



GRAFTON PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 7 – FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024

Address : 86 Queen Street, Grafton NSW 2460

Phone: Primary - 02 6642 1000 Infants - 02 6642 2286

Email: grafton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website

<https://grafton-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/GraftonPublicSchool>

Upcoming Events

Mar 13 to Mar 18	NAPLAN
Mar 21	Harmony Day
Mar 25	Cross Country

HARMONY DAY THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

To celebrate Harmony Day here at GPS, students are invited to wear “a touch of orange” next Thursday. School uniform must still be worn but students may like to wear an orange bow in their hair or orange socks or an orange wristband etc.

MOVING INTO YEAR 7 IN A NSW GOVERNMENT SCHOOL 2025.

The Department of Education requires all parents/carers to complete a ‘Moving to High School expression of interest.’ This expression of interest can be done online using this link

<https://year7.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/?schoolCode=2060>

If you do not require a placement in a NSW Government High school, please follow the above link and click on ‘Advise placement not required.’

Grafton Public School needs to know so we may support your child’s transition, and the department can fulfil its duty of care to all students.

Submissions are due by 04 April 2024. If you have questions or require a paper copy, please contact the school.



ABSENCES

Due to Department of Education Policy, we have changed the way we are notifying our parents/carers of student absences.

If your child is away with an unexplained absence, whether it be the whole day, late, early or partial, you will be notified by SMS shortly after 10am every day. It will also capture the day before so as to include an absence after the 10am cut off from the day before.

Can you please either reply to the SMS message you received, email the school at grafton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or phone the school on 6642 1000.

As with any new process we may encounter some problems at the beginning but hopefully these will be sorted out quickly.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.



School Bytes Weekly Update



School Bytes Online Payment System

Online payments are processed in real-time and can be viewed by school staff immediately.

While our preference is for payments to be made via the portal, we will still accept payment via cash or EFTPOS.

The School Bytes portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently:

- Make school payments online
- Use a family credit to pay for an activity or school contributions
- Download a receipt for payments made
- View all historical payments in one place
- Complete and submit digital permission notes
- View the status of all permission notes

Scan the QR code below to get started.



**A STATEMENT OF
ACCOUNT HAS BEEN
EMAILED TO ALL
FAMILIES TODAY.**



Year 6 Shirts

Reminder

**Must be ordered
and paid for by
Wednesday 20th March**

Reminder

Yr 5 Surf School
Excursion

**SCHOOL BYTES
PERMISSION SLIP AND
PAYMENT
DUE 25 MARCH**



YEAR 4 EXCURSION

Check School Bytes for
important information
about this camp and to
make a payment.

YEAR 6 EXCURSION

**CHECK SCHOOL BYTES
FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION
ABOUT THIS CAMP AND TO
MAKE A PAYMENT**

Important Messages



GPS P&C

EASTER RAFFLE

9 EASTER PACKAGE PRIZES
FOR THE FAMILY
TO ENJOY

TICKETS START AT \$1

Drawn at the Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 28th of March



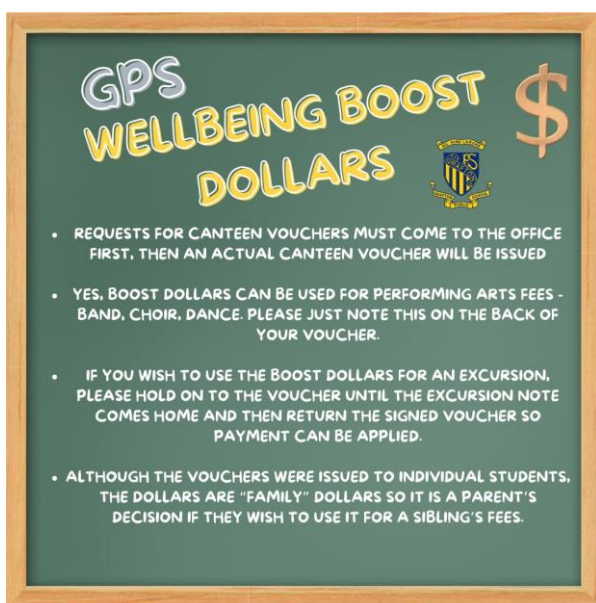

GPS Colour Splatacular
Friday 12th April

As previously advertised, we are hosting a Colour Splatacular School Run 4 Fun with @Australian Fundraising at the end of term.

Students will receive a note and their sponsorship booklets today and can now create their online profile at www.australianfundraising.com.au.

