**Principal’s Report**

Last week I was lucky enough to attend the Grade 3 /4 camp at Roses Gap.

It has been many years since I last attended a camp and I had forgotten what a great experience it is. The students all participated in a wide range of exciting activities which included canoeing which I think was the favourite for most of the students, low ropes course, flying fox and a challenging experience on the giant swing. The student’s behaviour was commendable and the outward display of the You Can Do It keys of persistence, confidence and resilience was shared by all.

Camps are a memorable part of school life and offer students and staff a chance to enjoy each other’s company in a relaxed environment. Thank you to all the staff and the parents who gave up their time to ensure the student’s had such a memorable experience.

Our very excited Grade Two students headed off to Port Fairy this morning for their overnight camp. I am sure they will be enjoying a great learning experience coupled with lots of fun and excitement. I look forward to hearing all about it on their return and I am sure that they will be keen to share some of the experiences with us in next week’s newsletter.

Belated congratulations to Dylan Evans who recently won the state title in his division for archery in Drouin. Sean was also on target with a win in his section. Dylan heads to Geelong this weekend to compete in preparation for the National Championships which are to be held in Alice Springs at Easter time.

Last Friday our senior All Stars basketball team competed in the Hooptime Regional finals down in Melbourne. The scores were close with the boys winning two out of the five games they played. It was a great experience and the boys did an excellent job to compete at this level in the competition. Thanks to the parents who took the boys down and cheered them on, on our behalf. Special thanks to Roger Lewis for coaching the team.

On Wednesday the second of the two Prep Transition mornings took place again. It was wonderful to watch the different expressions on the children’s faces as they arrived. They all enjoyed the activities that had been thoughtfully planned for them. We look forward to the children returning on Friday 7th December when they will once again join in some special activities and meet their buddies for 2013.

Finally, two upcoming events for your diaries; Growing Boys to Men – Understanding the male journey to manhood – an essential presentation for all parents of boys by Celia Lashlie an International Speaker to be held on Wednesday 21st of November at The Hamilton and Alexandra College Auditorium at 7.30 pm. It is free but registrations are essential. Please call Frances Hewett Community Centre 55518450 for bookings.

The second event is a Year 6-7 Transition Evening for all the current Year 6 students and parents across Hamilton and surrounding areas. This will be held on Tuesday 27th November at the Performing Arts Centre and will commence at 7.00 p.m.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Helen

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**Dates to remember**

Thursday 15th November to Friday 16th November
Grade 2 Port Fairy Camp

Thursday 22nd November
Prep Extended Camp

Friday 30th November
Buddies Trip – Lake Pertobe

Thursday 2nd December
RE Concert

Thursday 6th December
Carols Festival 1pm St Marys Church
Prep 2013 Information Night

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**You Can Do It Winners:**

Felecity Shaw  
Tahlia Ross  
Baili King  
Jude McKenzie  
Eddie Kelvy  
Thomas Barras  
Hollie Cook  
Ella Sheldon  
Dylan Evans  
Aisha Hendriks  
Deegan Kinna  
Blayke Bradley

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**Contact us**

Address  
42 Gray Street, Hamilton 3300  
Victoria, Australia

Postal Address  
PO Box 203,  
Hamilton VIC 3300

Telephone  
03 5571 9295

Facsimile  
03 5571 1315

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

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

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Above: Many thanks to Georgia Muldoon, Amy Bailey and friends for holding the fort in the office at lunchtime while Mrs Freeman and Leesa were absent. Their receptionist and organisational skills were impressive!

Above: Students enjoyed watching the science display as part of Victoria University’s science outreach program.
Grade 3 & 4 Camp

For the people that don’t know, Grade 3 and 4s went on camp to Roses Gap. We all had a great time.

All the activities were fun, but the Giant Swing was our favourite.

The food was YUM! There were some great activities like... CANOEING, ARCHERY, LOW ROPES, FLYING FOX (our 2nd favourite) and lots more. The Giant Swing was FUN because you have to tug a rope when you’re high enough you let go and it feels like you jump inside yourself. You go really high when you swing up and down (if you get pulled up high enough).

Also we would like to thank the Parents and teachers for coming to Roses Gap with us.

By: Lily O’Brien and Elena Huggins

Hello teachers and students, as most people know the grade threes and fours went on the Roses Gap camp for three days. (Wednesday-Friday)

We had a fabulous time doing all the fun activities. The activities were the Giant Swing, the Flying Fox, Canoeing, Low Ropes, Hut building, Archery, Bush walk to Beehive Falls. We also had the zoo trip and a night walk.

In our free time we saw a lot of animals. The food was magnificent. They never ran out of food. The staff was really helpful with everything we did on camp.

