Principal’s Report

Wow! What a wonderful week of sunshine. On Monday I attended with Debra Martinich (Hamilton Nth P.S) and Graeme Holmes (Regional Network Leader) the first day of a five day course titled Leading School Improvement.

The course is offered through the Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership which is the cornerstone for the continued and substantial investment by the government in building the knowledge and skill of all professionals in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The course covers three topics; Using data for decisions about school improvement processes, using data for decisions about specifics of school improvement and recognising the key challenges for leaders making data-informed school improvement decisions. The course has a strong focus on working with a team of teachers on a school identified focus which in our case will be writing. I am looking forward to this great opportunity which will have long term gains in learning for our students.

This month we celebrate National Recognition Month for our Education Support Staff. Here at Gray Street we would like to extend sincere thanks to our wonderful Education Support Staff who do an outstanding job in their roles supporting the children and staff at our school.

They are:
- Maree Falkenberg – Business Manager
- Leesa Dorman – Administration Officer
- Vicki Allen – Integration Aide
- Wendy Goodman – Integration Aide
- Deb Hicks – Integration Aide
- Graeme Deveuraux – Integration Aide
- Alex Anderson – Library Support

Finally, I would like to wish Ben, Louie and Rory all the best for Monday when they compete in the Golf Championship

All the best for your week ahead.
Helen

Contact us

Address
42 Gray Street
Hamilton VIC 3300

Postal Address
PO Box 203
Hamilton VIC 3300

Telephone
03 5571 9295

Facsimile
03 5571 1315

Email
hamilton.ps.gray@edumail.vic.gov.au

Website
www.hamiltonps-grayst.vic.edu.au

Dates to remember
August 25th
Ladies Night 7pm – 9pm
August 26th
Dress Up Day - Book Week
August 26th
Our School Raffle Tickets and Money due back to office.
August 29th – September 2nd
Literacy & Numeracy Week

Special Notices
‘You Can Do It’ winners for displaying persistence:
- Cooper Gill
- Angus Dohle
- Beth Granziera
- Heath Cooper
- Layla Wright

Special Notices

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TOM team leaders Cameron, Billy, Bailey and Scott

Grade 5 students enjoying exercising at HILAC

Rory, Louis and Ben are representing the school at Golf next week.

ES staff Vicki and Alex with Troy and Douglas the Bear
**5B Book Reviews**  
**Title:** Mirror  
**Author:** Jeannie Baker

Reviewer: Kealy Rau

The book is about two boys and their families, one is from Australia and one is from Morocco. They both live different lives and do things differently but they are the same in some ways. They both love and care for each other. They both share and exchange things from country to country and they're both happy.

The best part is that you know that they both live happily no matter how much money they have or what their differences are. They all love and care for each other and that's more important than anything else.

From the book I learnt that no matter where you come from, who you are, or what your culture is we are all special and unique in our own way. We can all be friends and share our beautiful world in peace.

This book can be very emotionally moving if you are a sensitive person but you will like it if you enjoy good quality books. You will also like it if you like different cultures and seeing how other people live.

Reviewers: Ally Wake, Hollie Cook, Claire Dempsey and Lucy Barras

The book is about two different boys and their families, an Australian family and a Moroccan family. It shows pictures of the differences and similarities in their lives. The book explains what sort of life the families have and what they look like. Both families eat together and go to the market, however the Australian family can buy their needs and wants, while the Moroccan family can only buy their needs and maybe one want.

It was interesting to find out that the Moroccan family live differently to us. We think the best parts are when they travel to the shops, the Australian family in their car and the Moroccan family walking with their donkey and their handmade rug. Also when the families are eating and having quality time together, it shows how much each family care about each other and that both families are the same.

From the book we learnt that Moroccan people aren't that different from Australian people. We both do the same things as each other but Australian families just have fancier things and upgrades. We learnt that even if you are in a completely different place in the world you can still relate to the people there and that we live differently because we don't have the same wealth and we use the money we have in different ways.

