From the Principal

Welcome back and welcome to all our new families to the Grove and 2017. We have started the year so beautifully at school. All the students in their new uniforms look so neat, smart and tidy. Remember we have until July next year before all students need to be in this. I have also reminded students that the navy shorts go with the new shirts and red short with our older shirt. Senior students will bring home a note this week regarding their senior shirts.

We have started the year with 6 classes and are looking safe for this to remain this way after day 8. We have 140 enrolments confirmed at this stage. Attendance on Thursday 2/2/2017 is very important for all 2017 allocations, please let the office know if you child is away this day. Classrooms have established routines with students and behaviour both in and out of the classrooms has been exceptional.

Staff for GGSS are as follows:
Principal - Renee Heathwood
Diverse Learning Teacher - Jordanna McDougal
PY/1 - Sarah Donaldson
1/2 - Rose Cubis
3 - Kaela Blacker
4 - Samantha Rule
5/6A - Alex Gillespie
5/6B - Kylie Bridge
Music - Larissa Hays
P.E. - Brett Rule
Technology - Hayley Freemantle
LOTE (German) - Frank Belley
Guidance Officer - Janet Eales
Head of Special Ed - Sandra Calam
Support teacher of Literacy & Numeracy - Anne-Maree Drummond
Behaviour Support - TBA
Instrumental Music - Tyson Clancy-Jones
Chappy - Christina Edser
Administration Officer - Cheryl Jensen
Teacher Aides - Michele Lyne
Isy Redgrave
Suzanne Granzien
Nancy Timms
Lyndal Taylor
Jenny Pearce
Dawn Ebborn

Calendar Items

WEEK 2
Monday 30/1/17
Assembly

Tuesday 31/1/17
Spelling mastery lessons begin

Thursday 2/2/17
Day 8 - Student numbers counted for school allocations

WEEK 3
Monday 6/2/17
Assembly
School Leader speeches & voting
P&C meeting 4:30

Wednesday 6/2/17
Writing On Demand Task - Narrative
Our school Facebook page is still under construction and as soon at the Department has it set up for us I will inform parents. This page will be a public page, not a closed group that is open to all Facebook members.

Teaching and Learning

This year we will continue our focus on improving reading abilities of all students. Last year we achieved some excellent results finishing the year with 62% of students reading at age appropriate levels. We want to work to improve this even further this year. There will be a focus on Modelled & Guided reading in classroom. You can support this at home by reading to/with your child each day, practicing sight words and reading environmental print. See your classroom teacher if you would like more information or access to support at home. All students Yr 1-6 will be setting SMART goals in the next few week for Term 1 reading - please ask them what they are working towards.

This year our learning timetable is a little different. We focus on English & Maths Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. Monday & Tuesday the LOTE teacher is here to work with 5/6 classes. Tuesdays Mrs Freemantle is teaching Technology. Wednesdays have become our KLA (Key Learning Area) day - this is the day we cover History, Geography, The Arts, Health & other Humanity subjects. These subjects are taught in year level groups.

Prep- Mrs Donaldson
Yr 1 - Mrs Freemantle
Yr 2- Mrs Cubis
Yr 3 - Miss Blacker
Yr 4 - Mrs Rule
Yr 5 - Mrs Bridge
Yr 6 - Mr Gillespie

Science is also taught in year levels during the week at various times.

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Thursdays are P.E. & Music days and library borrowing will continue on Mondays. We have a busy week full of learning and fun. We expect students to show up ready to learn each day and behave in a way that doesn’t hinder the learning of others. We send home minimal homework in all year levels because we believe that we work hard at school to cover content and wish to promote family time, social and sporting development when the students are at home. We ask that all students do some reading at home each night and practise some number facts. Classroom teachers will send more information home regarding this as the term continues.

You will receive a classroom newsletter today that breaks down learning content in individual classrooms.

Teaching and Learning is our core business at GGSS and we believe that all students can achieve results. We work to achieve a year’s growth with a year’s learning.

Techno Talk with Mrs Freemantle

A special welcome back to all our GGSS techies. Our 2017 Technology program is in full swing this week and we have exciting things planned for this term. Term 1 sees the Prep/1, year 3, year 4 and year 5/6 launching our Design technology units, while our year 1/ 2 will be engaging the Digital technology plan. We also have the privilege of working with Laidley State High School to boost our STEM days. We are very excited to be working with high school students and have planned to have another STEM activity day this term. Having introduced STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to our GGSS students last year, allows us to focus on those necessary skills needed for future economy building. Adding to all this excitement we are hoping to have the opportunity to go on our very first Technology excursion this term. Details for this will be forthcoming.

