Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers

How lovely to see the sun smiling down on Hamilton, as the week draws to an end. The days are somewhat longer and although crisp, the weather is definitely heralding the warm days to come. The children keep telling me how warm it will be soon. The trees are certainly turning to blossom and brightly coloured, sweet scented flowers push upward to the sky. How lovely to live within the seasons in such a nice place, as Hamilton.

Responsibility and Children

When working with the children, not only do the staff at Gray Street provide opportunities for academic learning, they encourage positive attitudes, they display responsibility and respect for school and the general community. Empowering children to take responsibility for behaviours creates self-confident capable young adults. Providing children with the opportunities to be responsible for their actions, their belongings, their school and their home helps combat the often increasing level of entitlement that we see in much of today's society. Developing a responsible approach to problems creates happy, well-adjusted children and teenagers. While it is not easy to always accept responsibility, it is so important to teach our children the appropriate behaviours, thoughts and actions to ensure the acceptance of responsibility. Below is a link that may provide extra information in building responsibility in children and teenagers. [https://www.care.com/a/9-tips-for-teaching-kids-responsibility](https://www.care.com/a/9-tips-for-teaching-kids-responsibility)

Reading Club at Gray Street

Reading a take-home reader each night is important for all children. In an effort to support this important habit, some of the wonderful staff at Gray Street have made themselves available for a before school 'Reading Club' to be held in the library from 8.30am – 8.50am. Thanks to Miss Calloway, Mrs Ferrier, Mrs Clark, Mrs Beaton and Mrs Stevenson. Any child taking advantage of this opportunity is to bring their take home reader which will be signed off by the supervising staff member. Pictured below: Buick and Esther enjoy reading and are looking forward to the Reading Club.

Prep Discovery Days for 2017 Prep Students

Several successful Prep Discovery Days have been held to provide a short amount of time for potential prep students from the district, to experience life at Gray Street. Mrs Riddle, Mrs Hawthorne and Mrs McFadden have worked with several specialist teachers to provide some fun filled sessions for our 2017 preppies and we look forward to welcoming the new Preps to Gray Street next year.

Until next week

Kind regards

Sandra
Representative Hockey

Last Thursday Gray Street sent a hockey team to Dimboola to represent the Greater Western Region. The Gray Street team played 4 games in the mixed competition. They won three and then were beaten in the last game.

Narelle Pitts (coach) said the Gray Street team worked really well together and had impeccable manners on and off the field. Well done Gray Street hockey players. We are really proud of you.

A big thank you to Narelle Pitts for coaching and Oliver Pitts for umpiring. Also thanks to Richie Biggin, Nicole Dymke and Pam Menzel for driving them all the way to Dimboola.

Coming up …

Book Week Dress up Day!

On Friday August 26th we will hold our annual book week dress up day!

This is a chance for students to dress up as their favourite story BOOK character for the day. So time to get creative! - Costumes can be as simple or as complex as you like, just remember that your child will be wearing it for the day.

Fundraising

Pie Drive

This term for a fundraiser we are doing a Kings Pie Drive. Order forms have gone out today and are due back with payment no later than Friday 26th August.

Orders need to be collected on Thursday 1st September between 2.00pm and 4.30pm. Uncollected orders cannot be stored by the school.

This has the potential to be a fantastic fundraiser for the school and will feed your family at the same time.

As with all things fundraising we will be seeking a few volunteers on the Thursday of delivery to help get the orders ready to be picked up. We understand everyone is busy and it can be hard to find time to volunteer, but if you could spare an hour or more on this day it would be very greatly appreciated. If you are able to volunteer, please put your name on the list in the office.

Thank you
School Photos

Schools photos will take place on Wednesday 24th August. Order forms were handed out last week to all students. This year there is an option to order photos on-line and pay with a credit card. If you wish to order family photos please collect an envelope from the office. Orders are due back to school by Monday 22nd August.

Family Photo Order forms are available from the office. These are also due back to the office by Monday 22nd August.

Students will need to wear the correct school winter uniform, especially the rugby jumper.
Notices from the Office
(notices can be found on the school website and skoolbag app)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Handed Out To</th>
<th>Due Back</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>051 - 2016</td>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6 Camp</td>
<td>Students in Grades 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Friday 2nd September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>056 - 2016</td>
<td>Grade 3 &amp; 4 Camp</td>
<td>Students in Grades 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Friday 2nd September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>057 - 2016</td>
<td>Grade 2 Camp</td>
<td>Students in Grade 2</td>
<td>Friday 2nd September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please ensure all notices with payment (either cash, cheque or Credit Card details) are to be handed into the office.

Canteen News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>15th August</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17th August</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30 and 12.30 – 1.30</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th August</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th August</td>
<td>12.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Helper Required</td>
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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.

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: ___________________________________________