

**A Tradition of Excellence**

# Grafton Public School Newsletter



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**Term Calendar - [Click Here](#)**

**Term 2 Week 10: Friday 1st July 2022**

**School Website - [Click Here](#)**



Welcome to the last week of term, this is our last newsletter snippet for the term. It has been another outstanding term. Students have continued to work hard in class and have had fun along the way. We had several sporting highlights with many sports represented throughout the term.

**NAIDOC Week** - This year's theme is 'Get up! Stand up! Show up!'. NAIDOC Week is a time to acknowledge the champions of change that have led to equality, and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rich and ongoing contribution to our education system and nation. Our school participated in many events. Our opening ceremony featured our Aboriginal dancers, Aboriginal Didge group and Lennox on the didgeridoo. A big thank you to Uncle Ken, Uncle Avery and Uncle Dion for sharing their yarns with the students. On Tuesday, our Year 5 students had a wonderful day in the sunshine at the Indigenous Games Day put on by South Grafton High School. We had 10 students who represented our school by attending the NAIDOC Public Speaking Competition at Westlawn PS. These students did a tremendous job. All our students are winners. K-2 students participated in various Aboriginal rotational activities. Well done to our Grafton PS Aboriginal Committee for all their hard work in organising our events.

This week your child/children brought home their Semester 1 Reports. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, there were new elements added to our reports. Students and teachers also had input into learning goals for each student. Learning descriptors have been listed for English and mathematics. If your child is working at stage level, this will be indicated by a Sound ( C ) grade. Teachers' comments describe the skills and knowledge demonstrated by the student as evidence of academic progress. Comments are personalised, they identify areas of strength and at least one area for improvement. I wish to thank the staff for the extensive amount of time and work they put into reports this semester.

It's never an easy thing to be away from loved ones. Our Year 6 students and staff returned from Canberra in the early hours of this morning. It certainly was a chilly week in the capital city, but the students had a blast. The staff commented on the exceptional behaviour of our students which is a credit to not only the school but their parents also. I'm sure there will be many stories to share over the next few weeks. I thank Mr Taylor, Mr Stanford, Mrs Wainwright, Mrs Swadling, Mrs Ottoson and Miss Selina for supporting the students whilst they were away.

All of our students have participated in Green Level Rewards this last fortnight. I thank the students for their contributions in following our PBL values (Set a good example; Tolerate differences; Always do your best; Respect everyone) throughout the term. Students had fun either wearing their PJs and watching a movie, science experiments, creative sessions with rock painting, loom bands and paper plate craft, cooking or boardgames.

Happy holidays. Have a wonderful safe and restful holiday. We look forward to seeing students return to school on Tuesday 19th of July.

Kelly Fletcher  
Relieving Principal



## NAIDOC Week



'Get up! Stand up! Show up!' Grafton Public School has celebrated NAIDOC week with many activities. We had a wonderful opening ceremony shared with Uncle Avery, Uncle Ken and Uncle Dion. Our Aboriginal dancers and Didge group performed and were amazing. A special shout out to Lennox on his didgeridoo.

Year 5 participated in an Indigenous Games day on Tuesday. On Wednesday we had 10 students represent our school at the NAIDOC Public Speaking competition. They spoke passionately and did a great job.



## Multicultural Public Speaking Competition



Congratulations to all our students for their efforts participating in the Multicultural Public Speaking Competition.

Public speaking can be hard at times, but all our students showed great bravery and skill in speaking in front of their peers. Well done to Vinh, Kayla, Theo and Jacob who progress to the next round.

## Mid North Coast Dance Festival

Our Junior and Senior Dance Ensembles performed at the Mid North Coast Dance Festival in Coffs Harbour. They were absolutely spectacular. Well done girls! A big thankyou to Mrs Eveleigh, Mrs Rose and Miss Ali for all of their hard work with these groups.



Our next **P & C meeting** is being held on **Tuesday the 19th of July**, starting at 6.00pm in our Library. All welcome.



