Yesterday, we continued with our Prep Discovery sessions with the special Art experience for the children with Emma Brown which all the children enthusiastically engaged in. Please note the next Prep Discovery afternoon is on Wednesday 3rd September at 2.30 p.m. The children will be working with Marco the Italian teacher which I am sure they will enjoy.

A final word of encouragement to our three Tournament of the Minds teams heading to Geelong this Sunday. We wish them all the very best and do hope they enjoy the challenges that they have been working so hard to prepare for.

There were some very contented faces on the Year 4 student's faces when they returned from their culinary experience with Gilly at the Hamilton District Skills Centre yesterday. The students made ANZAC biscuits and hamburgers and enjoyed a special fruit platter created by Gilly.

On Monday at the School Council meeting I reluctantly tabled a letter of resignation from Simon McKinley. We would like to acknowledge Simon McKinley's voluntary service to School Council over the last four years. He has assisted the education sub-committee with its handling of communication and policy issues and has been a willing participant at any working bee or school activity. We are truly appreciative of anyone who is able to give up their time to assist Gray St and with Simon’s resignation to school council it is only appropriate that we reflect and acknowledge his contribution. Thanks Simon.

It is hard to believe how quickly time passes but Mrs Bonita O’Brien’s time in Grade 3B concludes tomorrow with Mrs Kerrie McFadden returning on Monday from her overseas experience. Mrs O’Brien has done a fabulous job with the grade 3’s continuing their learning in Mrs McFadden’s absence. Thank you Bonita, from all of us at Gray St.

Finally, the students have just completed their five week writing focus on ‘Descriptive Writing’ this week.

The primary purpose of descriptive writing is to describe a person, place or thing in such a way that a picture is formed in the reader's mind. Capturing an event through descriptive writing involves paying close attention to the details by using all of your five senses.

Teaching students to write more descriptively will improve their writing by:

- making it more interesting and engaging.
- making it full of details.
- it encourages students to use new vocabulary words
- it can help students clarify their understanding of new subject matter material

Please make sure if you are at school to take a stroll through the Open Learning Area and read some of the wonderful descriptive texts that are now on display.

Enjoy your week ahead.

Helen

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**Dates to Remember**

- **Friday 22nd August**
  - Swimming Gr 5 & 6 Last Day
  - Book Week Dress Up Day
  - Gold Coin Donation

- **Thursday 28th August**
  - Gray St Chess Competition

- **Monday 1st September**
  - 3 year old Kinder Children Discovery Morning 11.30 – 12.30

- **Wednesday 3rd September**
  - Prep 2015 Discovery Afternoon
  - Italian 2.30pm – 3.30pm

- **Thursday 4th September**
  - School Photo Day

- **Friday 5th September**
  - Fathers Day Stall

**School Councillors**

- Hugh Koch
- Helen Freeman
- Jason Muldoon
- Bonita O’Brien
- Leigh Whyte
- David Hintum
- Brigid Kelly
- Peta Alexander
- Kerrie McFadden
- Adam Taylor
- Damian Hayes

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  03 5571 1315

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

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

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**Tomorrow - Friday 22nd August**

- Book Week Dress Up Day
- State School Relief Fundraiser
- Gold Coin Donation
Book Week Dress Up Day/State School Relief Fundraiser.

This term we will celebrate Book Week in week six (18th – 22nd August). On Friday 22nd August students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite story book character for the day and at the same time raise money for State Schools Relief. Costumes can be as simple or as complex as you like, just remember that your child will be wearing it for the day. The Pinterest app is great for ideas! Gold coin donation for dressing up!!

Cooking

Yesterday the Grade 4 classes had the fabulous opportunity to learn amazing cooking skills with Tony “Gilly” Macgillivray at the Hamilton and District Skills Centre. The children spent two and a half hours learning how to prepare, cook and clean-up during a session which involved them making biscuits, fruit platters and mini burgers. The children had a fantastic time in the wonderful kitchen area at HDSC and learnt many new skills which they can now use at home. Many thanks to Gilly, the staff and HDSC and Baimbridge College for providing this opportunity to the children at Gray St. The Grade 5/6 children can't wait for their turn to shine in the kitchen when they meet up with Gilly over the next few weeks.

Cooking Report by Grace Diedrichs and Luci Walker

Yesterday grade 4's went to a cooking class held at the Hamilton District Skills Centre. All the grade 4's had a lot of fun and made lots of delicious food. We all made ANZAC biscuits and hamburgers. We got to use a grater to grate all the delicious vegetables that went into the hamburger. We were all given some mince meat, an egg, some vegetables, which included zucchini, carrot, celery and onion (which made us all cry 😢) to mix together with our hands. We then made the mince meat mixture into a hamburger patties, then the patties went into a pan to be cooked. Once these were cooked, we got a bread roll, some lettuce, a piece of cheese, and a slice of tomato, we put all these ingredients, plus the hamburger into the bread roll, then we got to eat them.