You will like this book if you like comparing differences and similarities, also if you like learning about other people, families and cultures. You will especially like it if you like beautiful colour and creativity.

Reviewer: Rory Gill

The book is about two different families, one is a Moroccan family and the other is Australian.

The best part is when they go shopping in the market.

From the book I learnt that another family can be the opposite of you but you are still connected in some way.

You will like this book if you like reading about other cultures from around the world.

**2A Grade News**

2A has been keeping very busy with lots of book week activities. We have made the Tall Man, Noni the Pony, sea horses and drawn our family trees. In Mathematics, we have been learning about multiplication and division. In Writing, we are practising sizzling starts and exciting endings. As a class we have been focusing on our listening and staying on task, and are doing a fantastic job!

We are also really enjoying our environments theme this term. We are learning all about the different environments and the animals that live in them. One of our favourite activities was making our micro environments.

**2B Grade News**

Grade 2B have had fun exploring lots of books this week. Our Book week canvas was on the text 'Round and Round and Round', we all managed to have some input into the final piece - it looks magnificent!

The 'Tall Man' inspired lots of interesting creations and hair styles. You can see our interpretation of 'The Deep' outside the classroom - have a look and see which students are about to be shark bait!

'My Uncles Donkey' left us wondering what would happen if we had a donkey living at our house!

We have also been very busy investigated the environment. We have used Kahootz to create animations in different environments. Don't forget to say hello to ‘Spike’ as you go past our classroom!
Staff Profile

Late last term we welcomed Steve Livingstone as a teacher to our school. Steve replaced Don Beaton in Grade 6A. 

What is your earliest childhood memory of school? Miss Hogan, an old and grumpy teacher.

What would your last meal be? Blue cod caught by myself.

Name five people in history or current day, you most like to meet? Charles Upham, Winston Churchill, a first Australian pre-European settlement, Robson Green, Queen Victoria.

What do you do when you are not working? Renovate, spend time with the girls, four wheel driving, trail riding and exploring. What is the most interesting trip you have ever taken? Why? Last big four wheel drive trip to the Victorian High Country. Because of the history, the beautiful country, the four wheel driving and enjoying it with the family.

ICT in Term 3

Grade 1 through to 6 have been researching and learning about Vietnam, Africa and Brazil to link in with our Multicultural term.

Grade 1’s and 2’s have completed and presented their own Vietnamese Powerpoint, which included copying images from the internet and formatting their slide show. Recently grade 1’s have begun learning about Kahootz and have started exploring different worlds and characters within the program. Grade 2’s have extended their knowledge of Kahootz by adding sound to their different environment scenes.

Grade 3 to 6 students have been creating their own travel brochures of Africa (3 & 4) and Brazil (5 & 6) using Microsoft Publisher. Students have researched all the information on their brochures and some can be seen displayed in the Music and Art rooms. Grade 3’s and 4’s have recently started using Super Clubs Plus, an online program where students can publish work, chat to friends and earn stars by completing cyber smart tasks. Students are also able to design their own personal web page - Have you seen your child’s page yet?!

Over the next few weeks all students will begin exploring the Ultranet in ICT classes and will complete simple online tasks to familiarize themselves with this great online tool. This week students will learn to personalize their own Express Space and find friends on the Ultranet.

Keep being cyber smart and remember to tell a trusted adult if you ever feel unsafe online. We're here to help!

School Photos

All children have received an order form for school photos. If you would like to order a family photo please collect an envelope from the office. All photo envelopes must be returned with the correct money enclosed by **Friday 2nd September**.

**Family photo discounts** - Parents who order and pay for two children’s photo packages, will receive the third, fourth and so on FREE. Parents need only tick the “Family Discount” box on the back of the envelopes, to receive this discount. All children will require their own envelopes, although payment may be submitted in one envelope.

School photos will be taken **Tuesday 6th September**, starting at 9.00am.

