Term 1 2015

Calendar
*Please note dates from week to week as there are occasionally some changes.

Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> | AFL Sessions Years 2-6  
                            | UNIFORM SHOP CLOSED                |
| Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>  | 2.10pm Stage Assemblies  
                                | Purple Day – gold coin donation    |

Week 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</table>
| Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> | Zone Swimming Carnival  
                                | UNIFORM SHOP OPEN 9am -10am       |
| Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>  | ‘Clean Up Australia’ Day  
                                | 2.10pm K-6 Assembly               |

Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2.10pm Stage Assemblies</td>
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Week 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Riverina Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2.10pm K-6 Assembly</td>
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Week 8

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Years 3-6 Forensic Science Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>  | Years 3-6 Cross Country  
                                | National Day Against Bullying            |
|                         | 2.10pm K-2 Stage Assembly  
                                | (no Assembly for Stage 2 / 3)            |

Week 9

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2.10pm K-6 Assembly</td>
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Week 10

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>K-2 Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Last day Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Good Friday No school</td>
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Student Representative Council for 2015

Congratulations to our SRC Members. Students were nominated and voted for by their class members. Students were presented with their badges at Friday’s K-6 Assembly. Many parents were able to come along to pin the badges on their children. We are confident our SRC Members will live up to our school values-Respect, Responsibility and Do Your Best.

2B Sharlene Taituave
2L Hakaraia Barrett
2M Sabrina Marela
3/4B Charlotte McDonald and Sarah O'Keefe
3/4L Jet Smith and John Samuelu-Kirby
3/4 P Sophia Kelsey and Nathan Lualua
The 2015 GPS Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 12th February and was a huge success! All students participated, whether competing in the 25 or 50 metre races, the novelty events or cheering for their fellow sporting house members! The children showed great pride in representing their sporting house. This was demonstrated through the costumes, posters, chanting and war cries that were displayed and sung all day!

As a school, we are thrilled that 17 of our students were successful in qualifying for the Griffith Zone Swimming Carnival which will be held on Thursday 26th February at the Griffith Regional Aquatic Centre.

A huge thank you to the parents who assisted us with time keeping and to our wonderful P&C who provided cold water, fresh fruit, sandwiches and chocolate cake for the staff and volunteers. Thank you also to my fellow colleagues for your contribution and assistance with the smooth running of the carnival.

GPS Swimming School Age Champions will be awarded at a K-6 Assembly on Friday 27th February 2015. Notes for these students and those who have qualified for the Griffith Zone Swimming Carnival will be handed out shortly.

Griffith Public School Age Champions

Junior Girls Age champion - Laura Dreyer
Junior Boys Age Champion - Ethan Nayden
11 years Girls Age Champion - Charlotte Currie
11 years Boys Age Champion - Robert Virobo
Senior Girls Age Champion - Lili Henderson-Clark
Senior Boys Age Champion - Jock Lander
Do Your Best Trophy - to be announced at the K-6 Assembly on 27/2/15.

Students qualifying for the Griffith Zone Swimming Carnival are- Lili Henderson-Clark, Jermaine Pennith, Jessica Bamblett, Emily Power, Laura Dreyer, Ethan Nayden, Spencer Henderson-Clark, Jake Rand, Jet Smith, Sophie Carberry-Beale, Kyle Smyth, Robert Virobo, Laisa Vatuloka, Jesse
Ratuverebukui, Jock Lander, Charlotte Currie and Reuben Laeo-Seve Simpson.

Miss Courtney Browne (GPS Sports Coordinator)

Apology Anniversary

Nineteen students from our school's choir represented Griffith Public School at the 7th Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generation on Friday 13th February, 2015. The students were part of the formal presentation at the Aboriginal Lands Council. They sang three songs at the presentation and were treated to lunch with the special guests and others present at the ceremony. Thank you to Aunty Maxine for helping organise the group on their first official 'gig' with Mrs McWhirter as the choir maestro!!

In 2015, Griffith Public School is entering the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). Every student at GPS will be participating in the challenge. This challenge is designed to get students excited about reading quality books, and all our teachers will be encouraging the students in the Challenge. A note will be sent home this week to all families explaining how the Premier’s Reading Challenge works.

Mrs Fiona Brown, Library

News from 2L

Students in 2L have been reading “Feathers for Phoebe” by Rod Clement. They have worked hard in reading and writing activities that have focused on recognising and using descriptive words and adjectives. In Art students have used their creative skills to construct Phoebe’s fabulous crest. They used different materials such as feathers, crepe paper, glittery pipe-cleaners and sparkles to produce some amazing headbands that they were very proud of.