We also watched Chef Gilly make a delicious fruit platter of various fruits including pineapple, strawberries, orange, rock melons, kiwi fruit, cherry tomatoes, apple and watermelon.

We also like to give a big THANK YOU to Parent volunteers, Jules Thomson and Brigid Kelly for helping us out in the kitchen.

Swimming

Tomorrow marks the final day of the Grade 5/6 swimming program. The instructors at HILAC have praised the children for their attentiveness and diligence during the two weeks. All children have developed stronger swimming skills and increased endurance.

Please continue to provide as many opportunities as possible to extend your child's swimming skills, both with further lessons and family visits to practise the survival and stroke development skills.
Golf

Last week ten Grade 5/6 students played in the Hamilton Primary School's Golf Tournament at Parklands. These students had been selected for this tournament by the visiting golf professional during a series of clinics at Gray St in February. The golfers involved were Tegan Menzel, Oliver Annett, Cuba Cook, Victoria Jewell, Zari Waters, Josh Elvery, Timmy Kealy, Emily Pitts, Claire Cumming and Grace Elsom.

Many thanks to the parents and family who attended the tournament with their children to help with the supervision of the players on the course.

Prep Art Discovery Day

Our Art Prep Discovery Afternoon was great fun, with the children listening to "the Gruffalo" then making a Gruffalo puppet to take home. Pictured here are some of the participants, busily creating away....

I look forward to seeing them all next year in the artroom and creating colourful works of art!

Ms Brown

School Photos

School photos will take place on Thursday 4th September. Order forms were sent home on Monday. This year there is an option to pay online. Information in regards to this is on the order forms.

All order forms MUST be handed in to the office by Wednesday 3rd September. Please ensure the correct money is enclosed. No change is available through the office or on the day.

Students will need to wear the correct school winter uniform, especially the rugby jumper. School uniforms are available for purchase through the school uniform shop.

School Uniform

At Gray St we have an agreed school uniform. We have worked hard to ensure the uniform is weather appropriate and practical.

At the moment there seem to be a number of students wearing various incorrect articles of clothing. The following items are NOT part of the school uniform and are therefore not to be worn during school hours.

- Hoodies
- Colour Windcheaters
- Coloured long sleeve tops worn under short sleeve polo shirts
- Brand named track pants (ie Addidas with stripes, Nike, etc)
- Black track pants
- Coloured socks
- Leggins worn with summer dresses and or shorts.

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct winter uniform. As a reminder, the School Uniform Policy options available for winter (term 2 and term 3) is as follows:

- Rugby Jumper (with school logo)
- Navy blue polo vest (with school logo)
- Long/short sleeve Light blue polo- shirt (with school logo)
- Navy blue track suit pants straight leg – no stripes/logos or navy blue gabardine long pants
- Navy blue shorts – no stripes/logos
- Girls tartan tunic/skirt – navy tights/socks
- Black school shoes or appropriate runners
Bookweek This Week.....

Teachers and students have been busy this week decorating their classroom doors ready for our Bookweek celebrations tomorrow (some of the classroom doorways pictured below). Most grade levels will be participating in special Bookweek Literacy activities where the grade levels are blended and then group rotations around the classrooms. We have our Bookweek dress up day tomorrow with donations going to SSR. Hope you've all got your costumes ready, can't wait to see all the costumes at assembly tomorrow!

Ms Brown

Father’s Day Stall – Friday 5th September

This year all the hard work has been done for you. No more scratching your head for ideas. A selection of fabulous gifts have arrived to make this Father’s Day a day to remember. No need to bring in any gifts for the stall. The stall will take place on Friday 5th September, straight after recess. The gifts range from $3- $10 so start saving now!

3 Year Old Kinder Kids School Discovery Morning

Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School is offering an opportunity for parents and children entering Prep in 2016 to familiarise themselves with the school environment by holding a ‘School Discovery Morning’.

Children will participate in a number of activities planned by Prep Teachers Janelle Harms and Cindy Dorman.

Parents are invited to accompany their child throughout the activities.

WHEN: Monday 1st September, 2014
WHERE: Open Learning Area (enter off Kennedy Street)
TIME: 11.30am — 12.30pm
RSVP: Please RSVP the School by Friday 29th August if your child will be attending the ‘School Discovery Morning’ on 5571 9295 or email - dorman.leesa.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>22nd August</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Becky Blanchett</td>
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<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Kristy Brooks</td>
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<td>25th August</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Nicole Downes</td>
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<td>27th August</td>
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<td>Deb Hintum</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th August</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Jean Oliver</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Louise McLennan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1st September</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3rd September</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Deb Hintum</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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