As well we would also like to say thank you to the teachers for organising the camp so it could happen and the parents for coming and helping.

Enjoy your week,
Chella Biggin and Isabella Ness

Hello Gray street

On the grade 3 and 4 camp it was amazingly fun. We did low ropes, the flying fox, giant swing, bush walking, yabbying, archery, canoeing and hut building.

Also the Halls Gap Zoo came and we went for a night walk.

We had Camp X-factor, it was awesome. The food tasted fantastic. The cabins were great but small. We also saw a big kangaroo, they called him Spring.

By Coco & Alera.
Artist of the Week

Artist of week was Ella Shelden, grade 1. Ella used watercolour paints to paint a cliff with a lighthouse and sunset background.

The school also entered artwork into the Byaduk and Community Spring Show. 1st prize - Olivia Moore, 2nd prize - Tahlia Ross, 3rd prize - Izaac Ewing and Kaemon Smith (created one artwork together) as well as Lara Herrmann and Scout Graham (created one artwork together).

Thanks. Emma.

More Photos from Grade 3 & 4 Camp

Hoop Time Basketball Region Finals

Last Friday 7 grade 6 boys (All Stars) travelled to Werribee to play in the Hoop Time Basketball Regional Finals.

We were in Pool 1 and we played 4 games winning two out of the four. Three teams in our pool ended up on 2 wins so it came down to percentage to see who would play off in the Grand Final. Unfortunately we missed out on the Grand Final. We did get to play another game, a consolation Final against Portland.

Hoop Time was a great experience and we all had a great time.

RESULTS FROM THE DAY

The first game was 30 to 2 our way against Kings College. The second game was 8 to 5 our way against Baden Powell P.S.

Our third game was against Wembley P.S and we lost 20 to 5 (they went on to win the Grand Final)

Our last pool game was against Montmorency South P.S, we lost by 4.

Finally we played in a consolation Final against Portland and we also lost that game by 4.

We would like to thank Roger Lewis for training and coaching us and also the parents for driving us to Werribee.

Jayden Duncan, Tom Scott, Harry McGinley, Cooper Graham, Ben Annett, Rory Gill and Lachy Dawson.
Community Invitation
Growing Boys to Men – Understanding the male journey to manhood
An essential presentation for all parents of boys.

Wednesday 21st November 7.30 pm (general Public)
Western District Health Service in partnership with Male Health Victoria is pleased to present the “Growing Boys to Men – Understanding the male journey to manhood” tour. Celia Lashlie, a renowned international presenter, researcher and author of He’ll Be OK – Growing Gorgeous Boys into Good Men will be delivering a free public session on understanding your son, his behaviour, attitudes and needs throughout adolescence. Celia has worked in the area of social justice, detention centres and education facilities studying the unique attributes of our younger males.

Celia’s entertaining and enlightening view of young men and their journey to manhood is a must for any parent who strives to raise good young men in today’s society.

A free session will be held at The Hamilton and Alexandra College Auditorium on Wednesday 21st November commencing at 7.30pm. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited.

Registrations are essential and should be booked through the Frances Hewett Community Centre on 55518450

Canteen
Term 4 Special Menu Items

Monday Specials
Chicken Burger- $3.50
Wholemeal Roll - Chicken fillet, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, grated carrot, beetroot & mayonaise.

Wednesday Specials
Chicken Wrap - $3.00
Crumbed Chicken, Salad & sweet chilli mayonnaise served in a wrap
Salad Boxes (available every day)
Lettuce, tomato, cucumber, grated carrot, beetroot, pineapple, cheese & dressing - $3.00
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

(Beef burger & Fried rice are not available until term 2 & 3 2013)

Canteen Roster
Mon 19th November
10.45 – 2pm – Danni Sarena
Wed 21st November
10.45 – 2pm – Helper Needed
Friday 23rd November
10.45 – 1pm – Deb Hintum
12.00 – 2pm – Gwen Rheinberger

Uniform
The uniform shop is open on Tuesdays
8.30am to 9.00am
and
3.00pm to 3.30pm
Samples are available for sizing purposes.
Order forms are available from the office.
If you have any questions please contact Leesa in the office.

St. Mary’s Christmas Expo
Saturday 1st December
Expo in PAC from 9.30-3.30pm.
Parade along Gray St 10.30am
Pre purchase ride wristbands from St Mary’s primary school.
Lots of new and exciting traders this year including many local traders.

Cut this out and return to the office

DITCH THE PAPER!!!
Help us slash our photocopy costs and help the environment!
Sign up to have your NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER INFORMATION emailed to you.

Student Name/s and grade/s: ..............................................................

Parent Name/s: ..............................................................

Email Address: ..............................................................