Principal’s Report

On Tuesday 56 children from Gray Street competed in the Hamilton District Athletics Championships at Pedrina Park. Congratulations to all children for their wonderful efforts on the day, with a high number of children receiving ribbons and personal best achievements. Congratulations to Amy Talbot, Chad Dymke and Tegan Menzel winning their Age Championships. Thank you to Leesa Dorman who marshalled the competitors for their events and Simon Povey for completing the pack up for us at the end of the day. Children in the 10, 11 and 12 year age groups who came first in a relay or field event, or first or second in a running event, have now qualified for the division athletic championships in Warrnambool early next term.

Tomorrow all students will be involved in activities to support the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. The school has recently revised its Bullying and Harassment Policy and Procedures which can be found on the school website. If tomorrow after school you could ask your child/ren about what they did in regards to bullying at school today, that would greatly appreciated. I have included a reflective article that looks at ideas that enrich the school’s approach to positive behaviour. My immediate reaction when I read this article was to share it but after further thought I was concerned that parents may initially interpret this as me preaching on how to be a good parent, this is definitely not my intention at all.

We all try our very best and sometimes it is heartening to hear that we all have our challenges. Please take a moment to read the article “Eight ways you may be raising your child to be bully” published in The Age on March 12th, 2015, which is full of useful tips on modelling good behaviour ideas to support the non existent handbook on how to be a good parent!

A reminder next Friday (27th March) there will be two exciting activities taking place firstly the annual ‘Patient Dress Up Day’ for our new families this is when the children are encouraged to come to school dressed up as a patient or a medical staff member and we ask for a donation to be sent to school in the special Good Friday Appeal envelopes. The money raised will be forwarded to the Good Friday Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal. Secondly at assembly we will have the Giant Easter Raffle draw with lots of wonderful ‘yummy’ prizes to be won.

Again, we are running another great, fun and engaging Vacation Care program over the school holidays. If you are interested in booking your child/ren in I encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Information is available at the Office and through Rosemary Anderson (OSHClub Coordinator) 0408936652

During next week students will experience some slight changes to their normal program. There will be no specialist programs running instead the specialist teachers will be taking classes with the assistance of some of our regular casual relief teachers to allow for our class teachers and the specialists to have some valuable time together in teams to plan their Curriculum programs for Term Two.

Enjoy the week ahead.
Helen

National Young Leaders Day

On Friday 13th March the four school leaders, Olivia Muldoon, Ted Koch, Lily O’Brien and Chella Biggin went down to Melbourne to go to the National Young Leaders day at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

The first speaker was Mike Martin. He was a member of the Halogen foundation which ran the Young Leaders Day. He explained leadership and how you need to act to be a leader. One of the ways he inspired us was saying you only need influence to be a leader.

Another inspirationl speaker out of the five we saw was Coen Ashton. When Coen was younger he had difficulties with his lungs. He had to have many days in hospital. He told everyone to persist in whatever we do no matter how hard it feels to do. We found this day a great influence to us as young leaders. It also inspired us to be who we want to be. “You can always be a leader no matter who you are or what you want to be!” By Lily O’Brien and Chella Biggin
Patient for the day!!

This year we will be supporting the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal on the last day of term – Friday 27th March. Students are asked to wear casual clothes along with “Patient” attire - sling, bandage, bandaid, crutches etc. Good Friday Appeal envelopes for donations have been sent home today.

GIANT EASTER RAFFLE

It would be appreciated if each family could donate an Easter Egg or two for the raffle. The more donations the more prizes.

Raffle books and money are due back to the office by TOMORROW - Friday 20th March.

The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday 27th March.

Premiers’ Reading Challenge

Welcome to the annual Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. Reading is an essential life skill for everyone and the Challenge encourages families to be actively involved in supporting children to read. The Challenge invites children and young people to read a set number of books and record their efforts online. It’s a great way to get them talking about reading with friends and family, and to push themselves to read as many books as they can. Join the Challenge today and discover new authors, get expert tips, book recommendations and more. Participation is free. To find out more about the Challenge and access the booklist visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

Like us on Facebook to share tips, literary articles and recommended reads www.facebook.com/VicPRC

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is for all Victorian children from early childhood through to students in Year 10.

The aim of the Challenge is to promote a love of reading. It is not a competition, but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Challenge begins today and officially ends on 14 September 2015. Students in Prep to Year 2 who accept the Challenge need to read or experience 30 books during this period. Students in Years 3 to 10 who accept the Challenge must read 15 books during this period. Some books must be selected from the book lists available on the Challenge site.

