Welcome back to another exciting and busy term at Gray St.

The end of Term One saw the conclusion of a detailed focus on narrative writing across the school. The outstanding results are now on display inside and outside the classroom. The displays illustrate the work that the students do to construct their final copy. So, I strongly encourage you to visit and have a read of the high quality narrative writing pieces by our talented students.

Again we have had a very successful Out of School Hours Care program attended by school age children from many schools in Hamilton operate over the holidays. We had a number of children of various ages attend and engage in the many activities that were offered. I hear the most popular day was the fishing trip to Port Fairy. Congratulations to Rosemary and the team for the outstanding job they are doing.

The Attitudes to School survey is an annual survey for Years 5 to 12 students offered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students’ perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's experience at school.

Students in Year 5 and 6 will participate in this year’s survey on Monday 5th May, the survey only takes 15 - 20 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time. Please speak to your child’s teacher if you would like more information.

Next Monday a team of Gray St students will be representing our school at the Warrnambool/Portland/Hamilton Division Athletics Championships 2014 being held in Warrnambool. We wish them luck and a full report will be in next week’s newsletter.

As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Health and Safety Management Plan, you will notice new labelling installed at our school. The labels remind people to contact the School Office prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up to date information from the school’s asbestos register. We know that Asbestos-which was used extensively in building materials in the past is now banned but is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition. The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe. Children’s safety is the Department’s number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra step as a precaution.

During the holidays it came to my attention that there were two ‘black wattles’ that needed to be cut down due to safety concerns, while the tree lopper was on site he had to make the precarious existence of one of the world’s most endangered ecosystems, the wildflower grasslands of the volcanic plains that stretch from Melbourne, across most of southern Victoria almost to the border of South Australia. This term the students Art lessons will be doing.

There has been an exciting arrival in the Open Learning Area which I invite everyone to come and see…... Volcano Dreaming is an exhibition made up of 12 portable panels, printed onto special fabric, that assemble together to form a 12 metre long and 2 metre high photograph in panorama that has been designed to bring attention to the precarious existence of one of the world’s most endangered ecosystems, the wildflower grasslands of the volcanic plains that stretch from Melbourne, across most of southern Victoria almost to the border of South Australia. This term the students Art lessons will be based on the exhibition.

Tomorrow being ANZAC Day students are invited to attend the annual ANZAC march which leaves the corner of Gray and Kennedy Streets at 10 a.m. Students are to wear their school uniform and meet at 9.45am at the front of the school. The march concludes at Melville Oval where a special service is held. Kellie Mitchell and Angus Harms will represent Gray St at the service and place a wreath at the Cenotaph. To commemorate ANZAC Day at school we held a special assembly this morning coordinated by Mr Hill and the Year Five/Six students.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Helen
Prep 2015  Discovery Morning & Parent Information Session

Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School would like to invite children entering Prep in 2015 and their parents to various information opportunities held throughout May.

**SCHOOL DISCOVERY MORNINGS/SCHOOL TOURS**

Preschool children will be given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Prep environment. Children will participate in a number of activities planned by Prep Teachers, Janelle Harms and Cindy Dorman. Parents may leave their children and return to collect them at 11.30am or alternatively there will be an opportunity for a school tour during this time.

*Thursday 8*th *May  10.00am – 11.30am  or Friday 9*th *May  10.00am – 11.30am*

Please contact the school office on 5571 9295 to register your interest in attending.

**PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Parent information sessions will provide parents and carers with an insight into how our school operates and the opportunity to meet our current Prep teaching team to discuss any elements of our program and to ask questions.

*Monday 19th May  7.00 pm – 7.30pm*

Please contact the school on 5571 9295 or dorman.leesa.m@edumail.vic.gov.au to register your interest in attending.

**Patient for the day!!**

Congratulations everyone!!  This year we raised $755. A fantastic effort. Thank you.

**Last Chance to Register for the 2014 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge!**

Next week will be the last chance students have to register for this years Premiers’ Reading Challenge.

Spare forms are available from Mrs Peverett 4A

**Runners Club**

Mr Hill and Mrs Peverett will be running a Runners Club starting in term 2 on a Thursday lunch time. Interested students are to meet at the front of the school at the half lunch bell.

All students are welcome to attend. Please make sure you are wearing your runners on this day.

This club will continue throughout the year and a chart will be kept showing the total distance covered.

**Notices from the office**

020 – Grade 1 & 2 Swimming –*due back by Wednesday 30*th *April*

**New Uniform**

The Uniform Shop will be open Tuesdays from 8.30am to 4.00pm.

**Head Lice**

There have been a few cases of headllice reported to school this week. Please take the time to check your child’s hair. Thank you

**Canteen**

The canteen will be up and running from next Monday 28*th* April.