Principal’s Report

As the newsletter went to print this afternoon we were all waiting for our special visitors to arrive.

Minister for Education Mr Martin Dixon, Minister for Youth, Sports and Veteran’s Affairs Mr Hugh Delahunty and Regional Director of Barwon South Western Region Mr Grant Rau. The school student leaders Georgia, Cooper, Sophie and Dylan were waiting in anticipation ready to lead a tour of the school followed by the opportunity to ask some questions of our official guests. In next week’s newsletter we will include some photos and the leaders impressions of their experience.

This week we had a great response to our Meet & Greet Interviews for all year levels. From the feedback I have received the purpose of the interviews to enhance communication between you and your child’s teacher through a discussion focussed on your child’s academic, social, emotional and medical needs has been achieved. I am sure the information sheet that you received summarising particular routines, events, curriculum focus specifically related to your child’s grade level will be useful to you. If you were unable to attend on Monday I would encourage you to contact your child’s teacher through the office and make a time to catch up. The information sheets that were distributed on the night will also be available on the school website.

Well, it is most encouraging and quite humorous watching our budding athletes in prep as they prepare for their ‘special field events’ morning next Tuesday. They have been working with their Grade Six buddies perfecting their techniques....... hopefully some prospective starters for the 2024 Olympics.

Safety is the number one priority for all us in regards to our students at Gray St. At times when students have been at a large event that has been held outside the school students have been allowed to leave with a parent or carer before the event has concluded, this will no longer be allowed.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Photos - Grades 5 Students practising long jump
Junior Netball 2012

A reminder netball fees are due this week and must be paid before your child takes the court for their third game. If you haven’t already paid these fees and lodged your medical indemnity form please ensure this is done Saturday morning.

Gray Street’s registration duty roster times are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Coach</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.15-9.30</td>
<td>Carolyn Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30-10.30</td>
<td>Maree Falkenberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30-10.30</td>
<td>Luise Pearse</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The netball committee has asked each team to remind everyone that under no circumstances are parents or spectators allowed onto the court whilst a game is being played. Parents are also asked to refrain from ‘coaching’ from the sidelines as each team has an official named coach whose job this is.

Draw for Saturday 25th February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U12</th>
<th>U10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gray Street Aces</td>
<td>vs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton North Dragons</td>
<td>vs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray Street Hot Shots</td>
<td>vs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray St Smarties</td>
<td>vs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton North Gems</td>
<td>vs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton North Allstars</td>
<td>vs</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Marys White</td>
<td>BYE</td>
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Carolynn Murray & Sheree McGinley
Netball 2012

HDSA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

On Tuesday 21st February eleven children attended the HDSA tennis at the lawn courts, Hamilton.

There were some great matches played and all the children showed some high level tennis skills.

The children are to be congratulated for the way they participated in all games and did so with big smiles on their faces whether they were first or last. They showed great sportsman like behaviour. The players included, Cooper Graham, Kieran Barker, Heath Cooper, Cameron Gellert, Harry McGinley, Ben Annett, Kaemon Smith, Jayden Duncan, Louis Beaton, Rowdy Ellis. Nikita Ansell did a great job representing all the girls for Gray Street.

Harry McGinley was third overall, a fantastic effort and we all wish Louis Beaton luck as he has progressed to the next round in Warnambool in March. Well done to everyone. A special thanks to Sheree McGinley and Jane Horne from Hamilton College for all their organisation and help with scoring on the day. Liisa Beaton

Swimming Sports

The Annual Gray St Swimming Sports for children in Grade 2-6 will be held on Wednesday March 14th at the Hamilton Olympic Pool (outdoor) at Hughan Park. I realise this is very late in the term however It was very difficult to secure a more appropriate date as the pool is heavily booked and it is a very busy term.

