Last Wednesday afternoon our Year 3 students returned from their excursion to Coffs Coast Beach School. They were tired but excited about the wonderful experiences they had had on the excursion. Thank you to the staff and parents who accompanied the students.

On Jacaranda Thursday our Year 1 choir performed in a morning concert, at Market Square, with other schools from the Grafton Community of Schools. The students sang beautifully and blended in well with the Jacaranda trees in their purple clothes. The crowd loved the performance and we were very proud of the students who represented the school displaying not only musical ability but excellent behaviour as well. Mrs Lewis did a wonderful job preparing the children for this experience.

The Westlawn Public School Guitar Group also participated in the Jacaranda festivities last week when they performed at the Venetian Carnival. Caitlin Bell, Isabelle English, Gabby Marshall, Sophie Osborne, Katelyn Philp, Jade Tapfield, Amber Wilks, Luci Youman Jacob Kratz, Benjamin Luxton and Henry White played in front of a very large crowd at Memorial Park on Friday night. Ms Ellem was very impressed with how well the children played as this was only their second public performance as a group. A huge thank you to Mr Luke Gough (from the Clarence Conservatorium) and Ms Ellem for all their work in arranging this opportunity for the students.

Attention Year 5 Parents – Selective High School Placement
If you would like your child (who is currently in Year 5) to apply for selective high school placement in Year 7 in 2015 you need to do so soon. A note was sent home with all Year 5 students about this opportunity. If you did not receive it, please get a copy from the school office and return the intention to apply section ASAP. As soon as we receive this we will send home the information you will need to apply online. If you do not have access to a computer you may pick up a paper application from the school. Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is selective high school placement which provides intellectual stimulation and an educationally enriched environment for gifted and talented students. We are very fortunate that Grafton High School offers a selective class, being the only one on the North Coast. This is a tremendous opportunity for the most capable students to be academically challenged. Offers for selective high schools placement will be made on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held in March 2014 but you must register by 18th November via online or paper application.

Trish Ellis, Assistant Principal
DIARY DATES TERM 4

Week 6
11 Nov 2pm Canteen Meeting
11 Nov Intensive Swimming Scheme for Wk 6 and 7 for Y2
13 Nov 6pm P&C meeting
14 Nov SRC Mufti Day for Grafton Hospital, gold coin donation
15 Nov Kinder Orientation & Parent meeting

Week 7
18-22 Nov Y5 to Lake Ainsworth
22 Nov Kinder Orientation

Week 8
25-29 Nov Y6 to Canberra
29 Nov Kinder Orientation

Week 9
4-6 Dec Y4 to Yarrahappini
4 Dec Y6 Orientation Day at Grafton High School

Week 10
9 Dec 2pm Canteen meeting
10 Dec Presentation Day
11 Dec Award Assembly
11 Dec 6pm P&C meeting
12 Dec Parent Helper Afternoon Tea
13 Dec Primary Ten Pin Bowling
13 Dec Reports go home

Week 11
16 Dec Infants Ten Pin Bowling
16 Dec Year 6 Farewell
17 Dec Carols Night

Student of the Week – Week 4  Shanae Crispin KA and Lucie Eichmann 3C/S
Arabela Ladao 3D (Week 2)

Direct Deposits
There is a new accounting system about to come on line in schools. During the change-over we cannot accept any direct deposits and will be handwriting receipts. Please do not make any direct deposits after 1 November until further notice.

Hot Dog Day
Thank you everyone for a hugely successful Hot Dog Day last week. Over 380 hot dogs were served with profits going to the Year 6 farewell. Thank you to the Year 6 students who had displayed their hospitality skills. A huge thank you to all the mother helpers on the day: Kylie Lavender, Kris Huxley, Davina Green, Richelle Steele, Sarah Foley, Jo Lucas, Sarah Nicholls, Jenny Marsh, Sharyn Osborne Sharyn Ellem.
Aspirations Project Update

Thank you to those parents /carers of our Year 4 and Year 6 students who responded to the survey sent out regarding the research project. There is still time to complete the survey by either filling out the paper version that was sent to parents of students in these grades last term or by completing the electronic version using the following link: Parent survey link: http://goo.gl/BHc4q

If you fill out the paper version please return it to school in the sealed envelope provided. Please do not return your survey directly to Newcastle University. Students in Years 4 and 6 have completed the electronic version at school. Remember this project is to try and help identify the influences on young peoples’ education and job goals. Understanding these influences will help schools to support students to reach those goals.

