



Issue No. 4

Tuesday 13th December 2022



2022 has been about resilience. We returned to school mourning the loss of one of our students over the holiday break, while those young people most directly affected by this had to remain at home due to the COVID-affected staggered start. A teacher shortage combined with the COVID-19 pandemic made putting teachers in front of classes very difficult, particularly in Semester 1, and in addition to that, we are completely at capacity, so finding enough classrooms has also been a challenge – we have had some lessons in very odd spots. Year 7s entering secondary school while undergoing that staggered start was, likewise, challenging and, to be honest, the demeanour and language of some of our new students was not at all what we are used to and took us somewhat by surprise.

However, in true Grant High School fashion, we have persevered and everything was a lot better in Semester 2, although student behavior-wise we are probably still not where we finished last year. As a result, next year will see us working with our school community to develop a school-wide positive behavior approach to building conditions for learning. We are proud of our ability to see a problem and work towards a solution with optimism and commitment.

On that note, as we have reached the end of a third COVID-affected year, we acknowledge everyone is sad about those things we have been unable to do over the last few years, and Grant High School staff are no different. We are happy to receive feedback but please continue to be kind in the way you write to and about us in emails and on social media.

We have seen significant progress in the implementation of our Site Improvement Plan with Caroline Wakefield leading this process with forensic planning and detail. It has been a joy to observe our educators developing their skills in teaching reading and comprehension during some of our Student Free Days, while others have been devoted to work on lesson structure and pedagogy.

On the sporting field we have seen particular success in football and basketball this year winning state titles in Division Two and Division Three of these competitions respectively; unfortunately, the continued lack of temporary relief teachers will mean that we must confine ourselves to local knock-out competitions next year, with the exception of Adelaide Athletics. We thank the school community for their understanding of these constraints, acknowledging that other schools will also be facing the same problem and possibly reaching a similar decision.

P.T.O

## COMING EVENTS

**14th December**  
Multicultural Day

**16th December**  
Last Day Of Term

## IN THIS ISSUE

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## TERM DATES 2022

**TERM 4: 17 Oct—16 Dec**

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Newsletter compiled by Cooper Holmes



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

**R E S P E C T**

**T R U S T**

**C O M M I T M E N T**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are delighted that four new demountable classrooms will be in situ for the start of Semester 2 next year, easing our capacity issues. They will be located where the bike shed currently is, and this will significantly improve the streetscape of our school. We continue to lobby for a new gym and are hopeful that meaningful work on this development will commence in 2023.

We are saying farewell to three longstanding staff members this year – Colleen Bernie, our lab manager who has moved onto a similar position at Mount Gambier High School, Jason Yates, Mathematics Coordinator, who is transferring to Brighton Secondary School and Phil Walters, Mathematics and Science teacher who is retiring. We thank these three for their excellent service to the school.

I have now reached the end of my 30th year as an educator, and I have decided it is time I had a break, to refresh and rejuvenate for the latter stages of my career, so I will be taking Long Service Leave for Semester 1 next year and for the remainder of this year after tonight. Caroline Wakefield will be Principal while I am absent and I wish her every success in this very rewarding role.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff this year. We welcomed 30 new people to Grant High School and we have finished the year with only a few leaving us and knowing that we have recruited wonderfully well in a very competitive environment.

As ever, I wish you all the blessings of the holiday season and I look forward to seeing everyone again next July.

