

Locked Bag 9024 Grafton 2460 PHONE: Primary - 66421000 Infants - 66422286 Email: grafton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term Calendar - Click Here

Term 1 Week 8: Friday 19th March 2021

School Website - Click Here



### GPS Ninja Warrior Next Friday Only 7 sleeps to go!!!

Just a reminder that the Ninja Warrior Obstacool Course will be held next Friday 26th of March. The Ninja Warrior wristbands will be given out on Friday morning if your child returned their \$6 participation fee along with their permission note.

The class on each site with the highest amount of money returned will receive 2 sessions on the course. Remember there are some great prizes to be won such as a new bike, kids
Fitbit, movie tickets and several vouchers from Big W, I-Scream, VIP haircuts and art packs.

Please ensure on Friday your child has:

Mufti clothing / Sport House shirts if you wish
Joggers
Hat
Drink bottle

A timetable will be available later next week for any parents or carers who wish to come along and stand outside the school fence demonstrating socially distance protocols.

Also on Friday a special lunch of a sausage sizzle and a popper will be available for those families who have returned a lunch order form. \$5

Thank you to our wonderful school community for supporting this event. We can't wait to see our GPS ninjas on the course!!!

Thanks Mrs Kelly Fletcher



One of the first activities for the SRC this year will be an Easter Egg guessing competition running on both the primary and infants campuses. Starting Monday and running all of Week 9 you will have the opportunity to guess how many eggs are in the jar. The winning guess takes home the chocolate! Your guess will cost you 50c and you are only allowed to have one guess. The competition will be running first half lunch each day. The winning guess will be announced at Easter Hat Parade.





### WHAT'S ON...

### Week 9

Friday 26 March - Obstacool Fundraiser

All week—SRC Easter Egg Guessing Competition

#### Week 10

Tuesday 30 March
- School Cross Country

Wednesday 31 March - Bronze & Silver Badge Ceremony

Thursday 1 April - Easter Hat Parade



### Easter Hat Parade



Every year the students at Grafton Public School participate in an annual Easter Hat Parade. This year the Easter Hat Parade is scheduled on the Term 1 calendar for Thursday 1st April.

All Kindergarten to Year 2 students and Support Unit classes create their headpiece at school. In order to align with the school's current SRC focus War on Waste we are looking to decorate all headwear with recyclable materials. Children are able to bring in a small zip lock bag of recycled materials or consumables that you may already have which will be used to decorate their hat. This may include pieces of foil wrap, coloured paper, clean bottle tops etc. Please understand that some classes are allergy aware and will not be able to use egg cartons. It is planned that classes will be making the headpiece in the coming weeks so please send items to their class teacher clearly labelled with their name.

Year 3-6 students are asked to create their Easter Hat at home and are challenged to follow the "recycled materials" aspect.

We will provide details in the coming weeks on how the Easter Hat Parade/s will run as we will plan the event around the latest COVID guidelines which may change again before Week 10.

### P & C EASTER RAFFLE

Chocolate! Chocolate! Chocolate! GPS P&C are holding an Easter Raffle to celebrate Easter. Your child has been sent home a raffle booklet to the total cost of \$5 (\$1 per ticket). We are asking families to please donate an Easter item (chocolates, bunnies or Easter bags). There will be lots of prizes to be won including non-chocolate prizes. These items can be dropped off at either school office. The Easter raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of our Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 1st of April.

### Some Good Mood Food



Mr Avery holding the Clarence Valley Council Sustainability Awards 'Winners' trophy won by GPS at the end of 2020. GPS has an extensive collection of activities and initiatives that focus upon sustainable practices that are helping to minimise the school's environmental footprint. Mr Avery entered the school in the awards with a detailed summary of all the initiatives conducted by and involving the students. Amazing!



Cooper Stephenson, 2020 GPS
School Captain is pictured standing
with his bicycle that he is donating
to the Bike Mechanic Program.
He has taken such good care of the
bike and it is almost ready to be
given to a very fortunate student
who doesn't have a bike.
Thank you Cooper!



Sunflowers for Sarcoma.
Students Hanna, Olivia and Harrison were accompanied by Mrs Sullivan to present their wonderful artworks to the new Grafton Base Hospital Oncology Unit.

