Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Girls Grammar has recently awoken from a contented sleep; like Sleeping Beauty she is finding a refreshed opportunity for life. The flowers are blooming, the sunshine is shining and the community is celebrating.

Students in Years Prep to 12 have completed the first semester of their 2013 study. Please read the teachers’ reports with your daughter; celebrate her development and achievement and ensure that she understands the guidance being offered. Please do not hesitate to contact your daughter’s teachers if you would like to discuss her progress in more detail.

4-12 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In May, the NAPLAN series of assessments was completed calmly and confidently by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Individual outcomes will be posted directly to parents closer to the end of the year.

As we always do, we will review the Semester 1 progress of every learner in Prep to Year 12. We will identify any areas of concern and contact you in relation to these. We will also acknowledge outstanding academic achievement.

Students who have achieved outstanding outcomes in Years 7-12 will be awarded Colours which may be worn on the blazer. Students in Years 4-6 will be awarded medallions for outstanding academic achievement.

PARTICIPATION EXCELLENCE

Girls Grammar promotes and values student participation alongside a commitment to extending
academic excellence. Colours may also be earned by students in Years 7-12 who sustain outstanding involvement in School life. Medallions will be awarded to students in Years 4-6 who have demonstrated outstanding involvement.

This Semester has been characterised by extraordinary participation by all students. I commend the student body for their generosity and engagement in volunteering for community and School service and in relation to their cultural and sporting commitments.

Girls Grammar Secondary students have participated in the Red Shield Door Knock Appeal, blood donation, The Rocky River Run, Relay for Life, Anzac Day and continue to support the Riding for the Disabled Association.

At School, the girls have enthusiastically assisted in Mothers’ Day, Foundation Day, the Paterson House Gold Coin Chain, Race Day, GAIA Festival and House Carnivals.

The Primary School has also had many events to celebrate this semester, including: the opening of the new Early Learning Centre Playground, the Under 8s Day at the Botanic Gardens, Healthy Harold visit, Great Galaxies, Simultaneous Reading Project and the annual Book Fair.

Concerts and Cultural showcases have included successful Eisteddfod performances, Performers’ Concerts showcasing development, Dance Assessment evenings, the School Drama Production performed at the Walter Reid Centre, showcase performances at GAIA and the inaugural Girls Grammar Literature Festival.

Sporting success have included District and Regional selection in a range of disciplines, AFL runners up, Cross Country, Squash, Netball, Touch, Rowing.

The Primary students have had more opportunity to be involved in cocurricular activities this year. They have shown great interest in Get Active, Dance, Chess, String Ensemble, Hip Hop, Art Club, Maths Help Club and Sports.

We look forward to acknowledging outstanding student contribution and achievement in our Assemblies on Wednesday 24 July. As always, parents are warmly invited to attend our Assemblies.

- Year 7-12 at 11.15 in McKeague Hall
- Year 4-6 at 2.10 in MMPH.

TEACHERS NOMINATED FOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS

It is very affirming when the work of dedicated teachers is acknowledged and appreciated by students, parents and colleagues. This year we have had three members of staff nominated for Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Congratulations to Corinne Shaw who has been nominated by a parent for her work with Year 1 students and for the literacy program she leads with the Prep to Year 3 team.

Congratulations to Christie Dey who was nominated by a colleague for her outstanding work engaging students in hands-on, high-interest Science experiences with students from Year 4 to Year 10.

Congratulations also to Ku Lacey who was nominated by a Senior Student who recognizes and values the practical enrichment of the Year 9-12 Agricultural Science curriculum.
Congratulations to Kathryn Gilmore who has been acknowledged by a combination of Middle and Senior School students who appreciate her commitment to excellence in the classroom and her extension of care to individual students.

GAIA FESTIVAL & OPEN DAY

The Girls Grammar Open Day showcased a wealth of talent of students in every year level!

It was wonderful to see so many members of the Rockhampton community enjoying our facilities and exploring the Festival. With over 60 market stalls and a range of free activities for children the GAIA Festival is set to become a calendar feature for Rockhampton.

2014 GAIA Festival & Girls Grammar Open Day
Saturday 24 May - 10.00am-2.00pm

SCHOOLAEROBICS, GLEE & DANCE STATE FINALS

All seven of our Girls Grammar Dance, Sport Aerobics and Glee teams qualified for the State finals in June.

We are delighted to announce that the following teams and soloists have made it through to the National finals on the Gold Coast in August:

- Glee
- Taylah Kinsey (Contemporary solo)
- Contemporary Dance Group

P-6 HOUSE ATHLETICS

There was not a raindrop in sight for our rescheduled Primary House Athletics Carnival at the end of Term 2. Many parents joined us on the day and the Senior students attended to cheer on the Houses.
Students in Prep to Year 3 participated in a simultaneous reading project.

7-12 DRAMA PRODUCTION

With the inspiration and encouragement of Jessica Lamb, Year 7-12 Cocurricular Drama students created a script which explored the authenticity of the cultural heart of Rockhampton.

