Principal’s Report

Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers

Thank you to all who have helped support our road assistants – Rick, Pam and Jack - in the past week. It is not an easy job to keep our children safe and sound as they are collected each afternoon and delivered each morning, from the pick-up zones. Rick is still concerned that cars are being parked illegally across the crossing and around the corner. Disappointingly, he has been yelled at and spoken to rudely in the line of duty. Please be reminded that the assistants are helping to keep our children safe and sound.

We would all agree that the renovations to the playground area at the front of the school, continue to take shape. Mr Jack McArthur and his band of hard working tradesmen continue to add layers of quality to this exciting project and it is fabulous to watch it all slowly unfold. With the addition of blue stone walls, layers of gravel and dirt and the levelling of areas, it certainly gives us an insight into how terrific the new additions will look when completed. The School Council has worked hard to ensure that the planning and design reflects the heritage of the school, yet lines up with the needs of our busy school and that of our modern day children. As a new comer to Gray Street, the first thing that impressed me about the plans were the spacious open play areas, plus the quiet spaces tucked under trees for small group learning and simply a quiet cool spot to sit, during the warmer summer months. Reflectively, I wonder what the thousands of children that have attended Gray Street over the past 160 years would have to say about the additions? Considering that for many years, the children happily played in the surrounding streets, amidst neighbours and passing traffic – pedestrian, horses and eventually cars. We are so very lucky to have such history and be a part of history, as members of such a wonderful school.

In the next while, we will put a call out for assistance in the planting of over 6500 seedlings in our new gardens, at the front of the school. More information will follow in the weeks to come and we look forward to working as a team to bring the site to life with the addition of flowers and shrubs.

As a staff, we regularly remind the students, as members of the school community, that we are all representatives of Gray Street, and as such, it is so very important that every student understands the relevance of the reflection that their behaviour, attitudes, uniform and manners have on the school. We remind the children that we are a team where every player is of equal importance. The polite, kind and thoughtful things we do at school and in the broader community always count. Are we wearing our uniform with pride? Are we groomed with neat, tidy hair and a happy smile? Are we speaking positively to each other at school? Are we speaking politely to other people in the broader community? Negative language and attitudes are not acceptable at any time and we thank you for your support in reminding our children of the importance of teamwork and support for each other.

Yesterday, a Grade 2 student arrived at my door with 5 cents in her hand. She had found it and felt it might belong to someone else. We then explained that if it was not claimed by the end of the day, the coin was hers to keep. With a smile on her face she answered that she would like to donate the money to the school. What a smile it brought to all faces that heard the conversation. Thank you, Adelaide for the contribution. Similarly, this week, a few Grade 6 students stood up for what is right and reminded another student who was yelling rudely, that his negative attitude was completely unnecessary and could be overheard by members of the community. Thank you to Hami, Noah, Talia, Layla, Georgia and Maddie.

Recently, Leoma in Grade 5 mentioned how important she felt that it was to share some ideas on how we can continue to keep the environment clean and try to encourage awareness regarding recycling, animal cruelty and deforestation. Thank you, Leoma for the link that provides information on recycling old phones. Perhaps Leoma can provide us with an email link every week on a new and an interesting article? Thank you, Leoma.


Good luck to the Year 5/6 hockey team who have travelled to Dimboola, today, to compete in the regional finals. We wish them a fun filled day of sportsmanship and sunshine and look forward to hearing results upon their return.

Kind regards

Sandra
Premiers Reading Challenge

There will be a meeting for all students participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge on Friday at lunch in the Prep B room (after the bell to go play).

Students need to bring their reading lists with them. I will be checking list and helping students log on to register their books.

Thanks
Mrs Hawthorne

Canteen News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Rifka McClure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th Aug</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Julie Spark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Kate Keable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Deb Hintum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Margaret Spark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th Aug</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Julie Spark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>15th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th Aug</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th Aug</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Newsletter

The Newsletter is one of the key ways in which information and news is delivered to families. It is essential that parents/carers read the newsletter and students are also encouraged to do so. This weekly publication includes important dates, along with reports about what has happened at school and what is coming up.

As from next week the newsletter will be sent home on a FRIDAY.

Every Friday the school Newsletter will be sent out to parents through the following electronic ways:

- Skoolbag App
- Schools Website
- Schools Facebook Page
- Email (please complete the form below to provide a current email address)
- Paper copy available for collection from the office

The benefits are:
- No more waiting for the Newsletter to come home - you can read it the moment it is uploaded.
- It's in colour!
- It's exactly the same as the paper edition - it contains all forms and flyers.
- Reducing the school paper consumption is good for the environment.

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Parents Name: ________________________________

Current Email address: ________________________________