## Debating Team news



Last Friday, one of our GPS Debating teams (Grafton PS Knights) visited South Grafton Public School for the 2nd round in the Premier's Debating Challenge. The debate topic was 'That parents should only let kids have screentime if they're watching with family and friends'. The debate was very close with many good arguments for both sides. GPS came away with the win and all our students felt they had improved in their debating skills. Well done Ella, Vinh, Olive and Polly. Thanks South Grafton PS for hosting the debate.

## Green Level Rewards

Green Level Rewards were enjoyed on both campuses over the last two weeks. There were many activities including rock painting, science experiments, craft and pyjama movie sessions.



## Year 6 excursion

Our Year 6 students arrived back home in the early hours of this morning after a wonderful time away. They visited the War Memorial, Mount Ainslie Lookout, the Embassy, National Museum of Australia, Government House, the Museum of Australian Democracy, the Royal Australian Mint and the National Archives of Australia just to name a few! All our students had a wonderful time and had plenty of snow to explore in. Here are just some of the pictures captured of this fabulous experience. More can be found on our Facebook page. Thanks to all teachers and staff for making this trip possible and also to all students who represented Grafton Public School in such an outstanding and responsible way.



## Award ceremonies



It was so great to see parents and carers at our recent award ceremonies on both campuses. Congratulations to all students who received awards on this day. Well done and keep up the good work!

More photos are available on our Facebook page.





## Sporting News



### GPS Netball

Our GPS Netball team (above left) played in a Gala Day in Yamba recently and encountered some strong opposition from other schools in the Clarence area. After winning tough matches against Westlawn Public School and South Grafton Public School, our team was defeated by a super strong Yamba Public School squad. We then played a consolation final against Iluka Public School.

Well done to all of our team for playing so well during the day and for the great sportsmanship shown. Thankyou to parents for transporting our players, Caitlin for umpiring and many thanks to Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Blinman for coaching.

### GPS Rugby League

Our GPS Rugby League team (above middle) played in Coffs Harbour early last week. GPS came out firing in our first-round match, opposed to a determined South Grafton PS. This win meant that we then had to face Westlawn PS in another battle of the bridge. They were a quality team and had our boys on the ropes early. In the second half the GPS boys needed to lift their game. So, they did, improving as the match went on and chalking up another victory. In round three was a well-drilled team from Naranga PS. This match was for a place in the final. It was a thoroughly entertaining match, with each team matching try for try. Unfortunately for GPS, Naranga PS were the victors. A narrow margin of just 2 points leaving GPS with an honourable top 4 finish for the day.

Our team played extremely well. The boys represented our school proudly and displayed outstanding sportsmanship. We had lots of fun and in every match we were aiming to learn something. A huge thanks to all the parents that made the trip to Coffs Harbour and Mr Stanford for taking the group away.

### GPS Athletics Trials

The students enjoyed the sunshine early last week as they participated in Athletics Trials (above right and below) in preparation for our annual Athletics Carnival in the first week of Term 3.



### SNAPSHOT OF NEXT TERM.....

**Jul 19** - Students return for Term 3  
**Jul 20** - Primary Athletics Carnival  
**Aug 2** - Awards ceremonies on both campuses  
**Aug 5** - Infants Sports Carnival  
**Aug 8** - ICAS Writing and ICAS Digital Technologies

**Aug 15** - ICAS English  
**Aug 22** - ICAS Science and Spelling  
**Aug 23** - School Photos  
**Aug 24** - School Photos  
**Aug 26** - Book Character Parade  
**Aug 29** - ICAS Mathematics

**Sep 1** - Kinder Kritters  
**Sep 8** - Kinder Kritters  
**Sep 13** - Award ceremonies both campuses  
**Sep 15** - Kinder Kritters  
**Sep 22** - Kinder Kritters  
**Sep 23** - Last day of Term 3



join us @graffton library for

## NAIDOC activities 2022

your library  
your culture



in partnership with Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation, Michael Laurie and Manduway Dutton, graffton library will be hosting activities celebrating Australia's First Nations culture, including languages, music, games, art and painting.

book online



tuesday 5th july  
10:30-12:00pm  
art, painting & language activity  
ages 12 and below

tuesday 5th july  
2:30-4:00pm  
song writing & music creation activity  
ages 12 and above



clarence  
VALLEY COUNCIL

your library - your place



# GET UP! STAND UP! SHOW UP!

3-10 JULY 2022

# july school holiday program

@ your library

5th - 15th July 2022

all events at  
your library  
are FREE

places are  
limited so book  
in quick!