Many thanks go to Janelle and all the staff that the students encountered on their visit for taking the time to receive these gifts of goodness and show where they would be displayed.



### **Attendance Matters**

The NSW Department of Education recognises the importance of regular and consistent attendance in improving student academic performance and has launched a new initiative called "Attendance Matters".

Our goal at Grafton Public School is to attain 90% attendance or above for all our students. Every day counts. Missing just one day a fortnight can amount to four weeks of lost learning over a year. Over their school life, this can equal one year of missed learning. This can also have an impact on student academic, social and emotional development.

To achieve this goal the school will be introducing a new program to support students and their families. More information will be coming in future newsletters regarding this program.



### School Fees

All students are being invoiced for their applicable fees and an invoice has been posted home.

All families who pay their voluntary school contribution fee in Term 1 will go in to the draw for a \$150 voucher at Lowes to help with school uniform purchases.

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. As we are all aware, COVID caused the cancellation of many of our activities in 2020. A lot of payments were refunded to families and placed "in credit" or what our system terms Fees In Advance/Unallocated Credit. This amount may be showing as a credit on your statement. This year's fees can be paid by your Unallocated Credit but it is not an automatic process. Please advise the office if you wish to use your credit amount.

Major excursions are not included on the current statements as these will be invoiced once an attendance list is finalised. If you are intending for your child to attend one (or more) of these major excursions and wish to start budgeting and paying it off now, this is not a problem and is strongly encouraged. All excursions must be paid in full at least a fortnight prior to departure or the student may not be allowed to attend. If a family is experiencing financial difficulty, it is important that you speak to us early as the above prepaid rule will be strictly adhered to. Please speak to Miss Karen in the office.

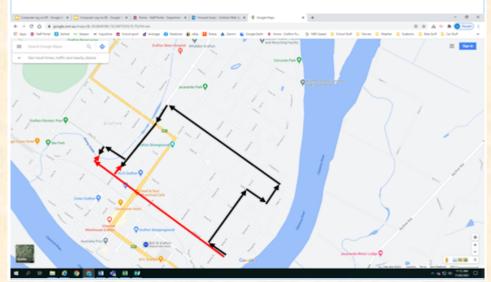
Due to the Easter school holiday break, there will no P & C meeting in April. The next P & C meeting will be on Tuesday the 11th of May at 6.30pm in our library. All welcome, please come along!



## BIKE BUS



- Bike Bus operates every Friday
   (weather permitting) If you are new to Bike Bus check out the map
  below so you know where to meet the gang).
- Starts Friday, 5th March at 8:00, 12 Bacon St and picks up along both routes. Children MUST have a helmet and be able to ride without training wheels.
- To be contacted about whether Bike Bus is on please leave your
   MOBILE number and name at either office.
- The weekly prize is donated by Grafton City Cycles, proud supporters of our Active Transport to School program.
- Current map of bike paths and lanes in Grafton: https:// www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/cp\_themes/metro/page.asp?p=DOC-JIF-61-52-64



### Mosquitoes



Due to the recent weather conditions, we have had a greater amount of mosquitoes causing a bit of havoc in the playground.

It may be helpful to pop some insect repellent on your children before heading off to school while ever this wet weather continues. Thank you!



### **Tell Them From Me Student Survey**

We are delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/tell-them-from-me.html">https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/tell-them-from-me.html</a>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

We want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 20-30 minutes to complete. Students will complete the survey during school hours between 23 March and 1 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and information for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students next week. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school ASAP. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/tell-them-from-me/information-for-parents-and-carers">https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/tell-them-from-me/information-for-parents-and-carers</a>

The consent form and FAQs are available in 23 languages. Thank you.

### Little reminders...

Our **canteen** on both campuses will no longer be open on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Tuckshop for the infants campus will now be on Wednesdays.

**School Banking**—A fun, interactive and engaging way to develop good savings habits. Don't forget our school banking day is **Tuesday**. Each week, bank books need to be handed to the classroom teachers for collection and they will be returned at the end of the day.

### Community Notices



### South Grafton High School Transition Days



Transition days being held at South Grafton High School for 2021 are:

Term 2: Yr 6 Sports Day, Week 3 Thursday 6 May, 10am - 2pm

Term 3: Yr 5 CAPA Day, Week 3 Thursday 29 July, 10am - 2pm

Term 4: Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day, Week 8 Tuesday 23 November.

