## Griffith High School Newsletter

**Excellence, Opportunity and Care**

A proud partner in the Griffith Community of Schools

Coolah Street, Griffith NSW 2680

Telephone: (02) 6962 1711    Facsimile: (02) 6964 1465    Facebook: www.facebook.com/GriffithHighSchool

Email: griffith-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au    Web: www.griffith-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

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### Term 1 (from Week 4B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Feb   | 4B   | 17     | 18      | 19        | 20       | Zone Swimming Carnival  
         Newsletter |
| Feb   | 5A   | 24     | 25      | 26        | 27       | 28 Year 12 Half-yearly exams  
         Year 12 Half-yearly exams  
         Year 12 Half-yearly exams |
| Mar   | 6B   | 3      | 4       | 5         | 6        | 7 Riverina Swimming Carnival  
         Newsletter |
| Mar   | 7A   | 10     | 11      | 12 Open girls & boys Basketball  
         Yr 7 girls & boys vaccinations  
         Yr 9 boys vaccinations  
         P&C Meeting 6.30pm  
         13 |
| Mar   | 8B   | 17 Yr 12 Hospitality Work Placement  
         Work Placement Open girls & boys touch football  
         Yr 12 Hospitality Work Placement |
| Mar   | 9A   | 24     | 25      | 26        | 27 Parent Teacher interviews  
         4pm - 6.30pm  
         28 |
| Apr   | 10B  | 31 Open girls & boys soccer  
         1  
         2 |
| Apr   | 11A  | 7      | 8 Well Done Club - 9/10  
         9  
         10 Well Done Club - 7/8 P&C Meeting 6.30pm  
         11 Last day of Term 1 |

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### Principal’s Report

Welcome to our new look School Newsletter. We have listened to your comments and feedback and you have told us you want a shorter, more frequent newsletter. The P&C have endorsed this change and the newsletter will now be published once a fortnight. It will be distributed to all students as well as emailed to families who have provided us with an email address.

Just a reminder that if you DO NOT wish your child’s name and/or photograph to appear in our newsletter, on our website, on our Facebook page or in local media PLEASE LET US KNOW. If we don’t hear from you we will assume you have no objections.

Charlie Cochrane  
Principal

### Child Absence Policy

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. You can do this by sending a note in with your child, ringing the school or sending an email to the school. The Department of Education’s policy is that explanation must be provided within 7 days of the absence.

If you need to speak to someone about your child’s attendance, please ring the school office and ask to speak to your child’s Year Adviser or Mrs Suine, the school’s Community Liaison Officer (who is available Monday to Wednesday).

In New South Wales, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school or be registered for home schooling. After they complete Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship);
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Kind regards,

Mr Sriharan Sriappasamy  
HT Mathematics

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### Ambulance Cover At School

The Ambulance Service of NSW Ambulance Group provides coverage that ensures in the event a student enrolled in a NSW government school has an accident or falls ill whilst at school or on an organised, fully supervised school excursion and requires an emergency ambulance service, that neither the school nor the parents will be responsible for the payment of the ambulance account under the terms and conditions of the policy.

If your child does have to be transported by ambulance you may still receive an account in the mail. If you do, please bring the account in to Mrs Bowditch in the school office and she will take care of it.

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**Message from the Mathematics Faculty**

Dear Parents:

Re: Accessing “MATHSONLINE” and attending Maths Study Club.

“MATHSONLINE” is an online program that can be used by students to revise topics, improve their knowledge of the course content being covered in class, complete extension work and prepare for future lessons to help them progress in the stage of Mathematics they are completing at high school. If you would like your son/daughter to access “MATHSONLINE,” please pay $20 [$20 per year] as soon as possible so that I can enrol him/her to access the program.

Maths Study Club: Every Monday afternoon from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm, Mr Gallagher is providing free support to students who would like to get help in Mathematics. Please feel free to talk to Mr Gallagher if your son/daughter wants to attend his club.

Kind regards,

Mr Sriharan Sriappasamy  
HT Mathematics

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Griffith High School believes in the values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Right Choice and the Pursuit of Excellence.
A poet in the making

Griffith High School would like to congratulate Mele Fifita for winning the Community Relations Commission (NSW) Award with her poem “Australia Fair” last year. Judges were moved by the intensely personal nature of the poem expressing that “this poem truly exemplifies all the fundamentals which the CRC award seeks to embody. It is a paean of hope”.

Australia Fair

How different are we in every way? The way we eat and the things we do and say The countries we come from and the monies we bring Our new life in Australia was the most desired thing

What mattered the most was our heart and soul That helped us along in our brand new role We all came with different faiths and for different reasons And we were ready to start like a brand new season

We came with such diverse personalities And slowly we began to see new realities And soon our beauty and strength began to show And care and courage began to glow

Our new friends and neighbours started to listen And our hearts opened up and we began to glisten Acceptance was the key to our success And soon we began to speak about our prowess

Now we are here forever to stay Each day we thank God as we pray This new land gave us hope and grace So different from our original place

This country gave us a place to share With all its beauty rich and rare We therefore join in to enjoy And to advance in Australia’s beautiful fair

Mele Fifita

Our very own Mr Koshy of the English faculty is also a poet and he has provided his insight into Australia Day with this poem. Enjoy!

Australia Day

The national day of Australia, When the first fleet of British ships arrived at the Sydney cove, A day when the flag of Great Britain was raised in our country, A day which was called a day of invasion, A day of survival, A day of foundation laying.

All other items such as salad rolls ($4.00) are available at all times. Our hard working canteen staff always have a smile for free and appreciate good manners and a smile in return.