band, choir or dance and a deposit payment for our major excursions (further excursion payments for the major excursions will be applied as the excursion gets closer and costings finalised.)

Payment can be made in cash, cheque, by EFTPOS at our Primary office, or online through our Parent Online Payments link on our website. If you wish to pay the invoiced fees one at a time, all at once or make a payment plan of a certain amount each fortnight that is fine. To arrange such a payment plan, please speak to Jo or Miss Karen in the office.



Canteen News

Grafton Public School Canteen has their very own Facebook page. Be sure to have a look and keep up to date on all the latest and greatest our wonderful canteen ladies have to offer.

A new menu has been released and is available on their Facebook site or paper copies are available from the office.

The online ordering system QuickCliq is still in place and details are also on Facebook. Online orders can be placed for a day, a week or even a month. There are small charges from QuickCliq to use the program which ensure the security of your banking details.

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

It was great to have our Year 1 to 6 students back at school today. Our staff have been involved in two full days of Professional Development and we all were very eager to start face to face teaching for the year. Our Kindergarten students are completing their Best Start testing over the next few school days and we look forward to seeing them all on Wednesday for their first official day of school.

A number of works occurred over the holidays including a new high fence being erected on the K-2 campus and road works in Mary St by Clarence Valley Council (CVC) to help make our school safer at drop off and pick up time. The fence project is completed except for the new gates which will be installed on Monday or Tuesday. The changes to the school drop off zone are still a work in progress with the hope that this will become an official kiss and drop zone. Further information will be provided to families when changes are made but until then, please follow the road rules of the RMS and CVC as per their signage around the school.

Swimming Carnival

Next week we will be holding our Primary Swimming Carnival for all students in grades 3 to 6 (as well as students in Year 2 who are turning 8 and are competitive swimming club swimmers). Notes will be sent home today with further information about the carnival. Please note this carnival will include fun novelty events for non-swimmers and swimmers not confident competing in the official races and it is considered a normal school day with attendance expected.

Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools

The Covid-19 operational guidelines for NSW Schools continue to change regularly and we alter our safety plans and school organisation as required. Being a large school, our restrictions can be different to small schools due to limits on numbers of visitors allowed at events. Currently, parents are still not permitted on site unless attending for an essential meeting or requiring assistance from office staff. Our friendly staff are at the gates every morning to welcome students to school.

Parents of Kinder students will be given additional information about the first day of school arrangements and the parent talk on Wednesday morning. First day of school photos will be taken for those Kindergarten students with photo permissions and sent to parents via Seesaw.

Kind regards,
Miss Michelle McDonagh
Principal

The first P & C Meeting for the year is Tuesday 9th February, starting at 6.30pm in the school library. All welcome! The P & C would particularly like to extend an invitation to all of our new parents to come along and learn about what this important group within our school accomplishes.

Community Notices



Grafton Physical Culture

Registration Days 2021

- Thursday 4th Feb 4-6pm @ Grafton Primary School Hall
- Saturday 6th Feb 10-2pm @ Grafton Shopping World



Classes held Tuesdays

FUN * FITNESS * FRIENDSHIP

Affordable dance classes for girls and women from 3years

Contact Justine on 0431 470 552 or grafftonphysie@bigpond.com
or visit www.grafftonphysie.com



Free support for parents of children with disabilities - www.mytime.net.au



MyTime groups provide support for mothers, fathers, grandparents, and anyone caring for a child with a disability or chronic medical condition. It's a place for you to unwind and talk about your experiences. It's a world away from appointments and therapy.

It's support for you

- A skilled facilitator will be on hand to provide guidance for parents adjusting to their child's diagnosis
- Regular guest speakers and help finding resources relevant to your needs
- While you meet a play helper is on hand to engage your child

WHERE: CRANES Training Room, 11 Kemp St Grafton

WHEN: Each Monday (Not during school holidays)

TIME: 9.30 am -11.30 am

To register contact Skye Pullen on 6642 7257 or email spullen@cranes.org.au



MyTime is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, and nationally coordinated by the Parenting Research Centre.



An Australian Government Initiative

www.cranes.org.au



BARBARIANS HOCKEY CLUB INC.

SIGN ON DAY

SATURDAY 30th JANUARY

CROWN HOTEL

12pm

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Juniors

U7s U9s U11s
U13s U16s

Senior Men's

First Grade Second Grade
Third Grade

Senior Women's

First Grade Second Grade

Training is held on Wednesday for all grades.

Come and join us for a free sausage sizzle and sign up for the 2021 hockey season.

Barbarians Hockey Club is a family focused club with teams across the Junior and Senior competitions.

After an interrupted 2020 season, we would love to have some new players on board and make 2021 our best yet.

If you are unable to make it and would like to play, please contact one of our committee on either 0408628522 or 0432234554.

Family and Relationship Services - Term 1 2021

Tuning in to Kids

6 Consecutive Tuesdays

Tuesday 9th Feb—16th March 9:30am—11:45am

Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence by learning the skill of emotion coaching.

@ CRANES—11 Kemp Street Grafton



Keeping Calm

Wednesday February 17th

9:30am—12:30pm

This half-day workshop provides information on how stress can affect our wellbeing, followed by strategies to communicate and manage stress.

@ CRANES—11 Kemp Street Grafton

Bringing up Great Kids

6 Consecutive Thursday mornings

February 11th—March 18th

10:00 am—12:00 pm



Bringing Up Great Kids is a reflective, mindful, respectful program that provides parents with an opportunity to reflect on their parenting journey.

