### From the Principal’s desk…..

Dear Parents, students and Community members,

**A trip down the Public Schools History Path** …

In 1866 the Martin-Parkes government made changes to the educational structure of New South Wales and the Public Schools Act, 1866 was passed by the State Parliament, led by Henry Parkes. The 1866 Act had two main purposes. It was an attempt to rationalize government spending on education (and in the process government schools received priority over denominational schools) and to provide educational facilities to the seemingly endless number of communities which were springing up all over the State following the Land Acts of the early 1860s. The new Act replaced the Board of National Education and the Denominational School Board by a single Council of Education, consisting of five appointed members, which assumed the responsibility of both Boards. The Council of Education exercised more control over denominational schools than previously because unless these schools met certain rigid conditions relating to size, course of study, and distance from an existing government school, they received no subsidy (similar to the current Board of Studies).

The Public Schools Act received wide support: the 259 schools inherited by the Council of Education in 1867 had doubled within three years, and by early 1880 the number had grown to over 1,100. The majority of these schools were Public Schools (684) but Provisional Schools (317) and Half-Time Schools (107) were making a significant impact in the remoter country districts. A Colleagues Great-Great Grandfather was such a teacher school in the bush; if anything, the system had become more ‘countrified’ under the Council of Education than it had been under the Board of National Education. Despite the success of the 1866 Act in making better provision for public education there was considerable pressure during the 1870s to change the Act. A catch-cry of the reformers was that education should be ‘free, secular and compulsory’; moreover, the very success of the Act with its large increase in the number of schools and consequent increase in expenditure on education (from £100,000 [$10,300,00 in 2015] in 1867 to £360,000 [$44,680,000 in 2015] in 1879) led many to press for the State education system to be placed under a government department rather than to continue in the hands of a part-time council. There was also a growing feeling that in the provision of education, the State’s role should be paramount, and that the role of the churches, should not be encouraged by the continuance of State aid.

As they say what’s new is old and what’s old is new! Time has marched on and the debate continues however, PUBLIC EDUCATION is alive and striving – thank you all our parents for supporting Granville Public School and thus Public Education.

Happy Education Week one and all!

Did you know …

- In 1851 the maximum number of pupils for a one-teacher school was 100? This compares to 24 pupils in 2008
- The Public Instruction Act, 1880 required the attendance of children between the ages of 6 and 14 years for a period of not less than 70 days (=14 weeks) every half-year? This compares to about 20 weeks every half-year in 2008
- Until 1875 parents had to pay one-third of the cost of buildings
- Until 1882 the period of training for teachers was six months with those showing promise receiving 12 months from 1876

**2015 SCHOOL TERMS**

**TERM 3**
14/07/15 - 18/09/15

**TERM 4**
06/10/15 - 16/12/15

---

**https://www.governmentschools.det.nsw.edu.au/index.shtm**

Gregory Grinham
Principal
Minister's Message

A message from NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli

Education Week is a time to celebrate the achievements and successes of our students, teachers and support staff across all NSW public schools.

Public education is undergoing significant transformation with a clear agenda of reform to provide the best possible education for our children.

Over the past four years the NSW Government has been delivering bold reform across the public school sector. Our evidence-based reforms are aimed at improving student results by providing more resources for schools through a fairer needs-based funding model and a focus on quality teaching.

These reforms are underpinned by a record 2015-16 State Budget allocation of $11.2 billion for public school education and capital works.

Our Great Teaching, Inspired Learning policy is raising the standard of teaching at every career stage. We have introduced higher university entry standards for future teachers, provided more support for beginning teachers and additional funding for teacher professional development.

This year the Government announced a further $224 million investment in quality teaching, providing additional release time for our best and most experienced primary school teachers to mentor and coach other teachers.

We are also committed to addressing the concerns of teachers, parents and the community about student welfare. Our Supported Students initiative invests $167 million to improve the wellbeing of students. Public schools will benefit from additional counsellors and funding to meet the needs of our students.

Education Week 2015 is an opportunity to celebrate our successes and show how our schools are improving to benefit every student in NSW.

Open Day

A warm invitation is extended to all parents and visitors to attend Granville Public School’s Open Day. The following activities will be happening at our school on this day. We hope you enjoy your time with us as we celebrate the many and varied achievements of our students.

- **12.15 pm – 1.15 pm**
  Please enjoy a hot drink and biscuits organised by the P&C at the new Parent Café in the hall, either before or after you attend the following Open Day activities.

- **12.15 pm – 12.45 am**
  **Stage 3**
  Our Years 5 and 6 students will demonstrate the variety of skills taught through our sporting and Physical Education program.

- **12.45 pm – 1.15 pm**
  **Preschool and Early Stage 1**
  Preschool and Kindergarten students will demonstrate the movement skills they have been developing through our Physical Education program.

- **1.15 pm – 1.45 pm**
  Please visit students in Years 1 & 2 in their classrooms and watch them at work.

- **1.45 pm – 1.55 pm**
  **Recess**
  Share recess with your children in the school grounds and admire our beautiful new community garden.

- **2.00 pm – 3.00 pm**
  **Open Day Assembly**
  Please be seated in the hall by 1.55 pm ready for our 2.00 pm start.

Please join us on this day of celebration!
Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to organise the Ramadan Iftar Dinner held on Wednesday 24 June 2015.
A PRESCHOOL TO YEAR SIX PUBLIC SCHOOL

Granville Public School has a population of 548 students who come from more than forty different cultural backgrounds. 90% of students are from a language background other than English. The school currently has nineteen mainstream classes, four special education support classes and a preschool.