The Year 6 Sport note will be forwarded before the end of this term.

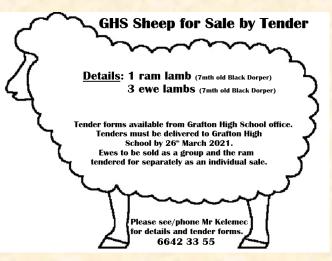


Sailors Hockey Club is now taking nominations for boys and girls in all age groups from U7's through to senior grades. For any information please contact the club via our Facebook page or email at <a href="mailto:sailorshockeygrafton@gmail.com">sailorshockeygrafton@gmail.com</a>

Barbarians Hockey Club is looking for some more Junior players aged between 7 and 13 for the upcoming season. For more information please email <a href="mailto:barbarianjuniors@hotmail.com">barbarianjuniors@hotmail.com</a>, phone or text 0432234554 or find us on Facebook.







### 2021 AUTUMN VACATION CARE PROGRAM Tues 6 April to Mon 19 April

Before School, After School & Vacation Care for the North Coast



### CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 0466 306 220 or 6658 9757

Email: admin@communityoosh.com.au

Web: www.communityoosh.com.au



"In a world gone mad with rules & regulations, we help kids be kids"

## HOURS OF OPERATION 7.00am - 6.00pm MONDAY TO FRIDAY During School Holidays & Pupil Free days

On all excursion days children are required to be at the centre no later than 8:45am and will return by approx. 4:00pm.

Transportation is provided in our bus or van depending on bookings.

Risk Assessments available upon request.

#### "WHAT TO BRING EVERYDAY"

All Children are required to bring a hat, water bottle, sunscreen, appropriate footwear and healthy lunch / snacks.

In winter warm clothes and socks are required each day.

In summer swimmers, sun/rash shirts, swim aids (if required), towel and plastic bag are required each day. Personal electronic devices are prohibited.

Please label all clothes. Spending money is optional!

#### BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR VACATION CARE

To book please scan the QR code on the back of this program to be taken directly to our booking form.

Alternatively, go to our website at www.communityoosh.com.au and click the purple box titled "Vacation Care Bookings & Program"

VACATION CARE BOOKINGS CANNOT BE TAKEN OVER THE PHONE OR BY TEXT MESSAGE. OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO BOOKINGS BEING ACCEPTED.

Your booking requests will be confirmed by email. Please check that you receive the confirmation from us within 2 working days of submitting. The minimum notice required to cancel a Vacation Care booking where no charge will apply is 1:30pm the working day before your booking. Please note that weekends and Public Holidays are Non Working Days. All bookings not cancelled by this time will be charged at full fee.

FEES: Depending on the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and activity hours a parent is entitled too, the out of pocket costs to parents can range from a few dollars to the full rate shown below. To find out more about the Child Care Subsidy please visit at <a href="https://www.education.gov.au/ChildCarePackage">https://www.education.gov.au/ChildCarePackage</a>. The table below shows the full fee with no Child Care Subsidy along with an example of the out of pocket expense where the highest rate of Child Care Subsidy is applied.

Your fee will vary depending on your own CCS rate and activity hours you receive. Unlike some providers, Community OOSH Services strive to put you and your children first, providing the highest quality care for the lowest possible price. Please note excursions are at an additional cost and vary depending on the excursion. The cost on each excursion are shown on the next page and these costs will have your CCS % applied to substantially reduce excursion costs.

2020 Fee Structure at Full Rate before the			Example of Approximate out of pocket exper	nses at 85%
application of any CCS %			ccs	
Vacation Care	\$58		Vacation Care	\$11.60
Sample Additional Excursion Cost	\$16		Sample Excursion CCS Applied	\$3.20



