From the Principal
It has been a busy start to the term. Our Yr 4-7 students travelled down to Brisbane to commemorate Anzac Day with other schools from across the region. All of the students that travelled down on the day must be commended for their good behaviour, they represented our school proudly. It was also great to see our students at Bigges Park representing our school at the dawn service on Anzac Day. They looked fantastic in their school uniforms.

Next week is another busy week, particularly for the Yr 3, 5 & 7 students with NAPLAN being held across the country on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. As always, it is important that the children have a good night’s rest and a good breakfast. This is particularly pertinent to those students sitting NAPLAN, in order to give themselves the best possible chance to do well.

A reminder the school will be closed for the Ipswich Show next Friday 16th May.

And finally, congratulations to all the mum’s. I hope you get a well deserved chance to put your feet up and be spoilt rotten on Sunday. **Happy Mother’s Day** to all of our wonderful Grandchester mums!

P&C AGM
Our P&C AGM was held last Tuesday. Thank you to all who attended. Congratulations to our office bearers for this year:

- President: Shirley Hulett
- Vice President: Letitia Mathews
- Treasurer: Melissa Meier
- Secretary: Simone Phelps
- Fundraising Officer: Heather Bishop

Our next general meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th June at 2:45pm. All are welcome to attend. There will be a special meeting held next Tuesday 13th May for executive members to discuss the upcoming Sports Carnival. We will be looking for volunteers to help run the tuckshop on the day, so if you are able to help please let a P&C representative know. 😊

New Computers
Last Saturday the Grandchester Rodeo and Horse Sports Club presented our School Captains with two new Dell computers. These computers will be going towards the upgrade of our desktops in the Yr 4-7 classroom this year. They are a much needed resource that will be put to good use. On behalf of the school, we thank them very much for this kind donation.

School Camp
Our school camp will be over 4 days this year, from October 21st to 24th. It is open to all students Prep - Yr 7. This year the students will spend a night at Underwater World sleeping in the underwater tunnel. Following that, they will travel to Currimundi Active Recreation Centre on the Sunshine Coast where they will participate in a variety of activities. We will have more information regarding camp as the date nears.

The anticipated cost for the camp this year is approximately $240 per student. If you would like to begin paying part payments towards camp please mark your envelope clearly with ‘Camp Payment’ and we will be able to credit your account for this event. Any questions phone our office on Wed/Thurs to discuss with Wendy.

*Please be aware as per our Student Resource Scheme Policy, school fees must be paid up to date for students to be eligible to attend camp.*
Thank you to our Farmers
This World Thank You Day, Thank a Farmer project are asking Australians to send thank you card to farmers in drought doing it tough (see notice in this newsletter). Our school will be collecting cards to send to the project where they have arranged Australia Post to deliver them to farmers in June. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, send your DL sized Thank You cards into the school office by 21st May and we will get them sent away to be distributed.

Chaplaincy Fundraising Dinner
The school has tickets for this fundraising event for Chaplaincy in the Lockyer Valley (see notice in this newsletter for more information).

Student of the week
Gold award recipient from Mrs Highfield’s class Hannah Coventry. Student of the week from Mr de Mey’s class, for great narrative writing, Liam Regan.

Caltex star of the Week
Congratulations to Nathan Phelps for being our Caltex Star of the week for the past fortnight. Nathan can claim his prize from any Star Mart shop. Remember to have all of your homework completed to go in the draw each week.

Dates to remember:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>13.05.14</td>
<td>NAPLAN week</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.05.14</td>
<td>Ipswich Show Holiday</td>
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<td>06.06.14</td>
<td>Inter House Sports Carnival</td>
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<td>09.06.14</td>
<td>Queens Birthday holiday</td>
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<td>13.06.14</td>
<td>Skills for Schools Fun Day</td>
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<td>20.06.14</td>
<td>Small Schools Sports Carnival</td>
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<td>27.06.14</td>
<td>Last day Term 2</td>
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<td>14.07.14</td>
<td>First day Term 3</td>
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Chaplains Corner! By Chappy Tim

AN AMAZING FACT: Ali Hafed was a prosperous Persian farmer living in India who owned a large and beautiful section of land. A stranger came to visit and told him tales of other farmers who’d become tremendously wealthy from discovering diamonds.

