Above: House Captains Riley Tully (Nigretta) Caitlin Kruger (Wannon), Emily Goodman (Grange) and Sean Nipress (Glenelg) are all hoping their house wins the swimming sports next Tuesday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st Feb</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews – Prep Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd Feb</td>
<td>House Swimming grades 2 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews Grades 1 to 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Zone Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th</td>
<td>House Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd March</td>
<td>District Athletics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The week at Gray Street has continued on as it started with a real ‘positive buzz’ about it. The first thing that I have noticed around the school whether it be outside or inside how exceptionally well behaved the children continue to be here at Gray Street. This sets a great tone around the school which enables learning to be priority one.

I neglected to mention in last week’s newsletter that on Saturday 29th January one of our neighbours, the Hamilton Community Baptist Church, undertook a working bee in our school yard, in preparation for the commencement of the school year. To Trevor Walmsley and the group of volunteers who worked so hard on our behalf, our grateful thanks are extended.

On Monday night I attended the first fundraising meeting for the year, it was wonderful to see some new recruits attend and I extend a warm welcome to other members of our school community to attend the next meeting planned for Tuesday 22nd March. There will be a reminder closer to the date. It never ceases to amaze me the passion and enthusiasm shown by this great group of mums about working together with the school community to raise funds for the school.

Next week is shaping up to be a busy one with the Meet & Greet Interviews and a feature event of the school calendar the House Swimming Sports. I am looking forward again to a great roll up of parents, grandparents and friends for this exciting morning on Tuesday.

We need to remember that travelling to and from school should be a safe and happy experience for all. To ensure that this is always the case I remind you that:

- all pedestrians are required to use the crossing when the flags are displayed. Children and adults who are crossing at a children’s crossing are also required to comply with the supervisor’s directions. As well as these legal requirements we would really appreciate all adults helping to set a safe example to our students and use the school crossings.

- Parents are reminded that the ‘Stop and Go Zone’ area is a ‘no standing’ area. It is also illegal for motorists to queue back onto the round-a-bout. If the queue is too long or your child is not there please proceed around the block. The Stop and Go Zone is staffed by a yard duty teacher from just after 3.30 until 3.40, you may like to stagger your arrival between these times. The Shire By-Laws officer and local police may patrol this area from time to time, and if necessary, issue infringement notices to offending motorists.

- the school recommends that students do not ride bicycles to and from school until after they have completed the Bike Education course at the end of Grade 4.
Thank you to all our families for their ongoing support with this important matter. Our weekly newsletter is sent home each Thursday and can also be downloaded from the school website. It is very comprehensive.......please keep a look out for it so that you can keep up with all the school news and events.

Enjoy your week ahead.
Helen

‘Every child, every opportunity’

Log on to www.hamiltonps-grayst.vic.edu.au

The website covers everything from the weekly newsletter to information about each year level.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The newsletter is handed out every Thursday to the eldest child at School. You can also find the newsletter on the school website under “School News”

PREP DAY-OFF

Prep students do not attend school on Wednesdays during February.
They will not attend on: 23rd February

SUNSMART – Hats must be worn every day during Term 1. Don’t forget to bring them to school.

PARENT PAYMENTS & EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Information in relation to parent payments and Education Maintenance Allowance have been mailed to all parents this week. If you do not receive this information please contact Maree or Leesa in the office. Parent Payments are due by 11th March 2011. Thank you.
SWIMMING SPORTS

GRADERS 2 – 6

TUESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

9.30AM – 1.00PM

On Tuesday 22nd February the Swimming Sports will be held at the Outdoor Pool (Hughan Park). The day begins at 9.30am and concludes around 1.00pm. Students will eat their lunch when they return to school.

All students in Grades 2 to 6 will participate in these swimming sports. Students need to wear their sports uniform to school this day. Students will be placed in swimming levels according to records kept at school, if your child has participated in private swimming lessons over the school holidays and/or they could be in a different level to school records, or your child is new to Gray St please complete the form below by Tuesday 15th February.