### GRAFTON AUTUMN PROGRAM







Tues 6 April	EXCURSION ILLUKA PICNIC		Today we're heading off to Illuka to follow the directions of that classic "Drifters" song and go "Under The Boardwalk Down By The Sea!" It's the last chance before winter is upon us to have a swim and a splash, catch some sun, some yabbies & crabs and maybe even a fish as well! Fun and games in the park, a headland walk and hot chip sandwich for lunch! Too good! EXCURSION COST \$ 6
Wed 7 April	IN CENTRE Virtual Tourism	AROUND THE WORLD	It's a great big world out there but right now, and rather unfortunately I think for many years to come, we're having a hard time getting to it and travelling around it!! With so many places to go and things to do in this weird and wonderful world we've decided to act now and bring it to you! From the Maori War chants of New Zealand To the "bull riddled streets of Spain," today the world is your oyster!
Thurs 8 April	IN CENTRE "ULTIMATE HOLEY MOLEY CUBE TAG"	IDIOT BOX	Your parents are right!!! If you sit in front of your screens all day you're an idio!! HOWEVER If you watch them appropriately you can get some great ideas to have some real life fun of your own! Today we'll combine the best activities from the TV hits "THE CUBE", "HOLEY MOLEY" and "ULTIMATE TAG". In a hilarious day of fun we'll test your skills and put you through your paces!
Fri 9 April	EXCURSION MOVIES "TOM &JERRY"	TOM	Your not going to believe this, but these guys have been at each other for over 80 years!!!!! We're off to the movies today as Hanna - Barbera's "TOM & JERRY" hit the big screen to continue their ultimate game of cat and mouse! THEN, we'll head to the local reserve for some fun, games and a frolic in the sun! EXCURSION COST \$15 (includes slushie & popcom)
Mon 12 April	EXCURSION SPRING LOADED		Rock climbing, sponge pits, trampolining, and the ultimate Ninja "wipe-out" obstacle course! It's the only place I know where parents love it when you're bouncing off the walls! THEN a picnic lunch at a reserve with fun, games and a splash & swim in the autumn sunshine! Today it's also time to hone your skills for a game of "ULTIMATE TAG" EXCURSION COST \$16
Tues 13 April	EXCURSION SHERWOOD ARCHERY CENTRE		The ability to fling a sharpened projectile through the air with lethal accuracy dates back to more than 17000 years ago to the Neolithic period! Modern man, with modern technology, has greatly refined it into an artform since then, and it's GREAT FUN!!! Join our band of "Merry men" today as we teach you the skills of "hand/eye" coordination and bring out your inner ROBIN HOOD! EXCURSION COST \$15
Wed 14 April	INCURSION "MULLAWAY CREATIVE CO" WORSHOP		Get the creative juices flowing today with a chance to hone your skills and learn from the best! We've been lucky enough to secure the services of JIMMY WAGS and TULLI STEVENS from MULLAWAY CREATIVE CO for a creative workshop to teach you the tricks of the trade to create your own fantastic canvas creations! Then all you've got to do to be famous is grow old and cut your ear off! COST \$10
Thurs 15 April	EXCURSION CENTRE SWAP		Ever wondered how the other half lived? Do you like exploring new places and discovering secrets that have been left "for your eyes only?" In a Community OOSH first, we're taking on a journey to mount a "raid" on our Fun Factory Centre to find the special treasures that've been hidden and left behind for you! Zip down the flying fox or find the secrets in Harry Potters bedroom under the stairs! EXCURSION COST \$5
Fri 16 April	IN CENTRE "CREEPY CREATURES"	CA CA	For some people it's sharks, for some it's snakes and for others it's mythical monsters that hide in dark places! (Confession time, for me it's spiders!) Imaginary or real, today we're going to have fun with tackling the big questions in life about the creatures that give you goosebumps and shivers from head to toe! Where do they come from? Where do they go? Andare they waiting for me under my bed!
Mon 19 April (Pupil Free)	excursion movies "Cranston Academy: Monster Zone"		Join the adventures of 15 year old Danny today who has done a dumb thing on his first day of school!  He's opened a portal and let THE MONSTERS into the school, and now he's got to work out how to get rid of them and put them back!!! THEN, we'll head to the local reserve for some fun, games and a frolic in the sun! EXCURSION COST \$15 (Includes slushie & popcom)

HOLIDAY ROUND UP: Welcome to another New Year as we continue our roller coaster ride along the tracks of 2021 and place the year that was 2020 in the trash! Along with the usual holiday fun of movies, SPRING LOADED, FISHING and CRAZY THEMED DAY FUN, in this holiday period we're excited to test our skills at the SHERWOOOD ARCERY CENTRE and ignite our artistic talents with the help of Jimmy and Tulli from the MULLAWAY CREATIVE CO. Book now!