Grafton High School Year 7 2014

Dates to be aware of if your child intends attending Grafton High School next year:

TONIGHT 5 November – Parent Information evening 6pm at Grafton High School
4 December – Year 6 to Year 7 Orientation day at Grafton High School

South Grafton High School Year 7 2014

Dates to be aware of if your child intends attending South Grafton High School next year:-
19 November – 9am until 3pm. Students are to stay for the entire day. Parents to attend from 9am to 11am for an information session, a guided tour and morning tea (which will be provided to the parents.

Student Banking

This weeks zooper dooper winners are: Tyson Norris KH and Kearnna McDonogh-Allen 3C/S.

Lost

Sarah Ryan from 5J lost her ipod. It has her bus pass in it. If you find these lost items please return to Mr Jones, Sarah or the school office. This is a timely reminder to students to not bring items to school unless absolutely necessary and then if brought to school sign them in at the office as soon as you arrive.

Discover the fun of icing a Christmas Cake! Have your beautifully decorated cake take centre stage on the Christmas Tea table. Learn how to ice and decorate your very own Christmas cake from scratch. Tuesday 12th November, 7pm $15, includes supper @ Grafton Uniting Church 126 Prince Street, across from the old Video Ezy

Bookings essential. RSVP to Dot on Ph: 6642 3248 Guest speaker – Ellie Annesley

Photos of some of our Award winners so far this term:
MAJOR RAFFLE
Ticket books for this year's major raffle have been sent home today. It would be greatly appreciated if you could sell all your tickets for $1 each.
This year there are some wonderful prizes:
1st - $1,000 gift voucher for Retravision
2nd - mini eReader
3rd - portable BBQ
4th - $50 book voucher.
Please return all tickets, sold or not, by Friday 13th December and will be drawn at the Carols Night, Tuesday 17th December.

JACCA FUN RUN
The Jacaranda Fun Run was held on Sunday and it was a huge success. Many people from the Westlawn School community took part in the family friendly event. A big thank you to Renee Nilon, Amy Reed, Bowen Taylor & Isabel Taylor for manning the water station, for doing so the Fun Run committee will donate $50 to the P&C.

A massive congratulations to everyone who participated as it was a scorching hot day.

CLOTHING POOL NEWS
The Clothing Pool is looking for volunteers to help out on the three Kindy Orientation days.
It will be open 9:00am to 11:00am on Fridays 15th, 22nd and 29th of November.

Clothing Pool Hours 2013
Mondays & Thursdays – 8:30am to 9:00am
Wednesdays – 2:30pm to 3:00pm
Sharyn Ellem – Clothing Pool Co-Ordinator

Canterbury Fun Run
The Jacaranda Fun Run was held on Sunday and it was a huge success. Many people from the Westlawn School community took part in the family friendly event. A big thank you to Renee Nilon, Amy Reed, Bowen Taylor & Isabel Taylor for manning the water station, for doing so the Fun Run committee will donate $50 to the P&C.

A massive congratulations to everyone who participated as it was a scorching hot day.

CANTEEN NEWS
We have changed suppliers of our bottled water. Our new supplier is local and money from their sales support our hospital.
Fresh fruit salad is now available for $1 and pieces of watermelon for 50c each.
The position of Canteen Deputy Manager still remains vacant. If you are interested in this role please come along to the P&C General Meeting Wednesday, 11 November at 6pm in the old hall.
If you are interested in helping out in the canteen please contact Davina Green – 0423 741 820.
If you can help out please contact Sharyn Ellem on 0400 699 617.