We are aiming to begin the Sports at 10.00am this year to allow time for the weather to warm up. As this has been a very unpredictable summer weatherwise, if it was to be an extremely hot day we will endeavour to start earlier (eg 9.30am ) as we have the pool booked all day. We will notify you if the starting time will be other than 10.00am

This year the program will be altered slightly to include an optional age group race for children in Grade 3-6 to find a champion swimmer for each age group. The age level races will be swum either across the pool or 50 metres depending on the level of ability of that particular age group. (Most likely, 9 y.o will swim across the pool and 10 y.o, 11 y.o and 12/13 y.o will swim 50 metres using a stroke of their choice.)

We will still be running our overall 100 metre championship race for boys and girls which is also optional and open to children who are capable of swimming that distance.

With the added races to the program the children will need to be well prepared with a substantial amount of food to cater for morning tea and lunch at the pool as we will be there for a longer period of time. They will also need a water bottle, sunscreen, school hat and a couple of towels as they will be in and out of the pool for their races. If the weather is cool they will also need to be prepared with warm clothes. All children will be required to walk back to school at the end with their class. NO children will be dismissed from the pool at the conclusion of the day.

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The school has a record of your child’s swimming level based on the program run by HILAC in 2011. If your child is new to the school or has had swimming lessons over the holidays please send a note to your child’s class teacher indicating which level your child is now in. All other children will be told the level we have recorded for them on Monday 27th February, Grade 3-6 will record this in their diary to be checked by you and the Grade 2 children will be given a separate note with their level recorded on it. If you believe the level your child is in is not accurate, could you please send a note to your child’s class teacher recording their name, grade and new level.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the pool on Wednesday March 14th.

If you have any queries please contact me at school.

Lisa Speed

Grade 1 Sport Uniform Days

Grade 1 students need to wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Thank you
Athletics Sports – Wednesday 7th March

On Wednesday 7th March the Athletic Sports will be held at Pedrina Park (North Boundary Road). All students in grade one to grade 6 will participate in these sports. (Prep students will participate in the afternoon session but will participate in field events on Tuesday 28th February at school – see more information on the next page.)

The day begins at 9.30am and concludes around 3pm. Students in grade 1 to 6 are bussed to Pedrina Park leaving school at 9.10am. Students participate in a variety of athletic sports. The program will be attached to next week’s newsletter.

Students in grade 1 to grade 6 will participate in the morning field event sessions (ie: long jump, high jump, shot put, discus).

Prep students will be bussed to Pedrina park at 11.10am and will join students in grades 1 to grade 6 in track activities (ie: sprints, hurdles and relays).

If you would like to take your children home with you at the end of the day directly from the sports, (approximately 3.00pm) the notice sent home today with every student must be returned to the class teacher by Friday 2nd March. Students who have not returned their forms will return to school for dismissal at 3.30pm. Arrangements CANNOT be changed on the day.

Students are permitted to leave before the Athletic Sports have concluded.

Students need to bring:
- Morning Tea and Lunch (food to ‘graze’ on)
- Drinks
- School Hat
- Sunscreen
- A coat
- A safety pin for ribbons

Prep & Grade 1 Students Under 6 Athletic Day

Prep and grade 1 students under 6 will participate in their Athletic Sports field events at school on Tuesday 28th February starting at 9.00am and finishing approximately 11.00am. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Parent helpers are required, if you are able to help and hold a Working With Children Check please let Ms Ferrier or Mrs Harms know.

On Wednesday 7th March they will go up by bus to Pedrina Park to the Official Athletics Day at 11:10 am to take part in the track events during the afternoon. The children will take their school bags and have their lunch with the other children in their house team.

Working With Children Checks

In recent times the Victorian Government introduced a new checking system to help protect children under 18 from physical or sexual harm. The Working With Children Check creates a mandatory minimum checking standard across Victoria. Applicants are checked to make sure their record does not include any criminal offences specified in the Act or findings by a specified professional disciplinary body (currently only the Victorian Institute of Teaching).

Benefits of the Check include ongoing checking of a person’s criminal record, providing organizations such as schools with the ability to verify a check at any time.