Fleur Roachock

## 2023 TERM DATES



## STUDENT FORUM

In week 6 three students from our school joined many other public-school students at the Department for Education Public Schools Student Forum. Max Hooper, Shayla Cole, and Kodi Burfitt represented our school proudly, and sat down and chatted with Chief Executive, Professor Martin Westwell about what it means to be a public-school student. The day saw students from all over our region discuss the needs and successes of South Australia students. They interpreted data (ranging from NAPLAN scores to 2022s wellbeing survey) and explored patterns, celebrated success, and helped identify the next steps for our education system. Max, Shayla, and Kodi were tasked with looking into South Australian students' perseverance and academic self-concept, and found a correlation between students' level of self-belief and willingness to try. They came up with suggestions for how we as teachers, staff, and as a department as a whole can help improve this. Our last session of the day saw our Grant High School students working with other schools to look into research from around the world, and discuss how what they have found could benefit South Australian students



R E S P E C T

T R U S T

C O M M I T M E N T



# YEAR 12 FORMAL



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# YEAR 12 SCAVENGER HUNT



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# SCIENTRIFIC

Last week Year 9 and 10 girls were treated to the Scientriffic Women Forum presented by The Science Collective. Vaneesa Freebairn from the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, Alison Rennison from Tonkin, Kris Messenger from Bugs n Slugs, Michelle Ballasso from OneFortyOne and Kelly Thompsell from Kimberly-Clark shared their experiences as scientists across different qualifications, industries and the world! The takeaway message for our young women on the cusp of making their first career choices was to be bold and take chances, the opportunities for women in science are plentiful!



IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY NAVIGATING DAYMAP  
FOLLOWING IS A LINK TO SOME HELPFUL TRAINING TUTORIALS.

<https://web.granths.sa.edu.au/parent-portal/>

# ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

On Wednesday 21st September Scott Cram, Jo Fisher and 12 students, Isabelle Jones, Felicity Kelly, Shania Whitehead, Shaylah Cole, Sophie Jones, Abby Cram, Summer Buckmaster, Monique Allen, Rachel Mitchell, Riley Boneham, Ryan Bald and Bailey Rothall, headed to Melbourne to participate in the Paraders competition and to show steers in the Carcass Competition. Grant High entered five steers, Steven, Soot, Sydney, Shadow, and Storm into the Carcass competition and 11 students in the handler's competition

## Steers results:

Caladenia "Steven", Limousin Steer, led by Shaylah Cole placed 1st in his heat of Export Weight Steers, which also saw him achieve Highest Pointing School Steer in his heat.

Rellum Farms "Sydney", Simmental Steer, led by Isabelle Jones placed 2nd in his heat of Heavy Domestic Weight Steers, which also saw him achieve the Highest Pointing School Steer in that heat.

Claremont Blacks "Soot", Angus Steer, led by Riley Boneham placed 3rd in his heat of Export Weight Steers.

All steers pointed well and were MSA graded however, did not have enough points to place overall.

## Parade results:

Shania Whitehead placed second in her age group heat, Isabelle Jones placed fourth in her age group heat, Ryan Bald placed first in his age group heat and went on the win Reserve Champion, Abby Cram placed third in her age group heat, Sophie Jones placed fourth in her age group heat, Riley Boneham placed first in his age group heat, Shaylah Cole placed fifth in her age group heat

Congratulations to all paraders, they all looked fabulous on the day and handled their steers well.

The students are also to be congratulated on hard they worked to prepare the steers for competition, especially as they the days were long. They interacted well with the public, answering the many questions asked, and closely watched the young children who wished to "pat" the steers. Scott Cram also needs to be congratulated for driving the bus in Melbourne's CBD and having to move it in the night due to parking restrictions.

We would like to thank, Michael Black for donating the Limousin steer, Graeme and Elizabeth Glasgow (Claremont Black Angus) for donating the two Angus steers, GC and VJ Muller for donating the two Simmental steers, She's Apples, Baker's Delight (Mount Gambier East), Mid-Field Meats/Lowlands Feedlot for their continued support, Vicki Muller for cooking our meals, Grantley Muller for trucking the steers and supporting the students.

**Jo Fisher, supervising teacher**



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# SHEARING

Josh and Amy from Shearer Woolhandler Training Inc were on site in Term 3 providing 40 students with some career insight and an opportunity to show off some skills. Students gained some hands-on experience in handpiece maintenance, attaching combs and cutters, preparing the hand piece, handling livestock safely, shearing, skirting the fleece, and removing contaminants from the wool.



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