NEWSLETTER

No. 13
19th May 2011

Official Opening

It gives us much pleasure to invite parents, all past and present associates of the school and any interested members of the community to the official opening of our

BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION PROJECT

Being held at school on Wednesday May 25th at 10.30am

RSVP: Please RSVP to Leesa or Maree on 5571 9295 by Monday 23rd May

The Hamilton (Gray Street) Primary School community wishes to acknowledge the staff and subcontractors of A W Nicholson Pty Ltd for their professional management and construction of our new Flexible Learning Centre and Classrooms.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th May</td>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6 Camp return 4pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24th May</td>
<td>Somers Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th May</td>
<td>BER Opening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st June</td>
<td>Report Writing Day – No Students required at school</td>
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<td>Outside School Hours Care open from 6.45am to 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – No students required at school</td>
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www.hamilton-ps-grayst.vic.edu.au

ADDRESS 42 Gray Street, Hamilton 3300 Victoria, Australia  TEL 03 5571 9295  FAX 03 5571 1315  EMAIL Hamilton.ps.gray@edumail.vic.gov.au
School Council met for its May meeting with numerous items of interest discussed. Following the election of new councilors at the previous meeting, councilors were appointed to various sub committees to assist in pursuing the projects and issues of the school. The finance, education/marketing, facilities and fund raising sub committees all determined priorities for the year ahead.

The **finance sub committee** led by Jim Bailey will continue to set and monitor the budget for the school year and also review several of the current finance policies. The newly named **education and marketing sub committee**, led by Susan Bradbeer will continue to focus on the educational programs and external communication of the school. Key objectives this year will be to develop a whole of school communication plan, assist with integrating the Ultranet (in Term 3 and 4), review the school uniform policy, audit and review internal school signage within the school and commence a review of current school policies. The **facilities and grounds sub committee** led by Leigh Whyte will focus on developing a landscaping master plan for the school. Now the current renovations have been complete, this plan will focus on providing a structure in which to consider the educational outcomes of further grounds developments over the next 10 years. Additionally there are numerous repairs and maintenance projects that will need to be undertaken during the master planning process.

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**The first working bee for 2011 will occur for those families of Prep to Grade 2 students on Sunday 22\(^{nd}\) May 2pm - 4pm. This effort will ensure our school grounds are neat and tidy for the special opening of the new open learning area on Wednesday 25\(^{th}\) May.** Please bring your own gloves, spades, racks, clippers etc. We look forward to seeing you there!

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The Fundraising Sub committee must be congratulated for an excellent start to 2011. Up until the second week of May nearly $6,000 has already been raised of which $1400 was attributed to the Mother’s Day Stall. Look out for the excellent movie night planned for Friday 27\(^{th}\) May, *Pirates of the Caribbean 4*, a Farmers Market in the Stadium on Friday 17\(^{th}\) June and Hot Chocolate soon to be sold each Friday lunchtime during Term 2 and 3. A big thank you from School Council to those who have already donated to the efforts of the fundraising committee this year.

Helen reported that our current enrolments are slightly up on the start of the year at 330 students. She has also been busy in sourcing additional funding to complete aspects of the BER project. She was able to access $4000 to replace playground equipment removed to make way for the renovations and after much negotiation has also secured replacement fit out for our new school canteen. It was a condition of the BER that any pre existing facility be reinstated (the original canteen was demolished to make way for the new classrooms). Currently a new costing for the fit out is being considered. This will be quite a saving to the schools funds. Well done to our ever vigilant Principal!

Council would also like to publicly acknowledge the additional work undertaken by all staff in the preparation of Education Week. It was well organised, well received and much appreciated by those that attended – thank you.
During this year we are working on setting our school’s strategic direction for the next four years. Our primary goal is to provide an excellent education for every student. To do this we will evaluate our progress to date and plan a strategy that is critical to our school’s continued success-improving learning, engagement and wellbeing and successful transitions and pathways for our children.

The process of school self evaluation provides an opportunity for our school community to reflect on our achievements, our strengths, and areas where improvement is needed. After we have completed our self evaluation, an external reviewer will work with us to offer independent and expert advice on our progress. With their experience and knowledge of Australian and International best practice they will be able to help identify the most effective strategies for us to continue to improve into the future.