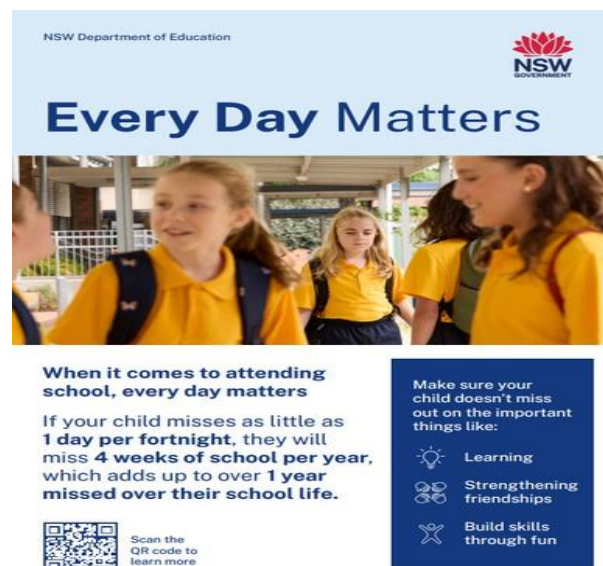
Big prizes are up for grabs! Unlock your first incentive prize simply by raising \$10 online. The more your child raises, the more prizes they will receive.

It's going to be so much fun!



GPS WELLBEING BOOST DOLLARS

- REQUESTS FOR CANTEEN VOUCHERS MUST COME TO THE OFFICE FIRST, THEN AN ACTUAL CANTEEN VOUCHER WILL BE ISSUED
- YES, BOOST DOLLARS CAN BE USED FOR PERFORMING ARTS FEES - BAND, CHOIR, DANCE. PLEASE JUST NOTE THIS ON THE BACK OF YOUR VOUCHER.
- IF YOU WISH TO USE THE BOOST DOLLARS FOR AN EXCURSION, PLEASE HOLD ON TO THE VOUCHER UNTIL THE EXCURSION NOTE COMES HOME AND THEN RETURN THE SIGNED VOUCHER SO PAYMENT CAN BE APPLIED.
- ALTHOUGH THE VOUCHERS WERE ISSUED TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS, THE DOLLARS ARE "FAMILY" DOLLARS SO IT IS A PARENT'S DECISION IF THEY WISH TO USE IT FOR A SIBLING'S FEES.



NSW Department of Education

Every Day Matters

When it comes to attending school, every day matters

If your child misses as little as **1 day per fortnight**, they will miss **4 weeks of school per year**, which adds up to over **1 year missed over their school life.**

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:

- 🔦 Learning
- 👯 Strengthening friendships
- 🏆 Build skills through fun

Scan the QR code to learn more



Return and Earn for GPS Performing Arts

Please consider cashing in your cans and bottles and pledge the dollars to our GPS Performing Arts Programs. With your help, we hope to be able to give every child a chance to shine!

South Grafton self serve centre behind Maccas

Download the Return and Earn app from App Store /Google Play. Login/register. Select Charities, search for Grafton Public School and set as payout. Scan barcode each time before you start at the South Grafton Return and Earn Centre.

Take them to the Grafton Container Return in North Street and ask that your payment be donated to Grafton Public School

An adult may bring them in to school and we will do the recycling for you. A special bin and chute will be set up at school next week for after hours collections

This is an extension of existing Environmental Initiatives at our school. The students recycle their empty poppers and use the money to ensure our garden flourishes.

School Cross Country – 25th March

The annual GPS Cross Country will be held Monday, 25th March, between recess and lunch. As per previous years the event will be conducted at Grafton PS with children running 2 or 3 laps of a clearly marked course.

The children will compete in groups according to the age they turn this year. Please note the 8 and 9 years compete together as a combined group, as do the 12 and 13 year old children. Children up to and including 10 years will run 2 laps (2000m) whilst our 11, 12/13's will run 3 laps of the course. All students with a disability and Provisional Classification will complete the 2000m course.

It is requested that children wear house colours and suitable footwear. They will also require a hat, drink bottle and be sun screened.

All children are encouraged to participate as this is a House Points Carnival and Age Championships are up for grabs. Any child not able to participate will need to bring a signed note explaining the reason for their non-participation.



NAPLAN 2024

Attention -Parents and Carers of Year 3 and Year 5 students,

The National Assessment Program -Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills. Each year students in Years 3 and 5 participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN tests are just one part of our school learning assessment program and questions are primarily based on knowledge, understanding and skills gained from the prior year of schooling. In preparation for NAPLAN 2024, our school will undertake activities to help students to become familiar with the format and functionality of the online tests. These activities are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked.

Students and parents can access the public demonstration site <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site> to familiarise themselves with NAPLAN and the types of questions and tools available. Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not required nor recommended.

It is important to understand that this is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills and that your child's classroom teacher is assisting and supporting them in readiness for NAPLAN.

We would like to remind you that it is important that students attend school on the scheduled assessment dates unless they are suffering from illness or injury.

