TERM 1 PARENT/ TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Term 1 Parent/ Teacher interviews to discuss how your child has settled in to the 2016 school year will be conducted on Wednesday 24 February 2016 from 3.30 p.m. – 5.30 pm for all classes K-6.

The main focus of the interviews will be to have a brief discussion about your child’s start to the school year.

Interviews to discuss your child’s progress during semester one will be held after the semester one reports have been issued at the end of Term 2.

Please phone the school office (Ph: 69621804 or 69624409) and they will book you a time slot (10 min maximum) with your child’s teacher.

Confirmation of your appointment time and interview venue will be sent home with your child.

ANAPHYLAXIS TRAINING AND PROCEDURES
All staff have been trained in the management of anaphylaxis reactions. This training has taken place to support and protect the health and safety of students at risk of anaphylaxis when they are at school or involved in school activities.

We have a number of students who have been prescribed an epi–pen and the school also has its own epi-pens in our first aid kits.

Key strategies to minimise the risk of allergic reactions in students are:
- Students do not share food with each other

CALENDAR

15 February
- Kindergarten Information evening – 6.00 pm
- Book Club Due

17 February
- Rugby League Presentation – Hall – 2.30 pm

19 February
- School Swimming Carnival

22 February
- School Band information evening – Hall – 5.30 – 7.00pm

25 February
- AFL Presentation – Hall – 12.30 pm

25 February
- Zone Swimming Carnival

29 February
- School Leaders- Young Leaders conference Sydney

3 March
- P & C AGM – 7.00 pm- School Staffroom

8 & 9 March
- School Photographs
• Wash your hands after eating or touching food
• Know what your friends are allergic to
• Don’t pressure your friends to eat what they are allergic to
• If a friend or student becomes sick or unwell get teacher/adult help immediately

**AMBULANCE COVER**
The school has full ambulance insurance cover for all students when at school or on any school supervised activity. E.g. Excursions, sporting activities. This means that in the event of an ambulance being called there will be no charge to the school or parents.

**SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
The school swimming carnival will be held on **Friday 19 February 2016** at the Griffith Aquatic Centre for all students in Years 3 – 6 and Year 2 students who turn 8 this year and can competitively swim 50 metres.

Event nomination forms have been sent home with your child and need to be returned to school ASAP.

The carnival program will cater for all swimming abilities from non swimmers, to developing swimmers, to competent swimmers.

Normal lessons will occur for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes.

**2016 SCHOOL BAND**
The Griffith City Band has offered GEPS a primary school band program for interested students in Years 4-5 this year. This is fantastic opportunity with all tuition being provided free by Griffith City Band. The instruments will be on loan from Wade HS and other schools and students in the program will be taught to read music and play a band instrument.

The only cost for students to participate in the first 6 months of the program will be $90. (This covers instrument maintenance and insurance and a band work book). It is anticipated that the school band program will take place in the school hall on Tuesday afternoons between 1.45 – 3.15 pm.

The Griffith City Band will be holding an information evening for interested students to attend with their parent/carer on **Monday 22 February in our School Hall from 5.30 pm – 7.00pm**.

This information evening will include a:
• Short performance by the Junior and Senior Town Band.
• Presentation about the School Band Program
• Opportunity for students to try different instruments
• Opportunity to register interest and complete an instrument preference form.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Stage 2 (Yrs 3&4) would gratefully appreciate help from parents, grandparents, family and community members to help us run targeted reading programs. If you can spare 1/2hour a week any day or time, we would love your assistance. The program will begin in Week 6 with training to be held in Week 5. If you can help us please let Mrs Schmetzer or the office know. Many thanks.

BOOK CLUB
Book Club is due Monday 15th February. Please make sure the order form has your child’s name and class on it and that the entire form is filled out. If paying by credit card you must fill out the entire receipt (not just the receipt number) Thank you Cynthia Crawford

PANCAKE TUESDAY
Tuesday 16th February
Pancakes -$1 from canteen at recess. Various toppings available. A note will be sent home in the near future.

FREE CRICKET CLINIC
Thursday [Tomorrow]
4pm till 5.30pm
Exies No 1 Oval
Run by former Test and Shield players, and Alex and Kate Blackwell.

GRIFFITH JUNIOR SWANS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL REGISTRATION DAYS
Saturday 13th Feb 11am – 1pm Exies Sports Club
Thursday 25th Feb 4.30pm-6.30 with fantastic opportunity to meet AFL stars from GWS Giants
Junior Football & Netball – U11’s/U13’s/U15’s
Fridays 5.15pm – start 29/4/2016
Net Set Go- Wednesdays 5pm – Start 27/4/2016
For more information contact Sandra Best – 0447 686 655

GRIFFITH JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB
Registration Day – Saturday 20th Feb 1-4pm Exies Sporties
Under 7’s - $20.00
Under 8’s and above - $60.00
Each new player receives a pair of shorts, free sausage sizzle after training on Friday nights and end of year gift. For more information phone Damien Marcus 0428641996

ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK
Assemblies are held in the Norma Marin Hall.
- 3-6 Assembly -Thursday at 2.30pm with 5C
- K-2 Assembly – Friday at 12.30 p.m. with 1/2K

Excellence, Innovation and Inclusiveness
PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION.

Education is a partnership between home and school and it is extremely important that clear and effective lines of communication are consistently open between home and school and also the privacy of teachers is respected outside of school hours.

Teachers can be contacted by telephoning the school, and if they are unavailable a message will be given to them to phone you back. Alternatively an email can be sent to the school email account griffithe-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au marked to the attention of the teacher in the subject line and it will be forwarded to the teacher by the school office. At times teachers are available to speak to you when you bring your child to school or picking them up from school, if they do not have duties or meetings.

The Department of Education’s Social Media and Technology Guide for staff cautions staff about having parents of students as friends on facebook for a number of professional and privacy reasons. It is not part of our school policy for teachers to friend parents on facebook or to respond to any parents regarding school matters through facebook or other social media.

Teachers are also not required to provide their personal mobile phone numbers to parents, as it is expected that any telephone enquires about school business or information about students will be conducted through the school telephone numbers.

The school has an APP which will communicate up to date information about school activities to parents.

It is available in both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store and is free.

To sign in you need to use the following:
Username: community
Password: griffitheps

The App will ask you for which individual grades you would like notifications for or you can select all grades.
Information which is available on the App include:
- Weekly Newsletters
- Calendar of Events
- Canteen Menu
- Notifications of School Events and changes to routines
- After school return times of excursions

GEPS Uniform Shop
The Uniform shop is open on Wednesday mornings 8.45-9.30am.
For uniform orders outside these times, order envelopes are available from the school office. Orders will be processed during the week and sent to your child’s classroom.