I am looking forward to a great term.
2017 Camp
This year we are off to Longreach on our school camp which will be an amazing learning experience for our students. The year 4, 5 and 6 students are invited to attend this. We took deposits last year for this camp and a payment plan will be coming home very soon. If you are a newly enrolled student and would like to find out more please contact Mrs Bridge for information. Do this ASAP as our numbers need to close soon.

Booklists
Thanks to those who have made purchases for the resources for your child at the office this week. We will start using them next week. Please see Cheryl in the office for payment. If you need a payment plan for these have a chat with Renee.

Spelling Mastery
The spelling program we use at our school is Spelling Mastery - this is direct instruction program. We have assessed all students from Year 1 to 6 last week and they will be put into the group that best suits their spelling needs. Spelling mastery runs Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 9:00. It is important that children are at school on time and lined up ready for their spelling group - which may be in a different room than their classroom. These lesson will begin this week. Please pay for your child’s text ASAP.

Positive Behaviour for Learning
GGSS is a positive behaviour for learning school. Each week we explicitly teach students our expected behaviours. If you would like further information regarding our schools behaviour plan please refer to GGSS Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students which was in your enrolment pack. A copy is also available on our website. glengrovss.eq.edu.au
Each week at Assemblies we cover the focus for the week and these will be included in our fortnightly newsletters to keep parents aware of what we are covering. Our PBL team meets twice a term and we would love some parent representatives on this team. Our meeting dates for this term are Wednesdays 22/2 & 29/3 at 7:30 am and we meet in the staffroom.

Lesson Focus
Week 2
Be Safe
All Settings - Walk in & around buildings

Week 3
Be Respectful
All settings - Wear full uniform. Act in a friendly & compassionate manner. Listen Actively

Each week on Assembly we recognise those students that have displayed appropriate behaviour and academic success with certificates and badges.

Well done to our Week 1 recipients!
Principal Award - Tamati
Behaviour - Piper, Jett, Noah, Lucy, Logan and Mikayla
Academic - Josh, Jaxon, Heath, Aiden, Samuel and Amelia
Housekeeping

Office Hours
The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm Monday to Friday. If you need us outside of these hours please call and leave a message, we will return your call as soon as possible.

Staff contact
If you wish to discuss issues with your child’s teacher please make a time before or after class. Please try not to take up time as learning starts, this means that students are missing learning time and classes become unsettled. Staff email addresses are available in the Parent Handbook for your use also.

Absences
Please contact the absence line 5466 6160 with your child’s name, class and reason for absence. Our office sends out an SMS for unexplained absences.

Late Student Pickup
If you are late collecting your child from school, from 3pm the students will be in the school office. Please contact the office ahead of time if you know you are running late.

Naming Student Items
Please check that your children's belongings have a name on them, especially hats.

School Newsletter
If you would like to promote a community event in this newsletter please email admin@glengrovss.eq.edu.au by Wednesday of even weeks.

Parking, Drop off & Pickup time
Parents use the Hall carpark to drop off and pick up students. We ask that parent reverse into these spaces for the safety of all our children. If you are bringing your children into school before 8:25 they are to wait under the covered area near the office. There is no playing until the staff member on duty brings students to the undercover area. All students must have a hat to play in the mornings. In the afternoons there is a staff member on duty. Students are not to leave the grounds into the carpark without their parent/carer. Students are also not permitted to play on the equipment unless a parent is with them supervising. This is a safety issue that can make pick up time difficult to supervise and for the safety of all our students we ask you to support this. Please don’t park at the front in the bus lane or drive into school grounds.

3,962,136

The amount of times teachers will write the wrong year on the board during the month of January, throughout their career.
Event – Come and Try Sports Day
Date – Saturday Feb 4th 2017
Location – Laidley Recreational Reserve
Objective of day – “Come and Try” sports day is aimed at providing the community a chance to try up to 10 different sports
Time – 8am-12pm
Special Guest - Kevin Walters QLD State of Origin great as well as Romelda Aiken and Laura Clemesha from the QLD Firebirds, Ipswich Jets Rugby League, Football QLD, Cricket QLD, AFL QLD.

There will be a large free water slide also.