## grifton

**tuesday 5th of July**  
**NAIDOC activities**



session 1: 10:30am to 12:00pm  
ages 12 and below.  
session 2: 2:30pm to 4:00pm  
ages 12 and above.

**friday 8th July**  
**lego challenge**

join our lego challenge to  
complete a themed build.  
session 1: 10:30am to 11:30am  
session 2: 1:00pm to 2:00pm



**tuesday 12th July**  
**digl daydreaming**

join us for digital art workshop  
run by local artist Kade Valja.  
12:30pm to 4:30pm  
6 participants  
ages 12+



**wednesday 13th July**  
**calico library bags**

create your very own unique  
library bag.  
12 participants  
12:00pm to 5:00pm  
ages 12+

## iluka

**thursday 7th July**  
**minecraft**

play minecraft group sessions on  
library ipads.  
10:30am to 11:30am  
6 participants  
ages 8+



BOOK NOW  
'what's on'  
@ [crl.nsw.gov.au](http://crl.nsw.gov.au)



## maclean

**thursday 7th July**  
**minecraft**

play minecraft group sessions on  
library ipads.  
2:00pm to 3:00pm  
6 participants  
ages 8+

**thursday 14th July**  
**calico library bags**

10:30am to 11:30am  
10 participants  
ages 5+



## yamba

**tuesday 5th July**  
**lego workshop challenge**

10:30am to 11:30am  
8 participants  
ages 5+

**wednesday 6th July**  
**minecraft**

2:00pm to 3:00pm  
6 participants  
ages 8+



**wednesday 13th July**  
**digl daydreaming**

12:30pm to 4:30pm  
6 participants  
ages 12+

**friday 15th July**  
**lego challenge**

2:00pm to 3:00pm  
8 participants  
ages 5+



## mobile

**tuesday 5th July**  
**wooll: sand art**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+

**tuesday 5th July**  
**minnie water: calico bags**  
2:30pm to 3:30pm  
ages 5+

**wednesday 6th July**  
**halfway creek: velvet bookmarks**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+

**wednesday 6th July**  
**glenreagh: sand art**  
2:30pm to 3:30pm  
ages 5+

**thursday 7th July**  
**brushgrove: sand art**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+

**thursday 7th July**  
**tucabia: VR**  
2:30pm to 3:30pm  
5 participants  
ages 5+



**tuesday 12th July**  
**baryulgil: calico bags**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+

**tuesday 12th July**  
**copmanhurst: calico bags**  
2:30pm to 3:30pm  
ages 5+

**wednesday 13th July**  
**nymbold: VR**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+

**thursday 14th July**  
**brooms head: velvet bookmarks**  
10:30am to 11:30am  
ages 5+





## Grafton Winter Program

Hours of Operation: 7am - 6pm

What to Bring: Hat, Water Bottle, Sunscreen, Appropriate Footwear, Healthy Lunch/Snacks, Warm Clothes and Socks