From our school’s point all school volunteers must have a current Working With Children Check. School volunteers can include but is not limited to: parent helpers on camps and excursions, parents who take part in our meals on wheels program, school sporting coaches, parents who hear reading.

Working With Children Check application forms are available from the Post Office. These Checks are provided at no cost to volunteer applicants.

Parent Helpers required for Athletic Sports

We require parent assistance for the morning and the afternoon of our Athletic Sports Day on Wednesday 7th March. (Parent volunteers must have a Working With Children Check – see above information). If you could assist please complete the form below and return to the office by TOMORROW – Friday 24th February.

Thank you

Parent Helpers – Parent Helpers

Parent Name: ........................................

☐ Am able to help the morning of the Athletic Sports Day

☐ Am able to help the afternoon of the Athletic Sports Day

Contact Phone Number: ..........................

Eldest Child ............................ Grade............

Parent Name: ........................................

☐ Am able to help the morning of the Athletic Sports Day

☐ Am able to help the afternoon of the Athletic Sports Day

Contact Phone Number: ..........................

Eldest Child ............................ Grade............
Fundraising
First Fundraising Meeting for the Year.

TUESDAY 28th February 7PM in the staffroom.
All Welcome.

Giant Easter Raffle
The Gray St Giant Easter Raffle will be held again this term.
It would be appreciated if each family would donate some Easter Eggs for the raffle.
Please send all donations to the office. The more donations the more prizes.
Raffle books have been distributed to the eldest child with the newsletter this week.
Raffle tickets are 50¢ each. There is a prize for the family that sells the most raffle books.
Raffle books and money are due back to the office by Wednesday 21st March.
The raffle will be drawn on Friday 23rd March.

“Know Your IPAD”
The Gray St Learning Community event for February “Know Your IPAD” workshop will be held on Monday February 27th from 7pm to 9pm.
This workshop is open to all Gray St parents and staff.
Workshop will be held in the Learning Centre at the school. Please enter via the front door near office.
Bring your ipad along if you have one. Suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced. Experts available. Gold coin entry – door prizes. Come along for a fun and interesting evening.

Hamilton Junior Basketball Association
Summer 2012 Season
Registration Night for players already in teams.
Monday 20th February, 2012 at HILAC near court 2 from 4pm to 6pm
Registration form on website at www.hamilton.basketball.net.au under forms.
Starts Friday 24th February and Monday 27th February, 2012
Preliminary Finals - Friday 25th May
Semi Finals – Monday 28th May
Grand Finals – Friday 1st June,
Player Registration must be paid by 3rd Round.
Registration is $40 includes Club Fee of $5.

Head Lice
We have discovered an outbreak of head lice at this school. This is not a cause for serious concern as your child may not be affected, however head lice are extremely contagious.

Finding Head Lice
Many lice do not cause an itch, so you have to look carefully to find them. Head lice are found on the hair itself and move to the scalp to feed. They have six legs which end in a claw and rarely fall from the head. Louse eggs (also called nits) are laid within 1.5 cm of the scalp and are firmly attached to the hair. They resemble dandruff, but can’t be brushed off. Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:

Step 1 Comb inexpensive hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This makes it difficult for lice to grip the hair or run around;

Step 2 Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue;

Step 3 Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs;

Step 4 If lice or eggs are found, the child should be treated;

Treatment
Head lice treatment products can be purchased from both Chemists and Supermarkets. It is important to follow the directions carefully.

Alternatively, you can use the conditioner method mentioned above. This must be done every second day until there have been no live lice found for ten days.

Further information on treatment and control of head lice can be found at the school office or at http://www.jcu.edu.au/school/phtm/hlice/hlinfo1.htm

Patient In Casual Clothes Day”
To support the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal the Social Service Committee is holding a “Patient in Casual Clothes Day” on Friday 23rd March.
Students are asked to wear casual clothes along with “Patient” attire - sling, bandage, bandaid, crutches etc.
Envelopes for donations will be sent home later in the term.