The starting point was a series of interviews with five extraordinary Central Queensland women who have achieved acclaim in the cultural arts. Students then utilised the personal experiences and reflections of these women to create a narrative which explored the important role of The Arts in the Central Queensland Region.

Rockhampton boasts a multitude of outstanding Australian creative practitioners. The five women who were interviewed by Girls Grammar Drama students investigating The Arts included:

- **Merilyn Luck**
  Trustee of the Rockhampton Art Gallery
- **Alice Hare**
  Local Performer and patron of the arts
- **Jacienta Hinton**
  Circus Performer and teaching artist
- **Karen Crone**
  Musical Theatre Director and Performer
- **Emma Girle**
  Student, Musician and Performer

We sincerely thank them for sharing their personal experiences and their informed perspectives on the role of The Arts in Central Queensland.

Students explored a variety of theatrical styles in their development of this unique piece, fusing Physical, Verbatim and Contemporary Theatre techniques.

The event was well attended by both the School community and local artistic practitioners. Students enjoyed presenting their own creative product to an authentic audience.

It is their hope that this dramatic inquiry inspires others to interrogate their own artistic involvement in Rockhampton and stimulate the local arts community.

RACE DAY EXTRAVAGANZA

On June 15, Girls Grammar and the Rockhampton community gathered together once again to celebrate and support Girls Grammar Race Day.

The Race Day Committee, for more than 10 years, has been led by Vicki Jackson and supported by a dedicated team: Merryn Weston, Wendy Mulry, Veronica Goddard, Glenys Orford, Pat O’Beirne, Mark Thompson, Ken Murphy and John Bryant. They have exceeded expectations once again and delivered a Racing Carnival highlight.
The workforce of parents, staff and students supporting the Race Day Committee make this a spectacular calendar event. From Beverley Harwood washing the dishes, Peter O’Beirne helping the chef, Glenys Orford creating the spectacular bougainvillea arch to the army of volunteers preparing the ingredients, student waitresses and volunteer barmen giving their time and enthusiasm – we are so grateful.

While the School benefits in tangible ways from this function, it is the celebration of an assured and dynamic future which is the highlight of this year’s annual event.

We are deeply indebted to all who support our Race Day function and especially to the Race Day Committee for their active and committed support. Thank you sincerely and deeply.

SPORTING EXCELLENCE

Girls Grammar have extraordinary sportswomen. Congratulations to the following students who have all earned places in Capricornia of State representative teams.

Sophie Harwood (Year 9)  CQ Waterpolo
Kate Hudson (Year 12)  QLD Swimming
Tayla Wines (Year 10)  CQ Swimming
Natalya Schumacher (Year 11)  CQ Cross Country
Grace McCosker (Year 8)  CQ Cross Country

4-12 MORCOMBE ASSEMBLY

Daniel Morcombe’s parents, Bruce and Denise Morcombe, attended a Girls Grammar Assembly late in Term 2 to urge every student in Year 4 to Year 12 to maximize her safety and trust her instincts.

Students were urged to ‘Recognize’ danger, to ‘React’ quickly and to ‘Report’ anyone who makes them feel unsafe. The Morcombes also spoke about the dangers of online communication with people who were not personally known to students.

The humility, poise of the Morcombes in their determination to assist and extend protective behaviours for others was inspirational.
The Morcombes deliver tailor designed programs for specific age groups and we hope they will come back to present to our Prep to Year 3 students in 2014.

COMING UP

7-12 QISSN COMPETITION

In the holidays our Netballers will compete in the Queensland Independent Secondary School Netball competition in Townsville. This is an important calendar event for State Netball and students prepared carefully for the tournament over an extended period of training. We extend our appreciation to Jacqueline Wines, Wendy Banks and Angela Banks for their continuing commitment to the development of our Girls Grammar netball teams.

ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Central Queensland rowing championships will be held on 22 & 23 June. Rob Fay is extending the size of the Girls Grammar Rowing squad and the success of their efforts in all regattas.

The girls are experiencing the magic of being the builders of a competitive team.

8-12 THREDBO SKI TRIP

During the mid-year break students will travel to Thredbo in the NSW snowfields to experience skiing.

This is now an annual calendared tour opportunity with limited numbers. Contact Joel Morrison to reserve a place on the 2014 Tour.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

On Friday 19 July, the first week of Term 3, Middle School are having a social in McKeague Hall. The girls in Years 7-9 can kick up their heels and dance the night away. This event is exclusive to Girls Grammar students.

SENIOR SCHOOL SOCIAL

The Senior School Social will be held on Friday 26 July. Each student in Year 10-12 is provided with an invitation for a guest. The guest must have a current Secondary student ID card (from any School). Girls understand that they are responsible for the behavior of their guest on the night. The Social will be held in the CAB undercover area.
The 125 Celebration Committee has a number of sub-committees planning the celebrations for our 125 birthday in 2017. One of those committees, aims to open Phase 1 of a Girls Grammar Heritage Centre. This ambitious and exciting project is drawing significant interest from the community leading to donations of resources and artefacts.

We are extremely grateful to the Girls Grammar Old Girls Associations who are offering their personal knowledge to assist us to identify objects and photos and trace the stories of existing treasures. Soon, we will commence the restoration by removing the Paterson Hall stage (which was constructed in the 1950s).

