Principal’s Report

I can’t quite believe how quickly the end of term three is approaching!

Unfortunately, due to a previous commitment to attend the BSW Literacy and Numeracy Regional Reference Group meeting in Geelong on Monday I missed two amazing events at Gray St. The first was the Farmer’s Market and from all accounts it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone involved from the fundraising group for their organisation to the parent, grandparents and friends for supplying all the goods, from home cooked goodies to home grown produce and to all the customers for supporting this fun, fundraising event.

The second event was the ‘Music After Five’ a music concert hosted by Gray St which showcased ten primary and secondary musicians from Gray Street, Bainbridge College and Monivae College. The students performed piano, flute, vocal and guitar pieces from what I have been told to a very high level. All students involved should be very proud of their efforts including Gray Street’s Music Captains Bailey Webb and Bethany Smart. A big thank you to all the parents and friends that attended, it would not have been possible without your support and of course to Liz Robb for organising the event. I was relieved to hear that there will be another ‘Music After Five’ concert next term which I am adamant I will not miss. So to all our music enthusiasts keep working hard in your music lessons and keep practising!

Today, our year one students have had an exciting learning experience at Halls Gap. They left this morning all very excited about the bus trip and the great day planned for them ahead. This trip is extended with the weary travellers returning around 5.30 p.m. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures and great learning experiences tomorrow and we will have a report and pictures in next week’s newsletter to share.

Multicultural Day is coming up next Wednesday. As mentioned previously students in Prep – 2 have been studying Vietnam, students in year’s 3 and 4, Africa and students in year’s 5 and 6, Brazil in their specialist areas; Art, Music, P.E. and ICT. Highlights of the work that has been completed during the term will be showcased at a special presentation in the stadium at 11.30 a.m. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome to attend.

A quick mention regarding a ‘thank you’ the school recently received from the Good Friday Appeal. They make mention that our contribution will contribute to the purchase of two new state-of-the-art machines: an Optic Coherence Tomography Machine which has revolutionised the study of the retina and optic nerve, providing more accurate diagnoses of eye disorders and diseases and an Electrophysiology Machine which offers the latest in computerised analysis of visual function particularly in children who are intellectually disabled. I think it is always helpful to know what our donations are being used for.

Finally, I would like to wish our Tournament of Minds team Abby, Billy, Chelsea, Georgia, Jalen, Maddy and Sophie all the best for Sunday when they compete in the State Final for Tournament of Minds.

OSHC News
Vacation Care program information attached.

Contact us
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www.hamiltonps-grayst.vic.edu.au

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Mathematics Report

Gray St commenced using Mathletics last year with the Grade 6 classes and has extended its use to all classes in the school this year.

Mathletics is a world-wide mathematics computer program, covering all elements of mathematics appropriate to the age and ability of the class. 3.5 million students in 10,000 classes worldwide use Mathletics. It allows children the chance to consolidate classroom work, revise previous concepts and to practise their mental maths skills against children from around the world (the very popular “Live Mathletics” section). It also presents work in different ways and provides a resource area, with a mathematics dictionary and demonstration of key concepts. Mathletics is also available for them to use at home as activities can be preset by teachers. Some children will be presented with special Mathletics achievement certificates at assembly this Friday.

Congratulations to Syrenna Frangakis, Madeline Bradbeer, Elly McLean, Angus Harms and Olivia Taylor on their achievements.

Grade Prep have been working hard in maths and learning all about subtraction. A favourite activity was completing a “show off” sheet to demonstrate their knowledge with numbers and pictures. The children have been able to show what they understand about subtraction to Mrs. Harms and each other. They say it is “cool” maths!

Preps busy at work with their “show off” subtraction sheets.

Grade 1B has been lucky to have Ms Cindy Dorman working in their room as a student teacher. One of her recent maths activities was shops. The children made shops with a partner with six items to sell. Then they made price tags and started to shop with $5! They had to work out which coins to use and how much change to give. Flynn Graham and Grace Diedrichs reported that it was a fun activity and they learnt lots about money.

