**Principal’s Report**

Wow! For those who haven’t had a chance to see the great things that were accomplished at the working last Saturday we encourage you to pop in and have a look. The proceeding week of drizzle and rain made way for a traditional Hamilton Spring day on Saturday – wet in the early morning and sunny thereafter! More than 40 parents and staff descended on Gray St Primary School to work tirelessly on the many projects that had been planned for. Teams of volunteers/parents were broken up and tasks around the grounds to tackle the annual maintenance and renewal projects. A “Tradies” and “Gardening” teams focussed on implementing two key projects of the landscape master plan, namely the **recladding and makeover of the Music Room** and the planting of a hedge around the boundary of the school to soften the fenceline. Classes have already volunteered to follow up with watering the newly planted seedlings to ensure their survival.

Sandpits were filled, soft fall replenished under playground equipment, spraying cape weed on the oval, trimming of our trees, cleaning of gutters, washing down of our portable classrooms, mulching of garden beds, repainting of the Gray St gates and flower boxes outside the grade three class room were all achieved over the weekend. A morning coffee from the Roxburgh coffee van and a BBQ Lunch supplied the sustenance required to get everything done. It was a grand effort and one of the best working bees the school has conducted for quite a long time. The results were striking and will have a lasting impact. It is difficult to highlight all those that contributed to the effort without missing someone out but we would like to particularly mention several of our parents who put in a super effort to achieve all we did.

Leigh Whyte and Jason Muldoon provided great leadership in coordinating the working bee. As key members of the buildings and grounds sub-committee of school council they were able to achieve most of our plans for 2012 in one weekend! Matt Downes, David Graham, Wayne Donahue and Dean Sparrow worked on the renewal of the music room well into Saturday afternoon and with only a small section around the verandah to complete. All have done an excellent job with outstanding results. Mark Diedrichs led the tree pruning and gutter cleaning – three truck loads of branches were taken away!

Narelle Pitts coordinated the hedge planting and mulching and is now the care taker of the replacements should any die. A thank you to Alan Wishart for his contribution to the preparation of the working bee. A special mention to Chris, Kathy, Ben and Oliver Annett who returned on the Sunday to complete the painting that was unable to be done due to the wet conditions on Saturday – the black gates look great.

We have still to install some new signage around the school to assist in building identification and sign posting for new parents and visitors to the school. This should also be completed shortly. We are also keen to complete a garden reconstruction on the Kennedy St side of the music room before the end of year to finalise the music room area renewal.

Again a huge thank you to all parents and staff involved on the day, we certainly appreciate you taking the time to contribute to school life and improve the facilities and conditions of our school.

On a separate issue, yesterday the police were in contact with me in regards to our student’s safety and parents parking in no standing areas. As from Monday these areas around school will be policed and people found parking in no standing areas will be fined (the fine is $141).

Just a reminder about the rules for the two ‘drop and go zones’. Firstly, that there is no parking in the designated areas during the times specified on the signs. Secondly, if your child is not there ready to be picked up you must leave and then return to the drop off zone, hopefully to have your child/ren waiting there for you. The police will be vigilant regarding enforcing all the rules because the safety of all our children is of the utmost concern.

Enjoy your week ahead,

Helen and Hugh
Barwon South Western Athletic Championships

Last Thursday 11th October thirteen students competed at the track and field events at John Landy Field. The children who attended were Sophie Duncan, Georgia Clarke, Olivia Moore, Danielle Matthey, Annaleace Dohle, Nikki Menzel, Victoria Jewel, Rory Gill, Luke Barnes, Louis Beaton, Lawson Prendergast, Jake Donehue, Kaemon Smith. The day was fantastic despite the rain and the children all gave their very best. Special congratulations go to Georgia Clarke and Nikki Menzel who have qualified in Shot put and High jump respectively. They will travel to Melbourne later in the term.

Our girl relay teams also competed to a high standard picking up 4th, while our grade 5 relay boys ran gallantly against stiff competition. A special thanks to all the parents who attended the event and to the children who represented Gray Street magnificently.

Grade 5 & 6 Melbourne Camp:

Who would have thought we could see so much in Melbourne in just 4 days!!