### Use this QR code to book DAVE'S RAVE :at Grafton



### "THE TWANGING SOUND OF SNAPPING APRON STRINGS!"

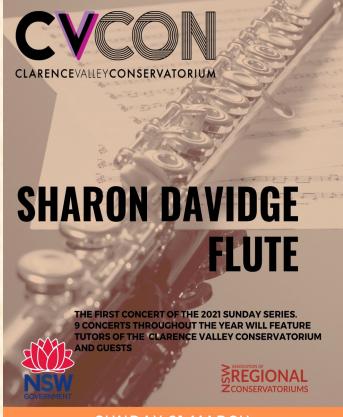
Term 1 is the time of year where we kid a very warm welcome to all our new Kindy kids as they leave the confines of their Early Childhood Education and begin the independent journey down the path of Middle Childhood and BIG SCHOOL! Dear Parents, having been a teacher now for 35 years, I feel it is my duty to inform you of a sad, yet wonderful truth! Your beautiful babies will suddenly age 2 years in the first six months of school and OOSH and...... they're going to thrive and love it!!! It's time to form a trusting, collaborative, triangular partnership between Parents, School and OOSH to guide and educate your child to laugh and cry, win and lose, achieve and fail and to help THEM, GROW INTO THEM! In this acrobatic balancing act the two main components are knowing "when" to intervene and, more importantly.... "when not to!"



MONDAY 19 APRIL 9:00AM-2:30PM CONCERT AT 2:00PM

FOR STUDENTS LEARNING A BAND INSTRUMENT
FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR

TO REGISTER VISIT WWW.CVCON.COM.AU OR PHONE 6643 3555



SUNDAY 21 MARCH
3:00PM

CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM
8 VILLIERS STREET, GRAFTON
ADULT: \$20 CONC: \$15 CHILD: \$10

FOR BOOKINGS VISIT WWW.CVCON.NSW.EDU.AU OR PHONE 6643 3555



Email: cvcon@cvcon.nsw.edu.au Web: cvcon.nsw.edu.au



### COMMUNITY NOTICES



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)

Northern Sydney Intellectual
Disability Health Service (NSIDHS)



Health Northern Sydney Local Health District

In partnership with





### Outreach Intellectual Disability Health Service Information Webinars

Approximately 3,500 in Mid North Coast LHD and 4,000 people in Northern NSW LHD have an intellectual disability (ID). More broadly an estimated 1.3% of the population of NSW have an ID.

As part of a NSW Ministry of Health state-wide initiative to address the health disparities experienced by people with ID, Northern Sydney Intellectual Disability Health Service provides outreach to the Mid North Coast and Northern NSW LHD's. This is delivered in partnership with a specialist intellectual disability clinician in each of these districts.

To increase awareness of the service, the team are hosting service information sessions for carers and disability service providers. These session will run for up to one hour to provide participants with an opportunity to ask questions.

Information covered will include:

- > Outreach Services Provided
- > Local ID Specialist Clinician
- Eligibility Criteria
- Referral Process

Session dates & times

Carers:

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10:00-11:00 Tuesday 23<sup>nd</sup> March 13:00-14:00

Disability Service Providers: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 10:00-11:00 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 13:00-14:00

To register for one of these sessions, please email <u>NSLHD-intellectualdisability@heaith.nsw.gov.au</u> including your name, email address and which session you are registering for. A link to the webinar will be emailed to you 24hrs before the event.



Contact details:

Northern Sydney Intellectual Disability Health Service

NSLHD-Intellectualdisability@heaith.nsw.qov.au

Fax: 02 9904 1541

# CREATIVE KIDS WATER GAMES

FOR KIDS FROM K-6

TIME: 6.00-7.00PM

PLACE: 116 OLIVER ST STREET,

GRAFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cost: \$3

CONTACT: JAMES ON 0402 354 099

### FRIDAY MARCH 19TH

HIT THE HEATWAVE WITH WATER GAMES. WEAR OLD CLOTHES YOU DON'T MIND GETTING WET AND BRING A TOWEL.

COVID-SAFE PRACTICES IN PLACE