All students must be wearing:
- full winter school uniform (long pants for boys)
- maroon school windcheater or jumper
- black polished school shoes or boots
- Grade 6 students are to wear rugby jumpers

Notices Handed Out This Week:

057 – 2011 Students with Asthma – Various Students

Notices Due Back To The Office:

Our School Raffle Tickets and Money – Friday 26th August
Parent Opinion Surveys – Friday 26th August
School Photo Forms – Friday 2nd September
School Asthma Updates – Friday 2nd September
Grade 1 Halls Gap Camp Forms – 8th September

Absences

If a child is absent from school, parents are asked to telephone the school office - 5571 9295 by 10.00 a.m. giving the reason.

Parents should send a signed note, giving the dates reason for absence, with the child when he/she returns to school.

Late Arrivals/Early Departures

Any child arriving after 9.00am to school must pass through the office to sign in and collect a late arrival pass. This is then handed to their class teacher.

If you are collecting your child early from school, the Early Leavers Book at the Office needs to be signed. Collect an early leavers pass to give to the class teacher.
**Ladies Night**
Thursday August 25\(^{th}\)
At the Gray Street Learning Centre
7.00pm – 9.00pm
$10 per person
Includes Champagne on arrival & nibbles

**Our School Raffle**
All money raised, plus ticket stubs must be returned to school by **Friday 26\(^{th}\) August**. Every family that sells a book will go into a mini raffle draw at school to win a Logitech Webcam Pro 9000, plus a few other mystery prizes.
For every $2 ticket sold, $1.50 will come back to our school -
We hope your family will get on-board and start selling as many raffle tickets as you can – the more tickets you sell, the more money we raise.

**Blue Light**
Blue Light is coming to Hamilton with the first event to be a disco on the 2\(^{nd}\) of September at the Senior Citizens Hall next to Mc Donald’s from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. The disco will cater for young people aged 9-14 years. As part of the no pass out rule parents, guardians are required to walk patrons to the door. Young people are not able to walk in off the street. This enables volunteers and police to ensure patrons enter the venue and do not leave. At the conclusion of the event young people will remain inside until the appropriate adult comes to pick them up.
Entry is 5 dollars and there will be plenty of snacks, glow sticks and drinks for sale.
Blue Light is a successful program internationally, with every state and Territory in Australia participating, as well as New Zealand, Fiji, Cook Islands and Papua New Guinea
Blue Light aims to assist the police to rectify the imbalance of pro-active and re-active policing where young people are concerned. It does this by providing young people with positive lifestyle alternatives and strategies to avoid becoming an offender or victim of crime.
Blue Light promotes the police as offering and integrated pro-active youth service which takes a holistic approach to helping young people.
For more information please contact Lee-Anne Nelson at Portland Police on 55231999 or Julie Drechsler at Brophy School Focused Youth Service on 55518557.

**Farmers Market**
Monday 12\(^{th}\) September 3.30pm onwards – more details to follow.

**Coles – Sports For Schools**
Vouchers are available in all Coles stores until **19 October** and we ask that you get involved to help collect vouchers for our school. Our target is to collect 15,000 vouchers to provide our school with sport equipment.
Please get your children to place them into the box in the office area.

**Safeway – Earn to Learn**
Please keep collecting your points from Safeway. Points will automatically appear on your shopping docket. All you need to do is save those docket (cut them off the docket if you like), bring them to school and place them in the special collection box in the office.

**Fathers’ Day Stall**
Fathers’ Day Stall: Friday 2\(^{nd}\) September: PLEASE START BRINGING IN ITEMS for the stall.
Some suggestions are: Coffee cups, chocolates, socks, radios, tools, garden items, books, notepad & pen, anything really that you think Dad would like! The more gifts – the more choices your child will have on the day. Items for sale will be priced between $3 - $5
If anyone could spare an hour or two leading up to Fathers Day to help with the wrapping of presents that would be greatly appreciated.

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