Back to school for Oran Park Grandparents

By Jess Layt
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It’s been more than a few years since they were running through their times tables, but last week almost 300 great-grandparents, grandparents and parents spent the day at Oran Park Anglican College (OPAC).

Rather than brushing up on their spelling, the 300 guests arrived to take part in OPAC’s third annual Grandparents Day celebration, which sees grandparents spend the primary school day engaging with their young grandchildren.

Grandparents Day was started at OPAC’s parent school Thomas Hassall Anglican College 12 years ago, and has been building momentum in Oran Park.

“We’ve had it here at Oran Park for three years and it has just been gathering in size,” said Steve Moynan, marketing coordinator at OPAC.

“This was one of the biggest Grandparents Day’s we’ve ever had.”

It was a big day of festivities for the school, with pupils dressing up for their book fair as well as taking their grandparents to classes, performances and a special school-organised lunch.

“It’s a unique opportunity to spend time together, [for pupils] to share what they’ve been doing and what they’re learning,” Mr Moynan said.

“It’s a bonding environment — the kids loved to introduce their grandparents to their teachers, and tell them who they’re friends with and the grandparents really enjoyed it, mixing and mingling with each other.

“It’s a great atmosphere, they all really enjoyed it and we can’t wait until next year.”