Students will be participating in assessments on the following dates

Wed 13th March Morning Session -Writing Year 3 and Year 5

Thurs 14th March Morning Session -Reading Year 3 and Year 5

Thurs 14th March Middle Session -Conventions of Language Year 3 and Year 5

Monday 18th March Morning Session Numeracy Year 3 and Year 5

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Safe on Social Media



Protect Your Child on Roblox: The Hidden Dangers Unveiled

The topic of Roblox in the classroom and at home continues here at school and so we're bringing your attention again to this popular and concerning game. We've spoken to our online safety partners, Safe on Social, to update our parent community to some disturbing updates to this game that parents should be aware of.

Safe on Social revealed to us nearly one-third of the students they've spoken to have been asked to be someone's boyfriend or girlfriend on Roblox! As the popularity of Roblox skyrockets, it's crucial to pause and consider the darker side of this virtual playground. Safe on Social is stepping up to reveal the truths behind Roblox—a platform that offers boundless fun but also presents very real dangers lurking beneath its surface.

There is a feature on Roblox we wanted to bring to your attention. Ro-Meet on Roblox isn't just a game; it's a Pandora's box of danger, masquerading as a 'friendly' chat room. Despite Roblox's claims to clamp down on stranger interaction, especially for those under 13, Ro-Meet is skirting around these controls, leaving kids wide open to potential harm.

RoZoom is also a feature similar to Zoom where strangers can chat to children. Despite Roblox's assurances of making it "extremely difficult" for strangers to contact kids, Ro-Meet is freely available in an 'All Ages' section, raising significant concerns about our children's safety online.

What can parents do?

Here are some tips from Safe on Social:

- Have honest conversations with your kids about the real dangers of talking to strangers and oversharing online. Educate them about the risks they may encounter on Roblox.
- Teach your children to question every interaction and piece of content they encounter online. Empower them to make informed decisions.
- Monitor what your children are playing, who they're chatting with, and where they're spending their time on Roblox.
- Activate every safety feature available on Roblox to enhance your child's online safety.

For parents wanting more support on Roblox specifically please check out their website and their upcoming webinar on [Roblox here](#).

<https://www.safeonsocial.com/event-details/the-secrets-to-safeguarding-kids-on-roblox>

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CLARENCE VALLEY

YOUTH WEEK

2024

11 April to 21 April

**THU 11 APRIL - 9AM-3PM
YOUR FUTURE FEST
CLARENCE VALLEY
GRAFTON TAFF**

**FRI 12 APRIL - 3.30PM-5PM
OUT OF THE BOX SESSION
YAMBA SKATE PARK**

**SAT 13 APRIL - 10AM-5PM
WADYARR YOUTH DAY
ESK STUDIO, ILUKA**

**SUN 14 APRIL - 5PM-8PM
OUTDOOR CINEMA
WHEVRETT PARK, MACLEAN**

**MON 15 APRIL - 10AM-12PM
WEARABLE ART WORKSHOP
DUNDURRABIN SCHOOL**

**TUE 16 APRIL - 10AM-3PM
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
JJ LAWRENCE PARK, STH GRAFTON**

**MON 15 APRIL - 2PM-4PM
FLOWER CROWN WORKSHOP
ILUKA COMMUNITY HALL, ILUKA**

**TUE 16 APRIL - 11AM-2PM
COMMUNITY CULTURAL CONNECTIONS DAY
LAWRENCE MEMORIAL PARK**

**TUE 16 APRIL - 3PM-5PM
LASER SKIRMISH
BAILEY PARK, ULMARRA**

**WED 17 APRIL - 10AM-2PM
ART IN THE PARK
MEMORIAL PARK, GRAFTON**

**WED 17 APRIL - 3PM-5PM
LASER SKIRMISH
NIP WELSH PARK, MINNIE WATER**

**THU 18 APRIL - 2PM-4PM
LASER SKIRMISH
WOOMBAH PARK, WOOMBAH**

**THU 18 APRIL - 5PM-9PM
LIVE 'N' LOUD
GRAFTON LIBRARY**

**FRI 19 APRIL - 10AM-12PM
WEARABLE ART WORKSHOP
GLENREAGH HALL, GLENREAGH**

**FRI 19 APRIL - 11AM-3PM
KICK FLIPS & TAIL WHIPS
YAMBA SKATE PARK**

**SAT 20 APRIL - 5.30PM-8.30PM
CHANGING LANES CAR MEET
GRAFTON LIBRARY**

**SUN 21 APRIL - 9AM-12PM
COLOUR FUN RUN
JABOUR PARK, STH GRAFTON**

[@clarencevalleyyouth](#)
[clarencevalley.youth](#)

ALL YOUTH WEEK EVENTS ARE FREE, ALCOHOL, VAPES AND VAPE FREE. UNDER 12'S MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A RESPONSIBLE ADULT. ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. PLEASE CONTACT ALLIHA 0423 420 808 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO MAKE A BOOKING.

