Principal’s Report

The weather was extremely kind to us yesterday for our House Athletic Sports held at Pedrina Park.

I think a highlight was the strong sense of team work, encouragement and keen competition which was evidenced everywhere. It was wonderful to see the preps arrive for the afternoon session they definitely can draw a crowd and never cease to surprise us with their comical little antics. Once again we witnessed wonderful support from our families. Of course the success of an event such as this is only guaranteed by the skilful organisation and hard work of the teachers and parents leading up to and on the day. I would like to thank Lisa Speed for her coordination of the Athletics and her large band of helpers. I would also like to make special mention of the students from Baimbridge College who came and worked on the events and to Roger Kennett (Baimbridge College) who gave his time to come and set up the sound system for us for the day, thanks Roger. The Jack Waldron shield was presented to the winning House, Nigretta. A great day had by all!

As part of the School Council election process, I formally declare that the following nominations are duly elected to the school council: Susan Bradbeer, Christine Jeal, Jason Muldoon, Bonita O’Brien (Parent members) Emma Callaway and Raquel Potter (DEECD members). An election was required as the number of nominations exceeded the number of non DEECD vacancies. Thank you to Jacinta Hendricks for her nomination. Two of the four newly elected members have been returned to council for another term, whilst we welcome Bonita O’Brien and Christine Jeal as new school councillors. All newly elected members (2012) will serve for 2 years on council while existing members have one more year to serve in their term.

The 2012 School Council consists of the following members:

Parents: Jim Bailey, Susan Bradbeer, Christine Jeal, Hugh Koch, Simon McKinley, Bonita O’Brien and Leigh Whyte

Staff: Emma Callaway, Kerrie McFadden and Raquel Potter

Executive Officer: Helen Freeman

The first School Council meeting will take place on Monday 19th March, where new office bearers (President, Vice president, Treasurer & Minute Secretary) and subcommittee convenors will be elected for 2012.

Parents and staff not elected to School Council still have numerous opportunities to help shape and develop school policies; and to assist with the implementation of various initiatives for 2012, through the subcommittee and project team structure more information regarding this will follow after the first school council meeting.

Again thank you to the families who have already donated eggs for the Super Easter Raffle, to ensure we have lots of prizes we need more eggs. So when you are out shopping if you could pop an egg into the basket to be sent along to school that would be greatly appreciated.

Last Thursday Claire Dempsey, Sophie Lean and Nikki Menzel represented Gray St at the District Swimming Competition. All the girls did a great job in their individual events. Nikki won the overall award for girls under 10 and will be representing not only Gray St but the whole district in the Barwon South West Regional Swimming Championships at Kardinia Pool in Geelong next Friday. We again congratulate all the girls on their achievements and wish Nikki all the very best for her next level of competition. Still on the sporting scene all the best to Louis Beaton who are competing in the Divisional Tennis competition tomorrow at Warnambool.

On Tuesday Georgia Muldoon, Cooper Graham, Sophie Duncan, Dylan Evans, Claire Dempsey, Isabelle Bradbeer, Makenzee Sparrow, Harry Harms, Oscar O’Brien attended a Student Ultranet Lead User Workshop run by the BSW Ultranet Coach, Nigel Hollaway. The aim of the workshop was to empower students to share the role of leading the effective use of the Ultranet in our schools.

The students; explored what it means to be a leader, learned about Ultranet functionality, learned where to go to find Ultranet support materials, engaged in action planning for how they will effectively use the Ultranet in their schools. Later in this newsletter there is a report from Georgia about the day. I am looking forward to working with the students to support the implementation of their action plan. Kerrie McFadden accompanied the students on the day and returned with glowing reports about our students input on the day and their planning for the future and I know she is also looking forward to working with the group.

All the best for an enjoyable long weekend.

Enjoy your week ahead.

Helen
Yesterday we ran our annual Athletics Sports at Pedrina Park. In blustery conditions in the morning, the children competed in the field events; High Jump, Discus, Shot put and Long Jump. In the afternoon the children competed for house points again in hurdles, sprints, long distance and grade relays.

I would like to thank all the parents for supporting the day by watching and barracking for their children as they competed but I would especially like to thank the parents that assisted on the day and helped run field events, gave out ribbons, set up early and were still there at the end helping to pack up. It is impossible to run an event of this scale without your assistance so I really appreciate your efforts.

The Age group champions are listed below, however I saw many more champions on the day that gave their best efforts and showed the real Gray St spirit. Congratulations to all children involved.

Well done to Nigretta for being the winning house of the day. I know my two children will be excited; they both still ask me about the results of the Gray St Athletics sports and as ex Nigretta house captains they will both be proud of the red house effort!

Well done to the other houses as the competition was fierce on the day, especially in the grade 6 relay race where it was anyone’s race right to the end!

The Grade 6 relay race and the Prep relay race are highlights of the day; both significant and entertaining in their own right.

The results of the day are as follows:

| 5/6 Girls | 1st | Claire Cummings |
| 2nd | Emily Pitts |
| 3rd | Tegan Menzel |
| 9 Girls |
| 1st | Kingley Prendergast & Oliver Annett |
| 2nd | Callum Anderson |
| 3rd | |
| 9 Boys |
| 1st | Nikki Menzel |
| 2nd | Victoria Jewell |
| 3rd | Lucy Clarke |
| 10 Girls |
| 1st | Kaemon Smith |
| 2nd | Angus Harms |
| 3rd | Kieran Barker |
| 10 Boys |
| 1st | Olivia Moore |
| 2nd | Eilish MacGillivray |
| 3rd | Danielle Matthey & Annaleace Dohle |
| 11 Girls |
| 1st | Lawson Prendergast |
| 2nd | Jake Donehune & Louis Beaton |
| 3rd | Luke Barnes, Harry McGinley & Rory Gill |
| 11 Boys |
| 1st | Georgia Clarke |
| 2nd | Sophie Duncan |
| 3rd | Jalen Walsh & Emily Pertzel |
| 12/13 Girls |
| 1st | Ben Annett |
| 2nd | Jakob Greaves |
| 3rd | Tom Scott |
| 12/13 Boys |

Lisa Speed and all staff

Pictured below: Nigretta House Captains Tom Scott and Chloe Meyers receiving the Jack Waldron Athletic Sport Shield from Mrs Speed
Swimming Sports - Grades 2 – 6
Wednesday 14th March

Notices were sent home today to all students in grades 2 – 6. The permission form needs to be returned tomorrow – 9th March to the class teacher.