Three elements support students and schools participating in the Challenge: the rules, the book list and the online application for recording books. Students must choose some of their books from the Challenge book list, and record their reading online as set out in the six rules for the Challenge. Teacher judgement in applying the rules and using the book list to meet individual students’ needs is an additional critical element which will ensure both the integrity of the program, and that all students can participate, be challenged and succeed.

Today we have handed out to all students a Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge 2015 Privacy and Consent Form. We would love as many students as possible to participate in this Challenge. If you would like your child to participate in the Premiers Reading Challenge please complete and return to the office the Privacy and Consent Form handed out today.

Students in grades Prep, 1 & 2 can read independently or ‘experience’ books for the Challenge. They must read or ‘experience’ 30 books to meet the Challenge, at least 20 of which are from the Challenge book list. Teachers will be reading books off the challenge list to the children in their class. These books will be listed on individual student challenge sheets.

‘Experiencing’ a book can include a range of classroom or home activities such as a class reading of a big book, shared reading, listening and reading along with a text and being read to. Students can share their reading with parents, teachers, aides, siblings, student buddies or classmates. The teachers in these grades will be allocating books read in class onto participating students lists.

If you still have the Herald Sun from Tuesday, please keep the FREE giant calendar poster. Featuring key Challenge dates, literary events, fun facts, popular authors’ birthdays and tips, it’s a great way for parents and children to track their reading progress, count down the days and stay motivated throughout the Challenge.

For more information on the Challenge visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc
Hamilton and District Sports Association Athletics Championships

In very blustery conditions on Tuesday our 56-strong Gray St team travelled to Pedrina Park to participate against the best athletes from all the Hamilton schools. Gray St is very proud of the performances of all these young athletes. They all performed to their maximum on the day and their behaviour was fantastic. There were lots of ribbons awarded for placings and three children, Tegan Menzel, Chad Dymke and Amy Talbot, returned home with age champion medals.

We are still awaiting the final places and times from the local co-ordinator. Children in the 10 - 13 year old age groups are now available for selection for the next level of athletics (in Warrnambool on the 16th April). This team will be selected over the next week and will be based on first place-getters in all field events and first two places in all track events. Some children have “over-qualified” as the Warrnambool event only allows children to participate in a maximum of three individual events. Therefore some children will be required to select their favourite events which may open up positions on the team to other place-getters. The team will be finalised and notes distributed prior to the term holidays.

Ballarat Swimming

Last Friday, several Gray St super-fish swam in the Regional Swimming Championships in Ballarat. They reached this level after strong performances in the Zone event in Portland. Congratulations to all swimmers who reached this high level of performance. A special mention must go to Amy and Dylan Talbot who have qualified to proceed to the next level.

Tennis

Thursday 12th March saw a team of 3 players represent the Hamilton District in the Division Tennis Competition in Warrnambool, including Gray Street’s Olivia Allen. They were all up against some very good players but they did an extremely good job and won a number of games. Olivia learnt a lot from the experience and her performances improved from the District Competition. Well done on reaching this high level in tennis!

Junior Netball 2015

A reminder that Season 1 of junior netball continues for two more weeks with the last match being played on Saturday 28th March (no finals this season).

Season 2 commences Saturday 10th October and ends Saturday 5th December 2015 (finals 28th November and 5th December).

Netball 2015 - Sheree McGinley & Carolynn Murray
Term One In the Artroom…..

This term in the artroom, students have focused on tessellations and shapes in their artwork with M.C. Escher’s artwork being a major inspiration. They have watched youtube videos about Escher and his artwork, as well as watch artists create Escher based artwork. Students have experimented with paints, collage and sketching using different grades of gray lead pencils. Here are some photos from the artroom this term.

Next term in the artroom we will be starting with a multicultural theme. We will be using wool for weaving, smooth river stones for painting and recycled items for construction. If you have any coloured wool, old egg cartons, or can collect hand-sized smooth stones for painting, we would appreciate them being donated to the artroom.

Many thanks, Emma Brown 😊

Angus Calf Report – by Angus Stewart 3/4C

Today a calf was brought to school for show and tell. She was 9 days old, and my grade got to look at her on the oval. She is being hand fed by Zoe Daff’s family. Hopefully she will grow up to be strong. Looking at her made me think about my cows at home because they are about the same size.

On my farm I have 8 cows. One is the eldest and it has horns, and it is black. The baby cows are all black as well, I’ve got 4 baby cows. The oldest cows are all brown, but one has a white dot on its head. The big cows eat grain and the little cows eat grain as well, but when they were first born they drank special calf milk. When we are going to feed the baby cows, they run up to the gate. They live in a paddock that is called ‘Ram’. The big cows live in the paddock called ‘Pump House’, because there is a big enormous tank that is on the hill. I like having the cows at my house because they are friendly and sometimes they walk away when I am patting them. They can suck your hand without biting it. My mum was going to feed the big cows and then she put her hand out and the big one almost sucked her whole arm off.