TAFE | **PCYC** | **NSW** | **clarence valley council** | **graffton shire council** | **yamba shire council** | **maclean shire council** | **iluka shire council** | **rotary** | **momentum** | **loving life**



CVCON
CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM

ORCHESTRA ROCKS!

FEATURING ROCK AND POP HITS OF THE LAST
50 YEARS IN AN UNFORGETTABLE MUSICAL
CELEBRATION.

FEATURING THE VOICES OF HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE CLARENCE
VALLEY.



FRIDAY 22 MARCH
7:00PM

CLARENCE VALLEY CONSERVATORIUM
8 VILLIERS STREET, GRAFTON

ADULT: \$30 CONC: \$20 CHILD: \$10

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



South Grafton High School

YEAR 6 TO 7, 2025

PARENT & STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT

- TIME: 5pm - 6:30pm
- DATE: Tuesday, 26th March
- LOCATION: SGHS Library

*Includes information session and tour of school.
Light refreshments will be supplied.*



Tyson Street, South Grafton, NSW 2460
☎ 02 6642 1466
✉ sthgraston-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
🌐 www.sthgraston-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES



GRAFTON TIGERS AFL CLUB

Join us in 2024

**We are on the lookout for players for our
Junior AFL teams**

Training:

- Start date to be confirmed
- Tuesday and Thursday
- 5pm—6 pm

Location: Ellem Oval, Prince Street, Grafton

Game Day: Sunday

For more information:
Dayne – 0438 431 418
Chris – 0407 202 159
Facebook - Grafton Tigers Football Netball



Come and give it a go!





Come and Play for

The South Grafton Rebels

Junior Rugby League



- U6-U7 LeagueTag & Tackle Ready Program
- Mixed Tackle U8-U12
- Male tackle U13-U16
- Female Tackle U13,U15,U17
- Girls League Tag U13-U16

SIGN UP NOW

Playrugbyleague.com

0409049888

*Come & Try
Junior Rugby Union*



*With the Grafton Redmen
Junior Rugby Club*

Tuesday 12 March @ Hay St Rugby Fields 4pm
&
Tuesday 19 March @ Hay St Rugby Fields 4pm

With Craig Landrigan
NSW Waratahs
Development Officer
in attendance on 19 March



There will be committee members available to assist with registrations



**ARE YOU A 7 TO 9 YEAR
OLD?**

**DO YOU WANT TO PLAY
SOCCER?**




Come join our club!



REGISTER AT
WWW.PLAYFOOTBALL.COM.AU

Autumn School Holiday Activities

COST: \$32 Half Day - \$50 Full Day
AGES: 5-12 years
TIME: Half Day - 8:00am - 12:00pm; 12:30pm - 4:30pm
Full Day - 8:00am - 4:30pm

BOOK NOW



ADDITIONAL INFO: Water bottle, lunch, enclosed shoes, change of clothes

Mon 15th	Messy Day: A day dedicated to Messy Play including Tie Dyeing, Slime Making and a Colour Run (\$10 Extra)
Tues 16th	Olympics Day: In the run up to the Olympics, we will be taking part in different sports in the Olympics including Gymnastics, Basketball & Track & Field
Wed 17th	Morning: Team Sports - A Morning focusing on team sports including Futsal, T-Ball, & OzTag Afternoon: Team Building Challenge: An afternoon of team-based challenges to complete
Thur 18th	Morning: Cooking - Lemon Drizzle Cake: A delicious cake with a Lemon Tang Afternoon - Paint and Shake: we will be making Shakes and painting on canvases (\$5 extra)
Fri 19th	Morning: Gymnastics Workshop Afternoon: Futsal Workshop
Mon 22nd	Earth Day: A day focused on the Earth day Theme: Planet vs Plastics and in the afternoon we will be creating terrariums! (\$10 Extra)
Tues 23rd	Young Inventors Day: A day centered around Science such as aerodynamics of Paper Planes, Marshmallow Catapults and Chemical Reactions
Wed 24th	Morning: Craft - Paper Poppies - we will be creating paper poppies for kids and family. Afternoon: Cooking ANZAC Biscuits: We will be making these classic aussie biscuits!
Thur 25th	ANZAC Day: Closed
Fri 26th	Morning: Craft - Clay Jewellery Making: Designing jewellery using polymer clay! Afternoon: Laser Tag and Minute to win it games - A PCYC favourite! (\$5 extra)
Mon 29th	Pajama Day: A day to come in and play slumber party games, watch movies and eat popcorn!

CONTACT US:
Phone: 02 5622 4020 | Text: 0490 507 025 | Email: graffton@pcycnsw.org.au
Website: <https://www.pcycnsw.org.au/graffton/school-holidays>