	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3
<b>M O N</b>	<b>EXCURSION +\$15</b> <b>Lightyear Movie</b> Yamba Cinema. Enjoy the story of Buzz Lightyear and his adventures to infinity and beyond. When not at the movies, we'll enjoy a picnic in the park with your friends to enjoy lots of games, activities and fun! (Drink and Popcorn Included)	<b>EXCURSION +\$16</b> <b>Spring Loaded</b> At long last it's BACK! (fingers crossed!) Bounce around with your friends! Please wear active clothes and socks today. When not bouncing around, we'll enjoy a picnic in the park with your friends to enjoy lots of games, activities and fun!	<b>EXCURSION +\$6</b> <b>OOSH of ORIGIN</b> It's all happening at Grafton PCYC today. Challenge other OOSHies in a range of indoor and outdoor sports and activities! Channel your inner champion by wearing your favourite sports team colours or uniform!
<b>T U E</b>	<b>IN CENTRE</b> <b>Zoom Zoom</b> Today we explore the ins and outs of all the ways we move around in this world of ours. It's a fun mix of games and handy tricks with some Formula 1 pit stops along the way. How far we go today will surprise you!	<b>IN CENTRE</b> <b>Winter Wonderland</b> Winter is here! Come join us for hot cocoa, tasty campfire treats and much, much "s'more"! Today we turn our centre into a Winter Wonderland. Make sure you bring your shoes so you don't get toasted tootsies 'round the firepit! (fingers crossed for no rain!)	
<b>W E D</b>	<b>EXCURSION +\$6</b> <b>Reptile Man Steve McEwan</b> Don't miss our very own live reptile show today for some creepy, crawly fun! What unique and amazing creatures from the Reptile World does Steve have in those "moving bags" today? You'll need to be here to see! PLUS... a visit from W.I.R.E.S. to show us how to keep these creatures safe and happy!	<b>EXCURSION +\$15</b> <b>Big Banana Ice Skating</b> Warm clothes are a must today, with long pants and long thick socks ESSENTIAL! No socks, no skating! When we're not skating around, we'll enjoy a picnic in the park with your friends to enjoy lots of games, activities and fun!	
<b>T H U</b>	<b>EXCURSION +\$15</b> <b>Golf Range</b> Enjoy a day out at Coff's Golf Range where you'll chip, putt, and drive your way to fun. After you retire the clubs, we'll enjoy a picnic in the park with your friends to enjoy lots of games, activities and fun!	<b>IN CENTRE</b> <b>Weird Science</b> Today we'll use trial and error, hypothesise and experiment our way through the weird and wacky world of science! Dress up like a mad, wacky, or weird scientist and be prepared to get messy!	
<b>F R I</b>	<b>IN CENTRE</b> <b>Music Through the Ages</b> Time to decide which generation has the better music! Is it Nan & Pop, Mum & Dad or you kids? Be inspired by the styles of Jazz, Rock 'n Roll, Country, Pop, Hip Hop & more! Whatever your choice, be prepared for the big performance! Dress up as your favourite music star!	<b>EXCURSION +\$15</b> <b>Minions: The Rise of Gru</b> Yamba Cinema. Enjoy the untold story of one 12 year old's dream to become the world's greatest supervillain. Afterwards we'll enjoy a picnic in the park with your friends to enjoy lots of games, activities and fun! (Drink and Popcorn Included)	

### Dave's Rave

**"Promises! Promises!" or "Life after the Election hangover!"**

So! If you are still standing, albeit on wobbly legs, after the last few years of COVID, FIRE, FLOOD, FAMINE and FLU (those last couple are still on their way) then CONGRATULATIONS! You have proven yourself human and it is time to move on and maintain our unique Aussie way of life that we have had for our kids in the past, present and hopefully, the future!

I will never be critical of the recently deposed Federal Liberal government who managed to keep the childcare industry afloat in unprecedented conditions. In similar fashion the State Liberal Governments \$500 Before & After school Voucher System is currently in full flight assisting families. If you have not applied for this yet I strongly urge you to do so. After some early glitches, it is now running smoothly and can be used to ease the burden of both current and retrospective childcare costs incurred from 3/3/22. The incumbent Labour Government after initially has promising a world of free childcare, has pledged to raise the level of support to 90%. However, no government to date has found a solution to the biggest problem effecting our, and many other industries at the moment, and that is a **LACK OF SKILLED AND UNSKILLED STAFF!** The world needs to learn that it is now time to return to the normality of an honest day's work for an honest day's pay!

### Bookings

Ready to book? Bookings are essential for Vacation Care! We cannot accept bookings over the phone or by text message. Scan the QR Code, choose the centre you need, and complete the form. It's that simple! (Please read the reverse side for more important information about your bookings.)







# HELPING HANDS TRIVIA NIGHT



for Finn Donohoe

**Saturday 30 July 2022, 6:30pm start**

**Teams of 8**  
**\$200**  
per team

Nomination forms from GDSC  
Payment must accompany nomination form