Anthony Hill – Mathematics Coordinator

4B Steps Out!

Grade 4B is taking on the GCC (Global Children’s Challenge). This starts on Thursday 15/9 and lasts until the 3/11 (a total of 50 days, including the holidays). All class members have received a pedometer to count our daily steps and a log book to record our totals. Each day of the challenge we combine our totals and enter the average into the website. This is to help get fit and have a healthy life and still have fun. We can see our progress on the website as we ”journey around the world”. The target total for each child is 15000 steps each day.

The website is www.gccjunior.org and students and families can log in with the account details below to check on our journey.
Username: 4B-200801
Password: aiszQq

Many schools around the globe will be joining us on our adventures around the world. The more active you are the better you feel. The pedometer counts our steps that we take each day. Below are the rules we have agreed to when receiving our pedometers.

- Do not shake it or use it inappropriately
- Be honest with counting steps
- Don’t get it wet (it’s not waterproof)
- Don’t feed it to your dog!
- Only wear it on your hip.
- Don’t use it as a hammer!
- Don’t wear it cycling (it’s not designed for this)

By Danielle Matthey and Makenzee Sparrow - Grade 4B

Makenzee, Jazz and Eliza with their pedometer
You Can Do It!

What great individual role models we have had recently - Sam Stosur and Cadel Evans - to reinforce the persistence messages we have been encouraging this term at Gray St.!! As we come to the end of our class lessons on Persistence, and it has been pleasing to hear our students use terms like “have a red hot go” and “work tough” in their daily encouragement of other students.

The Positive Habits of the Mind that we have set out to develop: “I Can Do It!”, “Giving Effort” and “Working Tough” will continue to assist our students to experience the joys and rewards of “hard yakka”.

Multicultural Day

On Wednesday 21st September Gray Street will have its Multicultural Day. Students will be performing songs and dances from 11:30am - 1:00pm in the stadium and family and friends are welcome to come to this session. Students will be involved in taste testing and an art activity in the afternoon session 2:00pm - 3:30pm.

Students will need to come to school in their costume on Multicultural Day.

- Grade Preps, 1s and 2s: Wearing colours of the vietnamese flag RED and YELLOW
- Grade 3s and 4s: Earthy colours RED, YELLOW, ORANGE, BROWN and GREEN to represent the colours of Africa
- Grade 5s and 6s: Students need to take inspiration from the Brazilian carnival including glitz and glamour, bling bling, feathers, sequens and anything with a lot of colour! Boys and girls if you having trouble finding glitz and glamour please come in the colours of the Brazilian flag, LIME GREEN, YELLOW, NAVY BLUE and WHITE. Also, grade 6s are welcome to wear a ghi (karate style costume) if they have one.

Active After School Sports Program

Just a reminder to parents and guardians that this week’s sessions were the last Active After School Sports Program sessions for both Archery and T-Ball for Term 3. The seven week program will be running again in Term 4 and information about future sessions will be in the school newsletter early next term. Thank you to the parents, guardians and instructors who have made these sessions possible. I hope to see you all next term!

Raquel Potter
AASSP Coordinator

Primary Arts Festival

Students in grades 1, 4 & 5 will be participating in the Primary Arts Festival on Tuesday 20th September. Students in grades 1, 4 & 5 will need to wear their sports uniform that day as they will be dancing up a storm in the PAC! Grade 1 children will have a duck hat that they made during Art classes these will be transported to the PAC by Miss Robb.

Cybersafety

Time spent online - how much is too much?

To many parents it seems as though children and young people are constantly online. Often they seem to be completing more than one task at a time; for example, downloading and listening to music while studying and chatting with friends or sending messages on their mobile phones.

The number of hours children and young people spend online can vary significantly. There is no guideline for the ‘right’ amount of time for children to spend online, however if their online behaviour appears to impact negatively on their behaviour or wellbeing, or that of the family, it may be time to discuss expectations and establish time limits.

Noticeable changes in the online and offline behaviour of children and young people can be indicators of excessive internet use. These include online activities interfering with general health and wellbeing, seeming obsessed with particular websites or games, appearing anxious or irritable when away from the computer, spending increasing amounts of time online, excessive tiredness, a decline in academic performance and seeming isolated or withdrawn from offline friends and activities.


Grade 5A Classroom News

Grade 5A is an exciting place to be at the moment as we have been hatching our chickens in our classroom. We observed the eggs in an incubator and were amazed to see the chickens break free. We now have 21 chickens cheeping merrily in the classroom, and all students enjoy doing their work with a chicken on their lap.

For the last three weeks we have been investigating Space. The students have written Information Reports about the Moon, have created aliens using their knowledge of angles and explored star constellations to develop their protractor skills. Next week they will be doing an oral presentation on a topic that interests them about Space.

Sarah Maclean
Farmers’ Market

Once again we had a very successful Farmers’ Market raising $1121 which was a fantastic amount to make.

Thank you to all those who baked and contributed to this event. The school sends a very special thanks to those who helped price and sell items on the day. Without the support of these mums these special days would be difficult to have.

Thank you again!

Next Meeting Monday 19th September at 7pm. All welcome

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 dockets. All you need to do is save those dockets (cut them off the docket if you like), bring them to school and place them in the special collection box in the office.

Final day for collection is 18th October.

Disco

Dance the night away at the Gray St Disco.

The Disco will take place in the school stadium on Thursday 22nd September at the following times:

- **Prep - Grade 3:** 5.30pm-7.00pm
- **Grade 4 – Grade 6:** 7.30pm-9.00pm

Tickets will cost $3.00 per person and will be available on the night.

There will be no food or drink for sale and all students are encouraged to bring a named water bottle.

All students will receive a glow-stick.

D.J. Van Valken will be there supplying the music.

OSHC - Vacation Care

Bookings are now open for Vacation Care for the term 3 Holiday break being held at Hamilton Gray St Primary School.

If you would like your child to participate in the vacation care program, please complete the attached form and return the form along with any additional costs in a clearly marked envelope OSHC Vacation Care to the office, by Wednesday 21st September.

Cost of each day is $68.83 (plus listed additional costs). If you have not completed an enrolment form, you will need to complete one before care commences, these are available at the school office.

If you have any questions please contact Coordinator Rosemary Anderson on 0408936652 or Leesa or Maree in the office on 55719259

St Andrews Cricket Club

Milo Cricket

The St Andrews Cricket Club will once again be running the MILO in2CRICKET program this summer.

MILO in2CRICKET is a fun way for kids to learn how to play cricket. This program is designed to give boys and girls the chance to enjoy a variety of activities to develop cricket skills and improve physical fitness. Each activity helps kids to develop social skills, sportsmanship and an understanding of the game with an emphasis on fun and involvement.

The MILO in2CRICKET Program is Cricket Australia’s official entry-level program, designed to introduce 5-10 year old children to the game of cricket in a fun and safe environment. The Program contains two tiers, Have a Go and Have a Game, which provides a progression for children who are involved in the program for 2 -3 years.

WHEN: Registration Day & First Session: 23rd October, 2011 – 11.00am – 12.20pm

COST: $60 (includes 8 week program, back pack, bat, ball, hat, drink bottle etc)

Just turn up on the day or contact St Andrews C.C Milo Coordinator Matt Hill 0403 491505.

Little Athletics

Hamilton Little Athletics 2011/2012 season starts Wednesday 12th October 2011. Mitchell Park, Mt Napier Rd, Hamilton

4.15pm for a 4.30pm start. HLAC will offer all children 2 free come & try nights then registration is required on the 3rd night.

Age groups U6 - U16.

A child must be 5 at the start of the season being 1/10/11.

Further enquiries please email Jenny at jen.goog@bigpond.net.au