Students need to bring:

- a drink
- their hat
- sunscreen
- a coat
- morning tea (food to ‘graze’ on)
- 2 towels (in case it is cold and the first one gets very wet)

Children are not permitted to purchase food etc from the pool canteen. We also ask that parents do not purchase food from the pool canteen for their children.

A program of the day’s events will be sent home attached to the newsletter next week.

Parents, grandparents and friends are more than welcome to come and watch and cheer their child/ren on. We do ask however that all parents, grandparents etc please stay on the opposite side of the pool to the children.

We look forward to a fun day.

ZONE SWIMMING SPORTS

The Southwest Zone Swimming Championships are being held in Portland on Tuesday 1st March 2011. To be eligible to participate in these championships students in grades 3 – 6 must have an appropriate entry time for the event they are wishing to enter. Due to entry requirements, times will be reviewed before the Gray St team is submitted.

If you would like your child to participate in these championships please complete the form below and return it to school by TOMORROW Friday 18th February.

ZONE SWMMING SPORTS

Students Name: ………………………………. Students Grade: ………………. Age: …………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>50 m Freestyle Time</th>
<th>50m Backstroke Time</th>
<th>50m Breaststroke Time</th>
<th>50m Butterfly Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students Name: ………………………………. Students Grade: ………………. Age: …………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>50 m Freestyle Time</th>
<th>50m Backstroke Time</th>
<th>50m Breaststroke Time</th>
<th>50m Butterfly Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
MEET AND GREET INTERVIEWS

The timetable for the grade prep Meet and Greet Interviews were handed out today to all prep students.

The timetable for the Meet and Greet Interviews for students in grades 1 to 6 will be handed out tomorrow.

Junior Netball News

The Hamilton Junior Netball Association will commence a new season this Saturday 19th February 2011 and continue for approximately 10 weeks until May.

We have entered two teams in the U12 division, Gray Street Kangaroos and Gray Street Echidnas and two teams in the U10 division, Gray Street Emus and Gray Street Wallabies.

As previously advised, games will be played at Pedrina Park and the competition will run until to May. Teams will play at 8.30am or 9.30am. All players have been notified of their teams and coaches this week.

Please note the Medical Indemnity & Consent Form must be handed to the Hamilton Junior Netball Association in the Ansett Pavilion together with payment (see previous notes for fees depending upon your child’s age). These fees must be paid prior to the third game or players will not be able to play their third game. If players take the court without paying, teams will be penalised and points deducted resulting in ladder positions being affected.

Please ensure payments are made promptly to the HJNA by week three.

We wish our netball teams all the very best for the coming season.

Carolynn Murray & Lisa Ferrier
Netball 2011

HAMILTON JUNIOR NETBALL  Round 2  19/2/2011

Under 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>College Sapphires v Gray St Wallabies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>North Hamilton v Gray St Emus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Under 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>St Mary’s Red v Gray Street Kangaroos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>North Hamilton v Gray Street Echidnas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fundraising - Term 1

**Bulbs** - The first major fundraiser for this year will be BULBS.

Bulb catalogues will be handed out next week. If you wish to purchase bulbs, please complete the order form in the catalogue and return money and form in a clearly marked envelope - BULBS. All forms and money need to be returned to school by **Friday 4\(^{th}\) March**.

Plant some bulbs in a pot and have them ready to give as presents for Mothers Day!! Or simply encourage your child to plant a bulb and watch it grow & flower!

**FROZEN TUBES**

Tubes will be sold every Friday lunchtime starting from Friday 25\(^{th}\) February and finishing on Friday 8\(^{th}\) April. Cost $1 each.

**SPECIAL LUNCH DAY - FRIDAY 4\(^{TH}\) MARCH**

We will be holding the first special lunch day for this year on Friday 4\(^{th}\) March. The special lunch will consist of a sausage (or 2), a frozen tube and fruit box. Order forms were handed out with the newsletter, please return the order form and payment in a clearly marked envelope – Special lunch to the office by Friday 25\(^{th}\) February. Please ensure each child’s order is returned to school in separate envelopes.