The self-evaluation and the review provide a powerful information base from which we can develop our new strategic directions for the four-year school strategic plan. We will:

✓ review the school’s core purpose and values
✓ take a ‘futures perspective’ of the needs of students and the context of our school
✓ agree on the outcomes we are striving to achieve for our students
✓ choose the few most important strategies that are critical to our success.

There will be a variety of opportunities for community input into the process, so please we are ask for your support so that we can ensure the best possible outcome for our students.

Congratulations to Rosemary and her team of the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Program and Vacation Care Program. The OSHC program is steadily building numbers with glowing reports on the quality of care provided. The addition of a bus service to St Mary’s Primary School has also been well received. This program continues to be an excellent point of difference to other primary schools in the region – again a great start.

Finally I encourage all members of the school community to join us in celebrating the opening of the new open learning area on **Wednesday 25th May at 10.30am**. A delicious morning tea will follow.

Cheers
Hugh Koch (Ted’s Dad)
President
School Council

**JOIN IN WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY**

**FRIDAY 20th MAY 2011**

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

Tomorrow - Friday 20th May 2011 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.
“YOU CAN DO IT”

Dear Parents and Friends,

The focus of You Can Do It is on teaching a variety of skills that enables our students to cope with the stresses and strains of growing up. Lessons are not about the elimination of emotions. Positive and negative feelings provide invaluable feedback concerning the choices we make in the way we behave. We would like our students to know how to stay relatively calm and/or to be able to calm down when facing challenging situations. Our lessons in Resilience aim to develop a set of skills and attitudes that will help our students manage their emotions and behaviour.

The winners of last week’s raffle were: Olivia Allen, Chandler Joseph, Maddison Barby, Abbey Phillips and Aaron Price.

ANZAC LETTER BY Eliza Schultz 4b

My dearest Kate,

It’s been so long love, I miss you more each day. It’s been terrible with all my friends. Lives being cut so short.

Do you remember Johnnie James from down the street? He got shot yesterday.

The guns are so loud and scary. I wish I hadn’t signed up now. I thought it would be so much fun, like a big adventure, but reality hit me hard.

It’s summer now and absolutely boiling hot and sweat is always pouring off us.

I am craving your soup because I’m sick of bully and hard tack biscuits.

I met an amazing young man John “Simpson” Kirkpatrick but sadly he got mistaken for a soldier and shot.

Last night I woke up with a fright. A rat was on me!

Don’t worry about my health I’m well I’ll stay safe. I will love you no matter what Kate I’ll love you forever.

Your dearest husband Albert xxxx
REPORT WRITING DAY

Report writing day will be on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June no students will be required at school on this day.

GRADE 5 & 6 CAMP

A reminder that students in grades 5 & 6 will return from camp tomorrow at 4.00pm.

HAMILTON JUNIOR NETBALL

Round 10 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011
PLEASE NOTE - All games will be played at 9.00am

UNDER 12 SEMI FINALS
Court 3 Gray Street Echidnas v St Mary’s Red

UNDER 10
Normal Rounds continue for Under 10 Competition
Court 7 Gray Street Emus v St Mary’s White
Court 9 North Hamilton v Gray Street Wallabies

LIBRARY NEWS

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE TWO FAMILIES WHO VERY KINDLY DONATED BOOKS TO OUR LIBRARY

As you maybe aware, Book Week is fast approaching. This is a wonderful way to study Australian Authors and Illustrators who every year are nominated by The Children’s Book Council of Australia for different awards. We have some of the books that have been short listed, however we do not have them all.

I have been down to Bell Court Books and have placed a Wish List with them in the event that any family would like to donate one of these books to our library.
All donations are greatly appreciated and will have a “donated by” acknowledgement put on the inside of the book.

Just a reminder to all children taking part in the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge.

All students should be keeping a log book on the books they have read. These log books should be signed off by an adult at home to say they have read the books and then they need to be brought to the library so I can verify the books online. All families have access to the website using your child’s username and password in their log book. Could parents please keep their children books updated on the website. The reading challenge should end by July school holidays, so keep reading those books!!