@ CRANES – 11 Kemp Street Grafton

Building Resilience in Kids

Grafton—February 10th

9:30am-12:30pm @ CRANES

Yamba—March 19th 10:00am-1:00pm @ Yamba TAFE, Treelands Dr



Building Resilience in Kids is a half-day workshop that provides information and strategies to build the resilience of children and their ability to learn from adversity. Suits parents with children aged 0 to 8.

Call CRANES for inquiries or to register

CRANES' workshops are FREE of charge and may also be accessed ONLINE.

NOTE: To be eligible for our free workshops you must have a child in your care, seeking access to or restoration of a child or support someone who does.



Toddler tantrum Toolbox

Wednesday February 24th

9:30am—12:30pm

A half-day workshop that provides information and strategies on handling meltdowns and tantrums. Suits parents with children in the 2 to 7 age range.

@ CRANES—11 Kemp street Grafton



1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching

March 3rd – March 17th

9:30am—12:00pm

This three-week evidence-based program teaches simple strategies for managing behaviour and the practice of emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour.

@ CRANES - 11 Kemp Street Grafton



Circle of Security

8 consecutive Thursday afternoons

February 4th-March 25th

1:30 pm—2:45 pm

The *Circle of Security Parenting™* program is based on decades of research about how secure parent-child relationships can be supported and strengthened.

@ CRANES—11 Kemp Street Grafton



Full Circle

Fortnightly from February 15th

12:30pm– 2:00pm

Full Circle is a group that meets fortnightly to provide peer support for parents seeking access to or restoration of a child. Guest speakers will be invited regularly to provide the group with information and education.

@ CRANES – 11 Kemp Street Grafton



Ph: (02) 6642 7257 Email: FaRS@cranes.org.au

CRANES' Family and Relationship Services is funded by the Dept. of Social Services

Community Notices



Free support for parents of children with disabilities - www.mytime.net.au



MyTime groups provide support for mothers, fathers, grandparents, and anyone caring for a child with a disability or chronic medical condition. It's a place for you to unwind and talk about your experiences. It's a world away from appointments and therapy.

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Parenting Research Centre
raising children well



An Australian Government Initiative

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www.cranes.org.au



Play netball in 2021!

After a challenging year in 2020, Grafton Netball Association would love to see you back in 2021!

Sign on days:

- February 13th & 20th
- 12pm-2pm
- Bacon St netball courts

Alternatively, for 7yrs + please contact one of our clubs:

Northside Netball Club
Michelle 0467336194
Mboorman83@gmail.com

City Netball Club
Carlie 0439403038
c.jbullen@gmail.com

S&S Netball Club
Rhee 0419981511
rhee_1996@hotmail.com

Grafton Rhinos Netball Club
Sandra 0407493376
sjhastings7@yahoo.com.au

For 4-7 yrs we have the Net Program.

'Come and Try' days: March 6th & 13th - 12:30pm

Register online through www.graftonna.nsw.netball.com.au

For further information contact Brooke 0437426070 or check out our Facebook page.

Active Kids Sports voucher accepted by all clubs and for the Net program.

Get real-time trip info and digital timetables for school buses



Getting your child to and from school has never been easier.

Real-time trip information is now available, and there are a range of trip planning tools you can use on the go.

Choose from a range of easy-to-use apps and online tools that work with phones, tablets, smart devices, and even voice assistant technology. Or just hop on a computer.



Trip Planner
Visit transportnsw.info/strip to use the trip planner tool in your web browser



Opal Travel app
Download the official Opal Travel app to your phone or device



Facebook Messenger
Send a travel query to our Facebook Messenger bot and get an instant reply – search for 'NSW Public Transport - NSW GOV' to start your chat



Google or Alexa
Ask Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa to 'talk to Transport NSW to plan a trip'

Or try one of many handy third-party apps – visit transportnsw.info/apps to find an app that suits your needs



Access school bus timetables and get real-time trip updates – anywhere, any time.



Get information about real-time delays and planned service changes so you're always in the know.



Use interactive maps to see where and what time your child's school bus will stop – so you know when it's on the way in the morning, when it has arrived at school, and what time it'll drop them off in the afternoon. That means less time waiting at the bus stop and less worry about when they'll be home.

Trip Planner tips

1. Go to transportnsw.info/strip
2. Enter an address, point of interest, bus stop name or ID or choose 'My current location' as your starting point
3. Enter the school name as the end point
4. Refine your search to get an accurate plan:
 - Change to 'Least walking' or 'Fewest changes'
 - Ensure 'School bus' is turned on. Turn off other modes if you only want to see school buses (this applies to the Opal Travel app as well).
 - Reduce 'Connecting with public transport walking time' from 20 minutes to 5 minutes.



Transport





THE UNIT is a technology Club where high functioning kids on the Autism Spectrum can explore their technology interests at their own pace in safe environment, with support from professional I.T. mentors.

(No diagnosis or referral required)

THE UNIT is not a classroom. THE UNIT provides a social venue where kids can blend in, be understood and not be judged.

**2-Hour Sessions each Saturday.
New School of Arts, South Grafton.**

For ages 9 to 17

**Phone or text: 0419 610 917
Email: b.carnaby@bigpond.com**

(NDIS and "Creative Kids Voucher" Friendly)