**NEXT FUNDRAISING MEETING**

**TUESDAY 22\(^{ND}\) MARCH AT 7PM** in the staffroom.

All Welcome.
Information for Parents - School Council Elections ......2011

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is about two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a notice of election and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.
Schedule 4  Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of HAMILTON (GRAY St) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by

4.00 pm on Monday 28th February 2011

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday 11th March 2011

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010 and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Helen Freeman
Principal
Free sport and healthy snacks after school

The Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is an Australian Government initiative providing primary school children with a fun, free and safe introduction to a selection of over 70 sports and 20 other structured physical activities in the after-school timeslot.

Parents/guardians are invited to enrol their child/ren in the activities on offer (see below). As well as participating in these activities for free, all children will receive a free healthy afternoon tea, coaching from a qualified coach (with current Working with Children Check), access to sports equipment and a supervisor.

These sessions will provide children with a positive and fun introduction to sport and other structured physical activities to motivate them to be active for life.

All programs are delivered by AASC registered community coaches.

Sports and activities on offer this term

Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School is pleased to offer the following AASC activities to students in Grades 1-4 in Term 1. Sessions start on Monday 21st of February and conclude on Wednesday the 6th of April 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Lacrosse</th>
<th>Meeting in the school stadium after the bell.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30 – 4:30</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Athletics</th>
<th>Meeting in the school stadium after the bell.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30 – 4:30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To find out how your child can be involved in the AASC program, please contact Raquel Potter or fill in this slip and hand in to the front office.

My child wishes to enrol in the following AASC program(s).

Please indicate your selection by ticking the box or boxes below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity: Lacrosse</th>
<th>Day: Monday</th>
<th>Time: 3:30 – 4:30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity: Athletics</td>
<td>Day: Wednesday</td>
<td>Time: 3:30 – 4:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________________

ausport.gov.au/aasc
Hamilton Junior Basketball Upcoming Events

Please note that Junior and Intermediate basketball will commence on Friday night 25 February and Monday night 28 February. Further details will be provided in the Hamilton Spectator and on the HJBA Sportingpulse website in the lead up to these nights. Please check the website regularly for updated information on an ongoing basis throughout the season.

To assist with the start of the season the HJBA has arranged the following events which are open to anybody to attend:

- **Registration** nights on Friday night, 18 February and Monday night 21 February at HILAC between 4.30pm and 6pm sharp. All players must be registered with a club and be in a team before they can take the court in round 1. Club registration fees will also be able to be paid at these sessions.
- **Referees** night at HILAC on Monday night 21 February commencing at 6.30pm. This is a session for anybody who would like to consider becoming a basketball referee. Please contact Barry Hatherall for further information, if required.
- **Coaching** development night at HILAC on Wednesday 23 February. Owen Hughan a senior basketball coach with NBL and Australian Institute of Sport experience will be conducting a training session with one of our junior squads on court 4. You will be able to watch Owen conduct the session from start to finish and he will also be available for questions. The session will run from 6pm till 7.30pm and is for all coaches – senior and junior, experienced or beginners.
- **Scorer**’s night at HILAC on Wednesday 2 March. The session will be held outside the squash court area from 6.30pm till approximately 7.30pm. Learn how to score so that you can take your turn and help your child’s team run smoothly. The job shouldn’t need to be left to the same person each week.

A parenting program to create a more peaceful household, less arguing and fewer angry moments.

1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching program is easy to learn, easy to use, down to earth parenting program to help parents gently and firmly manage the behaviour of children in the 2-12 year old age range.

The program aims to help parents to:
- gain practical tips on how to get children to stop doing the things that drive parents crazy like arguing, fighting etc
- start to do things parents want children to do
- develop children’s emotional intelligence

1-2-3 Magic provides parents with strategies to sort between different types of behaviour and use less talk, less emotion which lessens both parent and child feelings of emotional stress and helps children to understand and better manage their emotions.

**Date:** Monday 21st, 28th, March & 4th April
**Time:** 11am - 1pm
**Venue:** Centacare, Maryknolls Centre, 11 Claredon Street, Hamilton
**Cost:** $30 (Concession available)
(Sorry, no child care available)

For enquiries and bookings please phone Carol on 5559 3000.