UNIFORM

The ordered windcheaters and polo shirts have arrived. The uniform shop is open on Tuesdays.
Fundraising - Term 2

Next Fundraising Meeting – Monday 30th May 7pm in the staff room
ALL WELCOME.

MOVIE NIGHT

- Pirates of the Caribbean 4
  On Stranger Tides
  Friday 27th May
  $20

Tickets on sale at the school office.
Raffle on the night $1 per ticket - prize Wii Megamind game.

Donations and a few helpers are still required for our movie fundraiser on May 27th. There are many small and relatively inexpensive items that can be donated to assist with this event.

✓ Bags of Gold chocolate coins
✓ Standard size vanilla cupcakes
✓ Party sized sausage rolls

You don’t have to make all of the food it is broken down into batches of 25 portions. Please donate - this is a great way to generate money for our school. Please contact Leesa or Maree at the front office or Sophie Hannah (0417 898 144).

LATE MOVIE NEWS
We have just secured our last movie fundraiser for the year Kung Fu Panda 2. This is likely to be held late June and will be a great family movie (G). Details will follow shortly.
Thanks: Thanks to the families that drop off items for the art room each week. This is really useful and appreciated.

Artist of the Week: Nate Krause
Nate is in IA and is our Artist of the Week. Nate enjoyed weaving his dolphin in art this week. He had no assistance and took his time going ‘over and under.’

Junior & Senior Art Class Weekly Awards

Junior: PREP B: for their individual painted self portraits. Great detail and use of space on the page. Magic Effort kids!
Senior: 4B: for their newspaper ‘building’ construction. Plenty of great ideas, team partnership and finished product. Well deserved 4B!

Congratulations to both classes!

Art Smock: Please ensure your child has an art smock. There are still children without a smock and an old T.shirt is suitable. Please name them clearly!

3A & 3B Autumn Leaves
The children in both 3A &3B collected some autumn leaves and brushed over them with paint. The technique of stroking the paint brush one way whilst holding the leaf still was a little challenging for some, but fun for all. Afterwards they drew some ‘creepy-crawlies’ in and around their leaf.

Super Work!

Grade 3A & 3B

@ Work!
“Under and over...” was whispered around the art room amongst the grade ones this week as they ‘weaved’ their coloured paper strips and string through their marine animals. Check them out...
Prep B completed self portraits this week. They thought about their individual features and tried really hard to use all the paper space. Well Done!

“loving art”

Get creative, Caterina
OSHC News

Wednesday 1 June – OSHC is open all day!
School might be out for the day but Outside School Hours Care is open all day on Wednesday 1 June. We have 25 places available and lots of fun activities ready.

Children can be dropped off and picked up any time between 6.45am and 6.30pm. We provide all food and drinks for the day including breakfast (before 8am), morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. The full fee for the day is $68.83. After Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Tax Rebate a full day of care will cost some families less than $15.00. Contact Linda for an estimate of what it will cost for your family.

Places must be booked and only enrolled children can be booked in, so remember to return your enrolment forms with your booking slip if your kids are not already enrolled. To book places, return the booking slip below (and enrolment forms) to the school office.

Enrolments and Bookings
Collect an Outside School Hours Care Information Package from the school office or download it from the website at www.hamiltonps-grayst.vic.edu.au and then go to Parent Information or email Linda Grant at swsustainability@yahoo.com.au and request the forms.
For more information contact Linda Grant, OSHC Project Manager on 0417 522 039 or Rosemary Anderson, OSHC Coordinator on 0408 936 652.

Outside School Hours Care booking for Wednesday 1 June 2011
To help us with rostering, please tell us what time you will drop off and pick up your children.

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<th>Age</th>
<th>drop off time</th>
<th>pick up time</th>
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I..........................................................................................................................................................(insert name) would like to book my children into Outside School Hours Care on Wednesday 1 June. I understand that by making this booking I am agreeing to pay the fee for each booked child whether or not they attend on the day.

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Signature Date