After hearing this, Ali Hafed became obsessed with thoughts and dreams of finding diamonds. Eventually, he sold his farm, left his family with relatives, and began searching for diamonds. Ali Hafed spent the rest of his life wandering the African continent, then Europe, in search of these elusive gleaming jewels. Finally worn out and penniless, in a fit of despondency he threw himself into the Bay of Barcelona in Spain and drowned.

Meanwhile, the man who had bought Ali Hafed’s farm happened to be passing a small stream on the property when suddenly his eye caught a bright sparkle of blue and red light from the stream bottom. He bent down and picked up a good-sized crystalline stone. He took it home and put it on his mantel as an interesting curiosity. Several weeks later a visitor spotted the stone, looked closely at it, weighed it in his hand and nearly fainted. He asked the farmer if he knew what he’d found. When the farmer said he thought it was a piece of crystal, the visitor told him that he’d probably found one of the largest diamonds ever discovered. The skeptical farmer said that his stream was full of such stones. Not as large as the one on the mantel, but they were sprinkled generously along the stream bottom.

The farm that Ali Hafed had sold to go in search of diamonds turned out to be the Golconda Mines of India, for years the most productive diamond mine in the world, providing some of the largest diamonds in the English and Russian crown jewels. Ali Hafed had owned acres of diamonds but had sold his prosperous farm for practically nothing in order to look for diamonds elsewhere.

Often real happiness is much closer than most people think.

< http://bit.ly/1rvMrDw >
**COMMUNITY NOTICES:**

**Laidley Combined Churches…**

**CHAPLAINCY DINNER**

Friday 16th May 2014  Laidley Cultural Centre at 6-30pm

*Theme:*  For the Love of Children *(optional: adults dress up as children, children dress up as adults!)*

A delicious meal of nibbles, soup, casserole, dessert, tea/coffee and slices.

**Tickets:**  Families $40, Adults $17, Pensioners $15, High School Students $15, Primary School Students $10

Tickets available from the following Churches: Baptist, Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, Uniting Church. Also from our School Chaplains at all our district schools.

Enquiries and information please phone S.Green.  54652728 / 0414944462

*Fun entertainment of skits, singing, and more.*

All proceeds will go to the School Chaplaincy Fund in the Lockyer Valley.

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**Thank a Farmer**

Australia, you have been amazing supporters of our farmers. Over the last 9 months thousands of you have donated to help keep our farmers in feed for their sheep and cattle. One thing we’ve heard from our farmers is how much they appreciate the fact they are thought of.

So we thought to really entrench this we’d team up with *World Thank You Day* and ask all Australians to send a Farmer a Thank You Card.

Saying **Thank You** is not only just great manners but also is important if we want to get on in life. Appreciating, showing respect and gratitude are great traits.

Can you help us? We’re looking for Thank You Cards in DL size to be sent in to your school office to post to us by May 28th 2014, we’ll then have Australia Post deliver them to farmers in the week of June 9 – 13.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our farmers.


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**CONFIDENT KIDS RESILIENCY PROGRAM**

**Anxiety Buster - Confidence Booster**

**Confident Kids and Teens** is a fun, innovative small group program designed to enhance emotional & social skills, confidence and resilience. Run by experienced Psychologists. Medicare and private health rebates apply.  **Places are limited.**  Visit  [www.confidentkidsandteens.com.au](http://www.confidentkidsandteens.com.au)  for full details and Book Online today.

Or email us at info@positivefamilies.com.au  Positive Families Paddington is the exclusive provider of the Confident Kids program.

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT**

Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills

**Hosting - An Experience for Life**

Student Exchange is looking for host families across New Zealand to welcome overseas students into their home

Visit [www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student](http://www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student) or call 1300 135 331 for more information