



GRACEVILLE
STATE
SCHOOL

27 AUGUST 16



Newsletter Two

Just 10 weeks to go until the fete

WOW, it's been a l-o-n-g term and our children are starting to drag their feet, but there is some great news to put a spring in their step.

That's right, the Graceville State School fete is fast approaching – in fact, it is only 10 weeks away! When we all return for Term 3, the time will really fly, so here's an update on how preparations are going for the big day on Saturday, August 27, and what you can do to assist.

Stop stalling ... please put your hand up for rosters!

By now, your class representatives should have been in touch with you about your class's stall. Many hands make light work, so if you haven't already volunteered, get in touch with your class rep and put your name down for a shift on the stall. Apart from making a contribution to the fete and the school, it's a fabulous way to connect with other parents.

Convenors also need to start thinking about their stalls – how they will be run, details about presentation and making sure the rosters are starting to fill up. We encourage you to keep in touch with the Fete Committee to let us know your plans and ideas – and to advise us if there are any particular problems or big questions that you have.



Money for jam

Jam-makers and picklers – you are bottlers (literally) and really play your part with the fete every year, satisfying our taste buds and boosting the bottom line. So it's time to start thinking about organising some cooking sessions for next term.

The Jams and Preserves stall needs each class to contribute about 15 jars of jams or preserves to stock the stall this year. That means we want one or two willing cooks (and more if possible) from each class to get their pots on the boil. Early in the new term, there will be a folder of recipes in the office if anyone needs inspiration.

Cooking aside, the main thing is getting enough ingredients together, so perhaps parents and children from each class can rally together to assist on this front. Clean, empty jars with lids (no jars with non-screw top or plastic lids) are also invaluable, so please drop them off into the box outside the office for jam-makers to collect.

There are already some jars there for eager cooks. Filled jars can be left at the Tuckshop with a note describing the contents and your class name. The Jam Stall class will do the labelling of your filled jars.



It is very important to properly sterilise the jars when making the jams. Here's how to do it:

- Wash the jars and lids thoroughly in hot soapy water, rinse and place upside down on a clean cloth to drain.
- Place the clean jars on a tray, right way up and not touching
- Put them in a 180-degree Celsius oven for 10 minutes
- Simmer lids in boiling water for 10 minutes, drain and use them when they are completely dry.
- When filling jars, ensure the jars are still hot and then fill the mixture right to the top and seal the lids tightly. As the mixture cools and settles, it will create a sterile vacuum between the mixture and the lid. Done!

For those who are still unclear about the process, a YouTube demonstration is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbQfLEca-5o>

(Note: Please do not use coffee jars as they do not seal properly.)



Like us on Facebook



To keep up with news on the fete – and occasional requests for help – check out our Facebook page (facebook.com/GracevilleStateSchoolFete). And make sure you 'Like' us.

Start collecting now for the Grand Bazaar

Our Grand Bazaar is always a big hit early on the Saturday morning of fete day, thanks in no small part to all those hoarders out there who contribute great items for sale. Please start putting aside at home your pre-loved goodies and then, early in term 3, the collection of items such as books, toys, DVDs and CDs will start for the Book and Toys stalls. From the beginning of August, a POD will be available near the Tuckshop so you can donate all manner of good-quality household items for the Garage Sale. Keep an eye out for updates on what items are being collected and where they should be dropped off.

Quality second-hand items in good working condition are always appreciated. Remember, for health reasons, we can't accept clothes, shoes or stuffed toys. Big old TVs and computer monitors are not suitable either.

Hire a spot in the Quad Market

The Quad Market is a fabulous way for businesses or people to promote their wares. So get in quickly and hire a stall. Quad market convenor Caroline Dunne can discuss what's available on 0478 116 236 or email gracevillefetequadmarket@gmail.com.

Strap yourself in

Okay kids, here's the part you want to know about – the rides!

There will be a stack of entertainment and rides this year, including favourites such as the Hurricane, the Giant Chairs, the Rock Wall, the Meltdown, the Jumping Castle, the Mini Jeeps, the Jurassic Obstacle Course and, for the littlies, the Giant Slide, the Cup 'n' Saucer, the Ferris Wheel, the Clown Castle, the Ball Crawl, pony rides and the animal farm. We'll have more news on the rides (including details on how to get your ride bands

and outlining the new pricing structure) in the next newsletter.

Raffle a meal ticket for lucky winners

Your children should be bringing home a book of raffle tickets in the first few weeks of next term, so please keep an eye out for them (and start selling!) There are some great prizes up for grabs and we'll give you a full rundown of what you can win in coming weeks. Buy as many tickets as you like and spare books will be available from the school office.

Chocolate ... you can never have enough!

The fete would not be the same without the Lob-o-Choc – and it's on again this year. So we need to build up our supplies of this beautiful cocoa product. Two Lob-o-Choc free dress days will be held as a fundraiser. The first will be early next term (gold coin donation) and another one will be held just before the fete (chocolate bar donation). On these days (we'll confirm the exact dates soon) children can forget their school uniform and bring the gold coin or chocolate bar, respectively, to ensure there are plenty of chocolates in our stockpile for fete day.

And finally ...

We'll have more updates as the fete approaches. Remember, this is the P&C's biggest fundraising event and it generates great benefits for Graceville students now and into the future. Among other things, proceeds from this year's event will go towards ventilation of the hall, solar power, technology needs and ongoing maintenance and upgrades of air-conditioning.

Stay tuned for more news soon.



Our sponsors are the best!

Lots of sponsors are starting to sign up for the fete. A big THANK-YOU to all of you!

We really appreciate your support and we'll do everything we can to provide exposure for your businesses in the lead-up to the fete and on the big day itself.

There is still time for new sponsors to join the fold. It's a great way to promote your businesses, so please contact us and we can discuss a range of sponsorship options. So far, the following Platinum sponsors have signed up for this year:



For more details, contact our sponsorship coordinator **Stephanie Dow** on 0427 793 799 or email gss.fete.sponsorship@gmail.com.



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