Principal’s Report

The weeks seem to be just slipping passed.

Today the students in Years 3 to 6 have enjoyed the annual school Cross Country challenge at Lake Hamilton. Next week I will be able to report the outcome of the event to you.

To celebrate Education Week this year at Gray St we will be holding a special Grandparents/Special Friend Morning on Wednesday 23rd May starting at 9.00 a.m. and concluding at 11.00 a.m. A note detailing the activities for the morning will be sent out on Monday.

Next week the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) will be conducted for all students in years 3 and 5. The NAPLAN consists of common assessment tasks in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation and Numeracy. The data gathered through NAPLAN is a reliable source of data about student progress for schools, parents and education systems. It is of course, just one component of the information we need to make sound judgements about how students, schools and the system are progressing, but nevertheless its position as one of the key indicators is assured.

I know that schools across Victoria have achieved significant success in using NAPLAN data to communicate their students’ learning improvements with parents and local community members. This kind of communication involves the whole community and motivates people towards achieving further gains. Our school uses NAPLAN data as part of a collection of resources to inform practice in the classroom, including their professional judgments of students’ learning.

NAPLAN data is also regularly used as a valuable component of whole-school planning for improvement.

The tests are scheduled for the mornings of Tuesday 15th May, Wednesday 16th May and Thursday 17th May. An information brochure will be sent home to parents with all year 3 and 5 students today. If you have any questions about the testing please do not hesitate to contact me or your child’s teacher.

We have had a great response from parents regarding supplying their contact details to their Class Representative. For those few who haven’t as yet returned the form if you could do this as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated.

Tomorrow we will be holding our Mothers’ Day Stall. Thank you to all our families who have donated gifts. There have been some extra special donations from grandparents who have hand-made gifts including and wooden bookends and photo frames. Thanks also to our mums who have taken the time to organise this great opportunity for the children and to wrap the gifts.

Finally I would like to wish all our wonderful mums at Gray St a very Happy Mothers’ Day and I hope that on Sunday you are justly spoilt for the day!

Enjoy the week ahead.
Helen

The Preps have been making Fairy Bread this week as part of their Procedural Writing.
Prep 2013 Open Day

An open day for parents with children due to start Prep in 2013 will be held on Tuesday 22nd May at school.

Sessions will be held at:
10.00am to 11.00am
6.00pm to 7.00pm.

Flyers have been placed on display at local kindergartens.

For further information please contact Leesa in the office on 5571 9295.

Join In Walk Safely To School Day
Friday 18th May 2012

We all want our kids to be happy, healthy and safe.
Active kids are healthy kids.

Friday 18th May 2012 is National Walk Safely to School Day. It’s the perfect opportunity for parents and carers to teach children that walking all or part of the way, to and from school, is a good thing to do.

Cross Country

As the newsletter goes to print the cross country is being run in perfect cross country weather conditions sun, no rain and no wind. A full report will be in next weeks newsletter.

The top ten students in each age group from 10’s, 11’s and 12’s will compete in the Hamilton District Cross country next Wednesday 16th May.

Hamilton 'Aussie Footy' Program 2012
Students in Grades 5 & 6

The Hamilton District Sports Association will be continuing the popular 'Aussie Footy' Program in 2012 (during second and third term) after 24 successful seasons. 'Aussie Footy' is a modified rules Football program actively encouraged by the Victorian Football Development Foundation and its Development Manager for this region, Mr Jock Whiting.

It features:
- modified rules which have been thoroughly researched by experts involved in Junior Sport.
- Wednesday afternoon (4-5pm) games following a skills session for approximately 8 weeks
- emphasis on the learning of skills (mainly in school hours)
- restricted age limits (Primary School children aged 9-12)
- school-based rather than club-based
- equal opportunity for all children regardless of level of skill development or sex
- cost $5 per student

If you wish your child to play, please complete and return the form below to school by TOMORROW Friday, 11th May.

Aussie Footy Registration of Interest
Form 2012

I wish to register my child’s interest in participating in the 2012 Aussie Footy Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENTS NAME</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<td></td>
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Signed  
Date: / /2012
Fundraising

Mother’s Day Stall

The Mothers’ Day stall will be held tomorrow morning – Friday May 11th. Each grade will visit the stall in turn and students will be able to purchase a gift priced from $3 to $5. If there are any gifts left over, those wishing to do so may buy a second gift.

Parents - Don't forget to give your child some money so they can buy that special gift.

A big thank you again to all those mums who helped wrap over the last two Fridays, a fantastic effort!

Liisa Beaton

Swimming

Students in Grade 3 & 4 will swim from Monday 21st May to Friday 1st June. Permission notices will be sent home tomorrow with all grade 3 & 4 students. Please complete and return the forms by Wednesday 16th May. Students without forms will be unable to swim.

Meals On Wheels

Grade 5 & 6 Students

Students in grade 5 & 6 participate in Meals on Wheels every Friday for Term 2 & 3.

Volunteer Drivers

Friday 11th May
Danni Sarena and Josie Lean

Canteen

Canteen operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Volunteers for next week are:
Mon 14th May - Tracey Barnes
Wed 16th May – Volunteer Needed
Fri 18th May
10.45 – 1.00pm – Narelle Pitts
12.30 – 2.00pm – Kym Hunter

Earn & Learn

We’re thrilled to announce that Woolworths Earn & Learn is back for 2012 and it’s now easier than ever to participate and receive valuable resources for your school.

It’s simple to participate: from the 9th May, when parents shop at Woolworths they collect stickers from the checkout operator and place them on sticker cards. There’ll be 1 sticker for every $10 spent* (*excludes liquor, cigarettes, and gift cards.)

Once your sticker card is full please send to your child’s grade. Each grade will get to ‘spend’ their Earn and Learn points in July.

Sticker cards have been sent out to all students this week. Extra cards are available from Safeway.

Wood Raffle

Raffle books were distributed to the eldest child today. Raffle tickets are $1 each. Families that sell the whole book will go into a draw for a mystery prize. Raffle books and money are due back to the office by Tuesday 29th May.

The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday 1st June.

Gray St Learning Community

I’m Not a Target! – Anti-bullying workshop. A family event on Saturday afternoon – 26 May 2-4pm. Come along and enjoy the afternoon. Details on Gray Street learning Community notice board in Learning Centre and on flier with this newsletter. – Or give Jacinta 0408 679 087 or Bernie 55711 874 a call.

Managing Digital Photos – This course for adults is now scheduled for Thurs 17th May (next week). Please call SGAE on 5571 9900 to book in and leave a contact number. This is your opportunity to unravel some of the techniques and tips for controlling your digital photos, and practice using some simple tools to make them look great!

Bring a friend to this if you wish. To be held at SGAE, 89 Gray St. $10 per person for a $45 value 2hr lesson, plus a free gift.

A once only opportunity. Ph Wendy 0408 711 985 for more information.

Pauls Collect a Cap

This term we are holding a competition to see which grade can collect the most caps in 10 weeks. The grade with the most caps per students will win a fantastic morning tea!!

If you have any caps at home please bring them to your classroom in a plastic bag, marked clearly with the student’s name, grade and how many caps.

Sticker cards will be sent out with Pauls Collect a Cap

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