On Wednesday 14th March the Swimming Sports will be held at the Outdoor Pool (Hughan Park). The day begins at 10.00am and concludes around 2.30pm. Students will eat their lunch at the pool.

All students in Grades 2 to 6 will participate in these swimming sports. Students need to wear their sports uniform to school this day.

Students will be placed in swimming levels according to records kept at school, if your child has participated in private swimming lessons over the school holidays and/or they could be in a different level to school records, or your child is new to Gray St please complete the form below by Tomorrow 9th March.

Students need to bring:
- a drink
- their hat
- sunscreen
- a coat
- morning tea (food to ‘graze’ on)
- 2 towels (in case it is cold and the first one gets very wet)

Children are not permitted to purchase food etc from the pool canteen. We also ask that parents do not purchase food from the pool canteen for their children.

A program of the day’s events has been sent home today.

Parents, grandparents and friends are more than welcome to come and watch and cheer their child/ren on. We do ask however that all parents, grandparents etc please stay on the opposite side of the pool to the children.

We look forward to a fun day.

Student Ultranet Training

On Tuesday the 6th of March a group of grade 5 and 6 students went to Bambridge College to learn about the Ultranet. It was fantastic day learning about how to use the Ultranet more efficiently in our classes. We learnt about showing leadership online and discovered pages that we didn’t even know existed. One of the main tips was if you wouldn’t say it to your grandmother don’t post it online. Once again it was a great day and a big thanks goes to Mrs McFadden and Mrs Freeman for taking us all to and from Bambridge and Nigel Hollaway who taught us for the day.

Newsletter Information

The newsletter is handed out every Thursday to the eldest child at School. If you would like the newsletter emailed to you please contact Leesa on dorman.leesa.m@edumail.vic.gov.au stating your name and your eldest child’s name and grade.

Alternatively you can view the newsletter on the school website - www.hamiltonps-grayst.vic.edu.au

Further to our recent whole school trial of Intrepica, Hamilton Gray Street Primary School would like to offer parents the opportunity to purchase an annual subscription via the school at a saving of more than 80% off the usual home user subscription price of $120 per year. Special annual subscription price organised via the school is $22 per student.

Intrepica has the ability to capture student attention for hours at a time through interactive exercises, competitive learning, positive feedback and reward systems. This means that students not only develop a more positive attitude towards literacy, but experience the satisfaction of knowing their achievements are acknowledged.

Students can log on anywhere in the world, at any time.

Teachers are equipped with a powerful, yet flexible tool designed to enhance the way in which literacy is delivered in the classroom. Life is made easier for teachers by providing diagnostic capabilities, results and progress reporting, and the ability to set tasks and homework.

To take advantage of this exciting offer, please complete your child’s name and class details below and return to the office by March 22nd with payment.

*Get half back!

The Australian Tax Office has advised that the fees associated with gaining access to the Intrepica program are regarded as the acquisition of computer software. Therefore, your subscription to Intrepica is an eligible expense for the purpose of the Education Tax Refund (ETR), entitling you to apply for a refund on your subscription fees of up to 50%.
**Fundraising**

**Tubes**
Frozen tubes will be for sale for $1 from the canteen every Friday, starting tomorrow. Please remember to bring your dollar.

**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 by Friday 16th April. **The more donations the more prizes.**
Volunteers are required to help wrap eggs on this day, if you are available please leave your name at the office.
Raffle bookes have been distrubted to the eldest child.
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.**

**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 were sent home last week.

**Scouts have lots of fun!**
The great things Scouts do are:
- Bike Hikes
- Use a compass
- Possum Prowls
- Cook on an open fire
- Play lots of different games
- Go on weekend camps
- Make new friends and heaps more
One of the best things about being a Scout is that you can learn lots of useful things and earn badges to wear on your uniform
Some of the badges are Codes and Signalling, Bushcraft, Athletics, Fishing, Boating, Swimming, Cyclist, Flight, Masks, Space and many more
Being a Scout means you can have fun, play games and learn many new things.
Cub Scouts - 7 – 10 years
Scouts – 10 -14 years
Come and Join Us
1st Hamilton Scout Group
Cub Scouts - Monday 7 – 8.30pm
Scouts - Monday 7 - 9pm
1st Hamilton Scout Hall, North Boundary Road, Hamilton
Contact: Caroline Montgomery
Phone: 0427 850 944
FREE SCOUTING TRIAL
“3 weeks for Free!”

**Conveyance Allowance**
To be eligible, students must live in regional and rural Victoria and live more than 4.8km from their nearest appropriate government school, non-government school or free bus service. For further information please contact Maree or Leesa at the office

**GSLC - “BBQ Meat Masterclass”**
The Gray Street Learning Community event for March “BBQ Meat Masterclass” will be held on Monday March 26th from 6-7:30pm. Open to all Gray St families and staff - To be held at the school.
Bring along a couple of kitchen items and get involved in this fun event. Bring along any budding chefs from your family to work alongside you. (see flier)