Year 10 students are reminded that they need to organise their Work Experience placement for the week of September 2-6. Their Care Mentors, Joel Morrison and Chris Read, will assist and support the girls through this process. Work Experience provides a very important ‘taste of work’ and can assist young people to refine their academic pathways and goals.

We recommend that at least two full weeks of Work Experience are completed this year, one in this designated week and the other in a term break period.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Uniform items are available from the P&F Uniform Shop - Phone/Fax 07 49301788

The Uniform Shop is operated by the RGGS Parents and Friends Association. Located in the centre of the School, the shop stocks all approved uniform items (except school shoes). The shop sells uniforms (new and second hand), stationery and toiletries. The shop manager will be pleased to assist you with your particular needs.

We encourage students in Prep to Year 3 to wear school ‘bike pants’ under their dress so that active play is uninhibited. Bike pants are available at the Uniform Shop.

The P&F Uniform Shop gives all families the option of setting up a trading account. This account operates on the basis of a cash, cheque (payable to RGGS P&F Trading Account) or money order payment as a credit at the shop. A statement is issued at the end of each semester to families. Payment for goods over the phone by either debit card or credit card is also more than welcome.

The shop is open on school days at morning tea and lunchtime, as well as for extended times during the first and last weeks of the summer holidays.

Shop hours on normal school days are 9.30am-1.30pm. On ‘Boarder Return’ days, at the beginning of each term, we are open between 10.30am-3.30pm.

School badges, House badges and lanyards are also available from the P&F Uniform Shop.

**PREP INFORMATION DAY**

On Monday 15 July we are opening the Early Learning Centre to parents with daughters in Kindergarten or Childcare. The benefits of a Girls Grammar Prep experience should be explored.

Enrolments will be taken up to 2016. Please ensure that families you know who may be considering Girls Grammar for daughters entering Prep in the next few years do not miss this opportunity. (Flyer attached).
FUTURE ENROLMENTS

Six defining features describe our beautiful school and, together, make Girls Grammar unique:

- Girls Only
- Prep to Year 12 Curriculum
- Non-Denominational Grammar School
- 121 year heritage
- Boutique by design (fewer than 500 students)
- Year 6-12 Boarding

Please note that siblings of current students need to be formally enrolled, as places cannot be guaranteed. Our classes are capped at 20 in Primary and 25 in Secondary, and as a result, places are limited.

We also remind all families that a school term’s notice of withdrawal is required.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

You are about to see evidence of some significant development on the Girls Grammar site! We are embarking on a 1.5 million dollar refurbishment of the McKeague Building and the creation of the Littleton Plaza.

This exciting development will result in a new street frontage entrance to McKeague Hall, level communal area between the Luck and McKeague buildings, a new Drama Centre and storage area, new Boarding Offices, refurbishment of McKeague Hall, removal of the existing Boarding Office building, viewing platform from McKeague overlooking Paterson House and redeveloped flight of stairs from the Agnes Street car park to the Littleton Plaza.

Max and Margaret Littleton and their family have made a generous and significant contribution which has made this project possible. The School is very grateful and very excited about the significant developments about to be brought to fruition.

GETTING INVOLVED

We warmly invite interested parents to join any of the committees through which the future of the School is planned and enriched. These groups include:

- Uniform Committee
- 125 Celebration Committee
- Parents and Friends Committee
- Race Day Committee
- Friends of Music
- Friends of Sport

Please contact Reception for more information on 4930 0900. The meeting times for most of these groups are included on the 2013 School calendar and you are most welcome to join us in any capacity.

OPEN COMMUNICATION

Please feel comfortable making contact with us to discuss any issue at any time.

Kind regards

Melinda Scash (Principal)
Come and join the fun at Devine Drama & Dance in Term 3

‘Devine Drama & Dance’ is back for Term 3. Please call ASAP to book your spot. All classes are held in the Mouritz MultiPurpose Hall at Girls Grammar. Places are filling up VERY fast so don’t miss out. Below is the NEW timetable & price list.

TERM 3 TIMETABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAZZLERS</td>
<td>10.00-10.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNIORS SHOWTIME &amp; ACTION</td>
<td>11.00-12.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR ACTION</td>
<td>12.00-12.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR SHOWTIME</td>
<td>12.45-1.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
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CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

DAZZLERS
A fun filled 45minute program for ages 2-4. Incorporates singing, dance & drama.

SHOWTIME & ACTION
An hour long class for junior students. Incorporates ACTING, DANCE & MUSICAL THEATRE. Learn how to be a STAR of the stage & screen.

TERM DATES (SUNDAYS)
Sunday 21 July - Sunday 15 Sept
NO CLASS on Sunday the 1 Sept
TOTAL of 8 classes

PRICE LIST Term 3
Dazzlers $80
Junior Package (Dazzlers and Junior Showtime & Action) $100
Senior Single Class $88
Senior Package (Senior Action & Showtime) $160

To book please call Tegan on 0433892143 or email devinedramadance@gmail.com