

# GRAFTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

## A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

*Grafton Public School is committed to providing the very best educational opportunities for its students.*



*"Nil Sine Labore"*

### **Junior Dance Ensemble & Senior Dance Ensemble**

#### **Information Booklet**

**2021**



## RATIONALE

Grafton Public School recognises the importance and benefits of the Performing Arts and we strive to provide dynamic Dance Programs in our school. As well as being an enjoyable activity, dance enhances thinking, coordination, physical fitness and perception skills, which lead to increased success across all curriculum areas.

Whilst the GPS Dance Ensembles perform on a regular basis, the emphasis at Grafton Public School is education. Being a part of a Dance Program develops self-discipline, teamwork and commitment. Grafton Public School is pleased to be able to offer this program enabling students to learn dance routines and execute the choreography into entertaining performances.

## WHO CAN JOIN THE DANCE ENSEMBLE?

The opportunity to be a member of the Dance Ensemble is open to students from Year 3-6. Due to the popularity of this extra-curricular activity, selection for these ensembles is undertaken via an audition process.

**Junior Dance Ensemble:**      Cost \$160 per year or \$40 per term (roughly \$4 a week)  
Yr 3&4 students                      22 students: Held during Sport time.  
Practice- half of lunchtime (20 minutes) once a week.

**Senior Dance Ensemble:**      Cost \$160 per year or \$40 per term (roughly \$4 a week)  
Yr 5&6 students                      22 students: Held during Sport time.  
Practice- half of lunchtime (20 minutes) once a week.

This money contributes to costing for costumes, make-up and Dance choreographer.

## WHAT CONDITIONS ARE THERE?

For the Junior and Senior Dance Ensembles, lessons will be held during Stage Sport times on Fridays, thus students selected will not participate in other school sport rotations during the semester. Each ensemble group will also be given a weekly practice session during first half lunch break time, which all members are expected to attend. Students will be required to bring a pair of **black jazz shoes** for these sessions.

**Students in the Senior Dance Ensemble are expected to attend the GPS Performing Arts Tour. This will take place in Term 3 and costs approximately \$450 per child.**

A signed **Agreement Form** must be returned with the parent and student agreeing to adhere to the points on this agreement.

**Term fees must be paid at the beginning of each term to the Primary Office.**

## WHAT IF MY CHILD IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY?

If your child is experiencing difficulty or are not enjoying the ensemble, please contact the school. Please remember that students have made a commitment to be part of this group and decisions to leave will affect the choreography and change the dynamics of the team. Any students acting irresponsibly within the Dance Ensemble will forfeit their position. Discussion will be held with Mrs Goodall, Mrs Penfold and the student, resulting in a decision. Parents will be notified of this decision.

## WHAT PERFORMANCES ARE AVAILABLE?

In previous years, our GPS Dance Ensembles were included in many local, inter-regional and state level performances, such as:

- GPS Assembly
- GPS Concert
- Jacaranda Week Concert
- Grafton Eisteddfod
- Mid North Coast Dance Festival (Coffs Harbour)
- GPS Performing Arts Tour (Yr 5/6 Dance Ensemble only)
- plus more!!!

Again in 2021, it is our intention that the Dance Ensembles perform at these events as well as local organised events.

The GPS Performing Arts Tour provides a wonderful opportunity for Senior GPS dancers to showcase their talents to the wider community. It is an expectation that all Senior Dance Ensemble members attend this tour.

## WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE PARENTS?

Parents must make an equally strong commitment to the Dance Ensembles and their activities. Involvement in and support of fund-raising activities is appreciated as is support with hair, make-up and costumes. Assistance with transport to and from venues within Grafton and further may be requested at times. **Prompt payment of fees is also expected at the start of each term. We realise that students who are in Year 6 will need to pay for Canberra Camp, Performing Arts Tour and Dance fees. Payment plans are available at the office.**

## WHO CO-ORDINATES THE SCHOOL DANCE ENSEMBLE?

Mrs Kate Goodall and Mrs Brooke Penfold are joint co-ordinators of the program and are responsible for day to day organisation, costuming, performance schedules, public relations and ensemble practices.

In 2021 we are very excited to have Miss Jocelyn Rock in our GPS Dance Team. She will be involved with dance tuition and bringing the ensembles to performance standard.

Prior to performances, students will attend meetings and be given information about make-up, costume needs etc. Our school's GPS Facebook page and newsletters may also contain information about dance requirements and performances.

Should you need to contact one of our Dance Co-ordinators, email details are located below.

Senior Dance Ensemble –Mrs Kate Goodall - [Kathleen.Goodall@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Kathleen.Goodall@det.nsw.edu.au)

Junior Dance Ensemble –Mrs Brooke Penfold –[Brooke.Penfold@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Brooke.Penfold@det.nsw.edu.au)

Alternatively, you can leave a message at the Primary Office on 66421000 and ask for a Dance staff member to contact you.