Super Science – 3/4B

On March 12th the grade 3/4 B class had a Super Science Friday! Public holidays and the school sports had meant that the class had missed their science lessons. Friday's science lessons involved looking at the transformation from a solid to a liquid and vice versa. The class heated, cooled and froze cordial, oil and chocolate to observe the transformations. Pictured right: Tom Clark, Zander Beardsell and Kammi Barker displaying their frozen experiments.
Soccer Tournament – Grades 1 & 2 Students

On Monday 23rd March, Grades 1 and 2 will be attending a soccer tournament at Pedrina Park organised by the Hamilton Soccer Club. The tournament will consist of five a side (mixed) games in 10 minute halves. The emphasis is on skills and fun.

Students will need to wear their sports uniform on this day and will depart the school at 9:45am and return just after 12noon.

Notes were sent home last week and must be returned signed by tomorrow for the children to attend this free activity.

Maths Problem

Last week’s answer:

110 divide by 95 equals 1 with a remainder of 15 cupcakes
130 divide by 95 equals 1 with a remainder of 35 fudge
116 divide by 95 equals 1 with a remainder of 21 toffee squares
110 - 95 = 15 cupcakes
130 - 95 = 35 fudge
116 - 95 = 21 toffee squares

The students kept 15 cupcakes, 35 pieces of fudge and 21 toffee squares.

This week’s question

Sixteen players enter a singles, tennis tournament. If there can be no draws, how many games must be played if each player can be eliminated by one loss?

2015 Country Fair
Saturday 24th October

We would love some more members on the committee and some new ideas. If you would like to join or you have an idea, please complete the form attached to last week’s newsletter or grab a blank form from the office.

Newsletters

From last week, parents that have provided their email address to receive the newsletter electronically will no longer receive a paper copy.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically please advise Leesa in the office of your email address. Thank you

Notices Sent Home (Notices can be found on the school website)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Due Back</th>
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<tr>
<td>011 - 2015</td>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6 Camp Deposit</td>
<td>All Grade 5 &amp; 6 Students</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th April</td>
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<tr>
<td>013 - 2015</td>
<td>Grade 1 &amp; 2 Soccer Tournament</td>
<td>All Grade 1 &amp; 2 Students</td>
<td>Wednesday 19th March</td>
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Spare notices are also available from the office.

Instrumental Music Lessons

There are still a few places available for students interested in learning the flute, piano, guitar, trumpet, trombone, clarinet and saxophone. If you would like your child to participate in instrumental music lessons, please collect an enrolment form from the office.
Canteen News

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th March</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Kim Sparrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th March</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Lynne Millard</td>
</tr>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30</td>
<td>Karen Krause</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Jean Oliver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Becky Blanchett</td>
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U/12s Football 2015
Where-Pedrina Park
When-Sunday 19th April 10.30am
Registration-Online at www.hamiltonjfc.com.sportingpulse.net
Cost $25 (To be paid on the day, not online)
For children in Grade 5 & 6
All players who played in last year’s U/12 competition
MUST re-register, if they wish to play again this year.
Contact Daniel Hallam 0428 129 512

NAB Hamilton Auskick will commence
at Pedrina Park on Saturday 18th April at 9:00am concluding
Saturday 20th June 2015. There will be no Auskick sessions
on Anzac Day Saturday 25 April or the Queen’s Birthday
weekend Saturday 6th June.

Go to www.aflauskick.com.au to register. All registrations
must be online. The cost is $75.00 plus credit card fees. All
participants that register and pay online before Monday 20th
April 2015 are eligible for the AFL Gameday Club Connect
offer of four free tickets to selected AFL games. Auskick
packs will be delivered to your home addresses and no
packs will be distributed at Pedrina Park.

Hope Lives in Relay For Life

Hamilton Relay For Life
Hamilton Recreation Reserve
King Street, Hamilton
6.30pm Friday 20th March -
12.30pm Saturday 21st March 2015

North Hamilton Kindergarten
FUTURE USERS SURVEY
A future users survey is available for 2016. COM are using this tool
to obtain information from our users to design the operational (time table)
structure for the coming year and to help determine future planning.
If you will be using North Hamilton Kindergarten in 2016, it is important you participate in this survey. Completed surveys are to be
returned to North Hamilton Kindergarten by March 27, 2015.
To receive your survey, contact President Renee Porter
on 0417 336 921 or email president.nh@gmail.com

If you would like to win a free pass to the Penguins of Madagascar movie – coloring competitions forms
are available from the Gray St School office.