**Stake-holders will be lifelong learners who think critically and creatively**

Granville Public School engages students to learn through the provision of quality educational programs by highly qualified, dedicated teachers. Our focus on learning, safety and respect ensures that all students achieve success.

Our school community will be inclusive, informed and engaged.

Granville Public School
Lena Street, Granville NSW 2142
9637 1083

NOTICE

FINAL CAMP PAYMENT DUE NOW

Camp payments should be placed in the school money box with the student’s name and class clearly marked on the envelope.

NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Effective Term 3
Tuesday
2:30-3:15pm
Thursday
9:00-9:30am

2015 VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

$40 per year for the first child
and
$20 for each additional child in the family.

This year all voluntary contributions will be directed to YOUR child’s classroom.

By paying a small voluntary contribution you are directly aiding your child’s education.

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

Parents are reminded to accompany students into the office and supply an explanation when students are arriving late to school.

Absent Notes are required by law for all absences from school.

The NRMA Science and Road Safety tour visits our school on Monday 3 August.

They will be working with us to ensure our students are safe on the road, always.

Parents, grandparents and carers we all know your child’s safety is your number one priority, why not join us after drop off on Monday 3 August to watch the NRMA Science and Road Safety show?

Students will need to bring along their bike helmets from home, if they have one.
It doesn't add up: there's no proof maths can't be accessible for everyone

There is a mindset that maths is a difficult, "pure" subject when it is actually relevant and exciting.

Photo: Louie Douvis

Does mathematics have an image problem? For 20 years students have been drifting away from studying higher-level mathematics at school and enrolments have declined for the discipline at university.

There is a mindset that maths is a difficult, "pure" subject when it is actually relevant and exciting. We need mathematical skills for everyday life and to solve some of the world's current and future problems.

There is debate nationally and internationally about how to reignite student interest in mathematics and make it more relevant to their world where learning happens anywhere, at any time. Instant and unlimited access to information means students increasingly need critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Educators emphasise the cognitive and practical aspects of mathematics but we don't often talk about the emotion of mathematics – the joy of solving a problem, working out a design, collaborative teamwork to find a new piece of knowledge, which are all processes that develop a love of learning.

Maths is beautiful in its own right, not just in its application. Someone who loves maths can look at a mathematical proof and see the elegance and simplicity. As Aristotle put it: "The mathematical sciences particularly exhibit order, symmetry, and limitation; and these are the greatest forms of the beautiful".

The Mathematics for the 21st Century working group that met in Boston last month challenged educators to rethink the traditional and emerging mathematical fields we need to teach to meet the needs of 21st century learners. The group was convened by the global think-tank, the Centre for Curriculum Redesign, of which the NSW Department of Education is a member along with educators in North America, Asia and Europe.
It doesn't add up: continued

The working group is calling for "a far deeper and reconceptualised understanding of mathematics by the entire population as a critical right". In a nutshell, we are talking about maths for everyone and a more numerate society.

This requires a new vision that reinforces the role of mathematics and addresses the gender divide where more boys than girls are engaged in and study maths. We need to rethink what concepts, topics and tools should be taught in mathematics.

OECD countries spend $230 billion annually on mathematics education and our communities have a right to ask about the return on that investment.

Research tells us people often feel negative about maths and students report anxiety about the subject. In 2012 the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) surveyed student attitudes for the first time and it highlighted the link between low maths anxiety and high performance and, conversely, high anxiety and lower performance.

Australia plots just above average on the PISA mean mathematics performance score and about average on the anxiety measure. In countries like Norway, Finland and the Netherlands students perform well in mathematics and report low levels of anxiety. Why the difference? Is it a question of relevance? Are students anxious about maths because they cannot see the relevance of what they are learning to their world?

Some areas of mathematics have grown in importance and need to be emphasised in student learning – probability and statistics, for example, can help us understand the exponential spread of disease and find the best point at which to control it.

We need to teach tools, not just topics, and encourage students to use their common sense to understand assumptions. We need to be more explicit about some of the simple rules in maths. To increase relevance for students we need more emphasis on fun mathematics for younger students and a renewed focus on statistics, probability and applied mathematics.

The art of approximation, abstraction and proportional reasoning make maths more tangible and give students confidence to succeed.

The future will demand teaching practices that engage and inspire students so they can relate to this crucial discipline. The tools and methods that should be emphasised include estimation, logic, computer-based animation, linkages to the real world, and a progression from concrete to abstract concepts.

Above all, as educators we should highlight the fun and beauty of mathematics so students are driven by curiosity and not by anxiety and fear.

We want to match the realities of the 21st century with engaging curriculum and teaching strategies to switch students back onto maths.

Dr Michele Bruniges is Secretary of the NSW Department of Education.
July 20, 2015
2016 PRESCHOOL and KINDERGARTEN Enrolment Applications now available from the front office.

We provide expert care and practical help for children and adolescents experiencing:

- behavioural problems
- emotional difficulties
- childhood and teenage depression
- anxiety
- parental separation and divorce
- grief and trauma
- cognitive testing including: school-readiness assessments, IQ, learning problems, giftedness

We are passionate about providing a valuable service supporting children and adolescents of all ages. We provide effective, researched solutions for mental health related issues common in children, teenagers and families.

18 Grose Street
North Parramatta NSW 2151
Ph: 9630 0559

Come & Try Day
Tigers Baseball Club

New to baseball or softball? Or just hanging out for some Sunday family fun?
Then come down to the Tigers’ Come and Try day!
Try out your skills, play a friendly game, enjoy our BBQ and meet our friendly Tigers!

Date: Sunday 26th July
Time: 12:00pm
Venue: George Kendall Park, Ermington

Registrations and Info: www.tigerball.com.au