Year 6 Jackets

All Year 6 students received an order form for a commemorative Year 6 jacket last week. A reminder that payment of $65 is due by FRIDAY MARCH 6TH. No late orders can be accepted. A sizing chart was included on the note and sample size jackets are available at the office to try on.
Active After School Sport / Sporting Schools News

Active After School Sport has changed. It will now be called Sporting Schools however it is very similar to Active After School Sports. Because of changes made by the Government, Sporting Schools will not begin until late July. More information will be provided regarding activities in Term 3.

P&C News

Thank you to the parents who attended last week’s P&C meeting.

We decided on some fundraising ideas for this term:
1/ Easter egg raffle. Please see the attached flyer. Raffle tickets will be sent home in next week’s newsletter.
2/ Fun Run at the Cross Country Carnival. Sponsorship forms will be sent home soon.
Thank you for supporting these events. Remember all money that is raised supports every child at GPS.

The Uniform Shop will be closed this week (Thursday 19th February).
As of next week Thursday 26th March, the uniform shop will be open every Thursday from 9am - 10am.

We desperately need helpers to keep our uniform shop open and running. If you can help please let Helen Lander or another P&C member know ASAP. If we do not get helpers, we will be only able to open the uniform shop once a term. Can you help us for 1 hour a week? We needed to increase some prices to cover costs. The cost of our uniform is still a lot cheaper compared to other schools in our region. A new price list will be sent home in the next few days.

The next P&C meeting will be our AGM and this will be held on Wednesday 18th March at 7pm.

Thank you,
Helen Lander
(P&C President)

2014 Coolah Chronicle

The Coolah Chronicle is our school’s yearly magazine. It is a record of 2014 at Griffith Public School, filled with photos of the students at our memorable activities held throughout the year.

We still have copies available for $20.

School Canteen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 18th</th>
<th>Cathy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td>Kerri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
<td>Elena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd</td>
<td>Elena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
<td>Brenda</td>
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Thank you to last week’s helper Agnes Lolohea.

Watermelon bowls $2.50
Chicken Burgers $3.50
Chicken Nuggets $3.00

Please have orders in by 9.30am SHARP
Thank you.

Brenda, Canteen Manager

Meet the GPS Staff

Introducing our Year One teachers for 2015

Miss Sergi 1S

Miss Dance 1D
Tell Them From Me Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and 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.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school 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. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Win a $5.00 Canteen Voucher Week 4

Give your newsletter to your parent or carer to read. Ask them to sign this slip and put it in the box in the front office. If your slip is drawn out at Friday’s assembly, you will win one $5 canteen voucher! Two slips will be drawn out at each assembly.

Student / Family name: __________________

Parent / Carer Signature: _________________
Purple Day

This Friday we are holding a PURPLE day. Students are asked to wear something purple and donate a gold coin towards our schools Relay For Life team. All money raised goes towards cancer research and directly assists those in our area who are battling this nasty disease. The most Purple in each class will win a prize!!!
Sip & Sign

Practice your Auslan (signing) skills.

WHERE: Griffith Central – food mall

WHEN: Thursdays weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 of term

TIME: 4pm – 5pm

A very informal get together with local school staff, parents and members of the Deaf Community. An opportunity to learn basic signing skills.

Contact Christine – 0434146150 for more details.

2015 Inter Schools Challenge

Sunday 1st March 2015

Trophy & Prizes for school with highest participation

8am start at Animoo Ave - Community Private Hospital Site
Finish at Picnic area of Lake Wyangan – lots of entertainment, prizes, food & drinks at the finish line
Ride, Walk or Run the 10km course
Individual trophies for junior cyclists and runners
Start training today!!

Event information & registrations at www.city2lake.com
Remember to enter your school name when you register

TAFE Education Pathways
English language classes

Do you find it difficult to understand English?
Do others find it difficult to understand you?
Would you like to improve your spoken and written English?
Do you need better English to improve your chances of getting a job?

TAFE English language teachers can help you succeed in study, getting a job and living in Australia.

Phone Alanna for further information at Griffith campus on 02 6962 0405.

www.rit.tafensw.edu.au
PURPLE DAY

Gold coin donation for Relay for Life

Dress in PURPLE!
Spray paint your hair PURPLE!
Paint your face PURPLE!

Friday
Week 4

The most PURPLE person in each class gets CHOCOLATE!!!