School Photo’s

School photos will be on **Monday 2nd June**. Please send your child to school in full school uniform. Photo envelopes were sent home at the start of this week. Please return to the school office by this **Thursday 29th May**. This year we are offering for siblings to have their photo taken together and the opportunity for parents to have their photo taken with their child/ren. Please let the school if you would like to take part in either option.

Moderation

This week I attended a cluster moderation afternoon at Wandoan SS to moderate student assessment. State Schools are required to moderate twice yearly to ensure students are assessed consistently across the state. This moderation will confirm that what we assess as an A, B, C, D or E at Grosmont is consistent with the results given to students at the other schools in our Cluster.

School Forms and Notes

Term 2 is always a very busy term both in the classroom and also within the administration, we ask that you make sure to thoroughly check your child’s blue folder each school day for any notes sent home, we also request that you be prompt with your return of permissions and forms by their due date. We thank you in advance for this.

Reporting Student Absences

It is mandatory that **ALL** student absences and reason for the absence is reported to the school either before, during or immediately following the absence. This can be via a note to the classroom teacher or a phone message to the school’s line **(07) 46274 978**.

Homework

For the remainder of Term 2, Homework will be given out on a Monday and will need to be returned the following Monday. Students will have their weekly spelling tests each Monday.

Looking forward to another great week!
Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home on **Friday 27th June 2014**. If you are absent this day, your child/ren’s report card will be posted out in the mail.

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have been gradually becoming more familiar with a more uniform process for reporting in all schools. The use of a more consistent 5-point scale:

Prep – Applying, Making Connections, Working With, Exploring, Becoming Aware
Years 1 and 2 – Very High, High, Sound, Developing, Support Required
Years 3 to 7 – A, B, C, D, E - has been one of the significant developments.

Most of us who were schooled in generations past are a little familiar with the A-E scale and for many it offers a great deal more comfort and better understanding of achievement.

An important point that deserves clarification though is that the 5 point scale has some subtle differences these days and that when we see a “**Working With, sound or C**” on our child’s report card it means something a little different to what it used to on our own report cards, many years ago.

In the past the achievement scale used a “Bell Curve” distribution which means that a small group of top students in the class got an “A”, the next group got a “B”, the majority of the class were given a “C” and so on until the whole class represented a distribution from A-E. This means that it was harder to get an “A” in a school filled with academic students and easier to get one in a less academic class.

The new system works on “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria” such that what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc is predetermined. Any student then who shows evidence of meeting that level deserves that grade.

This is where we consider the difference in what a **“Working With, sound or C”** really means:

A **“Working With, sound or C”** no longer means that the student is simply in the middle of the class, it **means that the student has met the criteria for a learner at the appropriate age level**.

A **“Working With, sound or C”** means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level.

The best description is that a **“Working With, sound or C”** means the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be – A **“Working With, sound or C”** is **ON TARGET or AT YEAR LEVEL STANDARD**.

With all of this in mind we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B” than it used to be. These grades are no longer awarded simply to the top students in the class; they are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria for their Year Level.

So what does all this mean?

- Many parents are likely to see more **“Working With, sound or C”** grades on their child’s report cards.
- The “**Effort**” grades are a really important reflection of whether the student is achieving the best they can. An “A” for effort and a “C” for achievement indicates that your child is “On Target” for their age and “applying their best effort”. This grade should be celebrated with students because they have worked hard to be where they need to be.

School Newsletter

The school newsletter will be distributed on a fortnightly basis. The next newsletter will be available on **Wednesday 11th June**.

Please remember your hat every day.
**Grosmont SS has the policy**

**No Hat, No Outside Play Policy.**
Term 2 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>28/05/14</td>
<td>Mrs Watson away</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/05/14</td>
<td>Miles &amp; District Softball – Taroom SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/05/14</td>
<td>Miss Bec away—A02 Professional Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/05/14</td>
<td>Wandoan SS P &amp; C Trivia Night 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/06/14</td>
<td>School Photo’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/06/14</td>
<td>ICAS—Science Test</td>
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<td>ICAS—Writing Test</td>
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<td>17/06/14</td>
<td>ICAS—Spelling Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/06/14</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 3.15pm</td>
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<td>27/06/14</td>
<td>Semester 1 Report Cards sent home</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 2</td>
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P&C NEWS

President: Belinda Pennell
Secretary: Vanessa Tennyson
Treasurer: Karol Watson
Uniform Convenor: Vanessa Tennyson
Providor: Rebecca Edmonds

General Meeting — Wednesday 18th June at 3.15pm

Nominate as a Queensland Youth Strategy Ambassador

The Queensland Government is seeking young ambassadors for the six areas of connection in the Queensland Youth Strategy:

- Family, friends and social networks
- Education, training and employment
- Health and wellbeing
- Volunteering and participation
- Supports and services
- Arts and culture.

The six selected ambassadors (aged 12–21) will each receive a $1000 bursary for personal or professional development, and be supported to attend a personal development workshop in Brisbane. The ambassadors will help connect government and young people to share their views and ideas in the area of connection they are chosen to represent.

Young people can nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else before 2 June.

Further information and online nominations are available at the Queensland Youth Strategy Ambassadors website.
Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons.

Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland