Wow! Only 9 days to our fabulous ‘Gray St Country Fair’.

We are counting down now after many months of planning and preparation for this special community fundraising event. All monies raised from the Fair will be used to replace the old, tired playground equipment at the French St end of the school. This playground is the most popular area of the school for children to play and is often seen being utilised by children and their parents on the weekend.

To ensure the school is looking in ‘tip top’ condition for the Fair we have our special ‘Working Bee’ this Saturday commencing at 9 a.m. Thank you to the parents who have indicated that they will be able help out on Saturday, we are still in need of some helpers so if you can spare an hour or two on Saturday please just come and there will be job for you. There are still a few last minute touches to stall items too so there will be some jobs to do in side as well. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Tomorrow our Regional Athletics team, comprising of Louis Beaton, Lucy Clarke, Claire Cumming, Angus Harms, Nikki and Tegan Menzel, Sharney Millard and Emily Pitts will be representing the district in Ballarat. We wish them all the very best.

Next Tuesday we have our year four girls Hooptime team participating in the regional finals at HILAC again we wish them all the very best, I am sure they will have a great day.

There will be no homework next week allowing students time to produce creations for them to enter in the Country Fair. Students are encouraged to get creative and make items for the Country Fair competitions – Pom Pom creatures, Cup Cake Decorating, Decorated Gumboot, Fruit & Vegetable Creatures & Knitted Scarf.

Enjoy your week ahead.
Helen

Don’t forget to enter a scarecrow in the Scarecrow competition!!

You Can Do It Winners: Travis Stanbrough, Jack Mellington, Lucy Clarke, Leoma Bahnton, Reggie Young and Ruby Cook.
Fair News

Toy Stall
We are seeking donations of CLEAN and WORKING toys and readable books to sell in our second hand toys and books stall. Please drop donations into the office. Thank you.

Cake Stall
Thank you to the families that have offered to bake for our cake stall. To help make our cake stall a success we need many more donations. If you are able to bake a cake or two, or make a slice please complete the form handed out last week and return it to school tomorrow or contact the office. Thanks.

Fair Wristbands – Unlimited Rides
We are offering a fantastic special on pre purchased wristbands. For the next two weeks leading up to the Country Fair wristbands can be pre ordered for $20 each. This will allow unlimited rides at the Fair.

Wristbands sold on the day will cost $25 each or individual rides are $5 each.

If you would like to purchase the Special $20 wristbands, please complete and return the Pre Purchased Fair Wristband form sent home yesterday.

Craft Stall
Do you have any ‘crafty’ or sewing items you would like to donate to the Craft Stall. Please send donations to the office, or contact Leesa. We will be holding a meeting Tonight at 7.00pm in the staffroom to organise our craft items and to finalise pricing. All welcome.

Hair Stall
4B require more donations of Coloured Hair Spray and normal Hair Spray.

Tuesday & Thursday Helpers
Next week on Tuesday and Thursday from 2.00pm to 3.30pm we require as many helpers as possible to help with the last few jobs. Please call into the staffroom on these days if you are able to help.

Shopping Bags
We require as many shopping bags as possible for the Country Fair. If you have spare shopping bags at home, please drop these into the office next week. Thanks
Children’s Python

Written by Jarvis Niewand 2A

The “true” children’s python is a medium sized member of the group, which usually grows up to 1.0 metre in length. The children’s python is not poisonous so if they bite, you will not die.

It is a light to dark brown in colour and can be plain or can have a pattern of roundish blotches which can fade or be dark. At hatching all young children’s python can be patterned but can fade as they grow.

It’s habitats that can be dry forest, open grassy areas, wetlands and coastal areas. When they are little they will eat mice but when they get older they will start to eat rats.

If you keep one you will have to feed it two medium sized defrosted mice. But when it gets older then you will have to feed it one small defrosted rat. You will have to keep it in a locked enclosure.

Eggs measure forty millimetres x twenty six millimetres and weigh about twelve grams, taking about fifty days to hatch and start the life cycle again.

I have a children’s python called Sasha and she is a girl. Sasha lives in our special pet pantry. We have had Sasha for six months and nine days she has been alive for two years and eight months and five days now here’s the trick. I haven’t added the months and days I’ve had Sasha. So you have to figure, out how long she’s been alive for by adding the months and days I have had Sasha.

Good luck.

So You Think You Can Line Dance!?

Linda Rook will be running two line dancing sessions for grade 4, 5 & 6 students at Gray Street Primary School, in preparation for the Country Fair! All keen dancers will need to meet in the Music room on Thursday 17th and Thursday 24th 1:10pm. The dancers will then perform the line dances at the Country Fair on the 26th October.

Can all dancers interested in dancing please see Mrs Hodkinson!

Canteen - Specials for Term 4

**Monday:** Chicken Burger (the lot) $3.50
Bread Roll, chicken burger, lettuce, tomato, cheese, beetroot and special sauce.

Chicken Burger – Plain $3.00
Bread Roll, chicken burger, lettuce & special sauce

**Wednesday:** Chicken Twister $3.00
Crumbed chicken, salad and special sauce, served in a wrap

**Available Monday, Wednesday & Friday**

Salad Boxes $3.00 –
Lettuce, tomato, cucumber, grated carrot, beetroot, pineapple, cheese & dressing
Egg Salad (as above) with hardboiled egg - $3.50
Ham Salad (as above) with sliced ham - $3.50
Chicken Salad (as above) with diced chicken - $4.00

Fruit Salad (diced fresh fruit) $3.00
Hoop Time Basketball Regional Finals

Following the Hamilton Hoop Time carnival in July, our Grade 4 All Star Girls and All Star Boys together with our Grade 6 All Star Boys have qualified for the Regional Final Days in Hamilton. This is the first time Country Regional Finals have been played in Hamilton - usually they are held in Werribee. We see this as a great opportunity for our All Star players to compete against schools from Warrnambool, Horsham, Portland and Terang and possibly qualify for the State Grand Finals in November in Dandenong. Dates are as follows and notes have gone home to all relevant players.

**Grade 4 All Stars Girls and Boys Tuesday 22nd October 2013 at HILAC Hamilton.**

ASG team: Tegan Menzel, Emily Pitts, Lily O'Brien, Coco Christie-Crane, Olivia Muldoon, Georgie Pither and Isabella Ness (coach Jason Muldoon).


**Grade 6 All Star Boys Tuesday 12th November 2013 at HILAC Hamilton.**

ASB team: Jake Donehue, Luke Barnes, Louis Beaton, Ollie Pitts, Sean Evans, Harry Harms, Jacob Millard (coach Sharon Donehue).

Draws will be sent home with players this week but are subject to change. We wish our teams all the very best on their respective days. If anyone is available to score, even if it was just one match, we would really appreciate that assistance.

Carolynn Murray & Sheree McGinley
Hoop Time 2013

Grade 3 Cooking

Grades Three have been cooking with beetroot from the vege garden this week. A strange but delicious combination- Choc chip beetroot muffins!!
Thank you once again to our wonderful parent helpers

**Beetroot and chocolate muffins**
From Stephanie Alexander

**Ingredients**
- 250 g raw beetroot
- 175 g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 2 free-range eggs
- 1/4 cup milk
- 60 g softened butter
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup caster sugar
- 1/2 cup soft brown sugar
- 100 g best-quality dark chocolate (or choc chips)

**Method**
Lightly grease a 12-hole muffin tin, or drop muffin cases into the holes.
Preheat oven to 180 degrees
Peel beetroot and grate in a food processor with grating disc. Set aside and wash processor. (We used a grater and hand beater) Sift flour, baking powder and cocoa into a large mixing bowl.
Lightly whisk eggs with milk.
Process butter, oil and sugars until creamy.
Gradually add egg/milk mixture, alternating with flour mixture.
Tip into the large bowl and stir in beetroot. Mix well. (Add choc chips here if using them) Spoon mixture into muffin holes.
Break chocolate into 12 pieces and poke a piece into the top of each muffin.
Bake for 20-25 minutes until well-risen and springy to the touch.
Cool in tin for a few minutes then turn onto a rack.
On Monday next week the Prep, grade one and two students will be attending an exciting performance by 'The Amazing Drumming Monkey's'!! We don't want to give too much away but the performance consists of two monkey puppets (Bongo & Congo) who play African drums, sing, dance, and perform magic tricks.

The show features positive messages such as getting along with each other and caring for the environment, particularly focusing on trees and recycling. Feel free to check them out on YouTube or by visiting their site: http://www.amazingdrummingmonkeys.com/

We can't wait!!

Canteen

On Friday 25th October the Canteen will be closed as we will be getting organised for the Country Fair.

Lost

Lost Rugby Jumper. Parents please check the name on your child's rugby jumper. Missing jumper named Maddison Rhook, if found please return to the office.

Community News

Hamilton Vitality Fun Run 2013

Scholarship for Inspired School Age Athletes

Hamilton Vitality Fun Run is proud to offer two scholarships, generously funded by Manse Medical to the value of $250 each, to inspired school age athletes from the Hamilton area. Scholarships can assist athletes from remote and/or rural areas to pay all or part of the costly expenses associated with competition at local, state, national or even international events, such as accommodation, fuel, uniform, equipment and training.

Interested parties should collect an application form from the school office.

Daktari Sport/Port Fairy Surf School

Daktari/Port Fairy Surf School will be launching their VEGEMITE SurfGroms program on Saturday 2nd November. Parents can contact Port Fairy Surf School for further information on 0409 947 362