After our early departure, 86 students and 11 adults headed to Melbourne, via Ballarat, where we had morning tea and a toilet break, before arriving at the Shrine. After a quick lunch we headed into the Shrine for a film, an extensive guided tour and a small, respectful service. We made the trek, on foot, across busy Melbourne roads and along the Yarra River to the Eureka Tower, where we took the lift to the panoramic Skydeck on the 88th floor. Wow! The views were awesome!! After walking back to our buses we headed to Mt Morton Lodge to settle into our cabins, eat yummy spaghetti, write in our diaries and watch a DVD before bed.

We would like to thank our wonderful parent helpers-Jim Bailey, Brian McGinley, Andrew Gill, Kym Dempsey, Josie Lean and Coryn Meyers, who we hope have recovered!!! We will remember you all whenever we think back to our fabulous Melbourne Experience!!
Junior Netball Season 2

Hamilton Junior Netball commenced last Saturday and five Gray Street teams took to the court with great enthusiasm and zest. It was terrific to see several new players join our teams this season including Ellen Pither, Georgia Muldoon, Jalen Walsh, Zari-Lee Waters, Olivia Moore, Jacob Cook, Olivia Muldoon and Tegan Barnett.

The U12 and U10 games begin at the revised time of 10.30am and all players must be organised and at the court their team is playing on by 10.15am for warm ups. Games run through to 24th November.

The future of Hamilton Junior Netball in 2013 and beyond

A survey is being conducted by HJNA to allow ALL players and their families to have a say in the future direction of our junior competition for 2013 and beyond. Please take the time to collect a survey from the HJNA Saturday morning and complete it if you have not already done so.

Netball Information

Free umpire training clinic hosted by Sara Byrne

Sara Byrne is hosting two free umpire training clinics at Pedrina Park for umpires of any level (learners through to badged umpires). Players are also encouraged to attend.

Saturday 27th October at 11.15am (run for approximately 2 hours); AND Saturday 3rd November at 11.15am (run for approximately 2 hours).

Bring a drink bottle, a whistle and wear appropriate footwear.

RSVP to alison2206@bigpond.com (umpire co-ordinator).

The HJNA is always looking for umpires so if you are at all interested in helping out young people in this great team sport please think about attending and learning how to umpire! Without sufficient umpires your children cannot play. It is also a great way to earn some extra pocket money.
Fundraising – Quiz Night

The next event on our Fundraising Calendar is a Quiz Night. This night will be held on Saturday 27th October. Tickets are $10 each, with all funds raised going to refit the school library with new shelving.

A flyer was sent home last week. Start organising your team of ten!!

We are currently after donations of good and services which we could use on this night either as a lucky wheel prize or a silent auction option.

Some ideas are:
- Gardening
- Babysitting
- Baking
- Small maintenance items
- Dog walking
- Ironing
- Load of wood

If you are able to offer your services to be auctioned or you would like further information please contact Leesa in the office on 5571 9295. Thanks

Canteen

Term 4 Special Menu Items

Monday Specials

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

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

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

St Andrews Cricket Club

Milo Cricket

The St Andrews Cricket Club is once again being run by the MILO in2CRICKET program this summer.

MILO in2CRICKET is a fun way for kids to learn how to play cricket. This program is designed to give boys and girls the chance to enjoy a variety of activities to develop cricket skills and improve physical fitness. Each activity helps kids to develop social skills, sportsmanship and an understanding of the game with an emphasis on fun and involvement.

The MILO in2CRICKET Program is Cricket Australia’s official entry-level program, designed to introduce 5-10 year old children to the game of cricket in a fun and safe environment.

WHEN: Registration Day & First Session: 28th October, 2012 – 11.00am.

COST: $70 (includes exciting cricket pack)

Just turn up on the day or contact St Andrew’s C.C Milo Coordinator Matt Hill 0403 491505.

Bank of Melbourne School Banking

Bank of Melbourne is offering school banking to Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School. Bank of Melbourne will come to the school every Tuesday and collect your child’s Bank of Melbourne banking.

Canteen Roster

Mon 22nd October
10.45 – 2pm – Michelle Elsom

Wed 24th October
10.45 – 2pm – Helper Required

Fri 26th October
10.45 – 1pm – Helper Required
12.00 – 2pm – Helper Required