Principal Report

Welcome back, we hope that everyone has had a relaxing break and that you are looking forward to an exciting term of school ahead. Third term contains some very exciting events for our children to look forward to.

Today teams from Year 4 played in the Hooptime Basketball competition and the year 6 teams are playing next Monday. We hope the Year 4 students enjoyed the experience and wish the Year 6’s all the best. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank Mrs Carolynn Murray and Mr Hill for organising the event and the parents who are involved in supporting the teams.

Over the school holidays the school ran again a very successful Out of School Hours Care program attended by school age children from many schools in Hamilton. Again it was a huge success with children of various ages attending and engaging in the many activities that were offered. Congratulations to Rosemary and the team for the outstanding job they are doing in the Out of School Hours Program.

Some great news for Gray St, we are one of 166 Victorian Government schools selected to participate in the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership. This National Partnership is providing funding to schools across Australia to participate in a range of programs designed to support school autonomy, allowing us to respond in more locally specific ways to our students’ needs. As a participating school, we will receive $50,000. This will allow us to support professional practice in our school in order to improve the outcomes of our students. On Monday, Lisa Speed, Kerrie Mc Fadden and I will be in Melbourne attending the first workshop which will set out the expectations for the partnership.

At the end of last Term some students in Grade 5 and 6 were involved in a Photography Enrichment Workshop which as previously reported culminated in several of our students entering their photography into the Annual Lion’s Club Photography Competition. Over the holidays, Mrs J has put up a display of the photographs in the Open Learning Area so please if you are at school make sure you have a look.

At the fundraising meeting on Tuesday night our main focus was the upcoming ‘Ladies Shopping and Demonstration Night’ on Thursday 23rd August. This special evening for the ladies is similar to the very successful night we held last year but with some innovative additions, more information to follow as the evening gets closer. But it is a must to put this date in your diary now.

We are all looking forward to the exciting times ahead which include Olympics celebrations, swimming for Years 5 and 6 and the Year 5/6 camp to Melbourne in September just a sample of some of the events happening this term.

Enjoy the week ahead.
Helen

Around The Play Ground
Welcome

This term we welcome the following students to our school: Shaun, Leoma, Tegan and Riley.

We also said goodbye to the following Students:
Keira, Sian, Monet, Lila, Evie, Liam, Stephanie and Sophie.

Winning Chef!

Congratulations to Leoma in grade 2 on winning first prize in a state-wide Food Design Challenge. Leoma was in Melbourne today to receive her award.

Literacy Information

Writing Project

We begin this term with a focus on Explanation writing. Each grade from Prep to 6 will be exploring this genre of writing for the first five weeks. An explanation text is used to tell how something works or why something happens.

I enjoyed my visit to the prep class this week where they were discovering how milk gets from the cow to the carton. Grade 1s have planted some bean sprouts to explain what happens to seeds when they are planted. I look forward to my visits to the other classrooms over the next 6 weeks to see what they are exploring using this genre.

Last term’s writing is currently displayed in the open learning area. If possible, please take some time to read some of the ‘Nifty Narratives’ as a lot of time and hard work has gone into producing them. You will notice the published piece displayed, however if you lift this finished piece you will find the draft copy on yellow paper and then underneath that you will find the planning stage recorded on blue paper. The whole school is following this process which sees the children Planning, Drafting, Revising, Editing and the finally publishing their writing.

Lisa Speed
Literacy Coordinator
Prep A & Prep B

Classroom Report

From Cow to Carton

Currently Prep A are doing Explanation Writing. We have watched a short movie on where milk comes from. Then students draw a five point plan and this is their explanation of the process.

Cow eats the grass
The farmer takes the cow into the milking factory
The cow gets milked
The milk gets taken to the factory in a fridge truck
Then I can eat my Breakfast!!

By Malachy O’Brien

The cow is eating grass
Then the milking machine milks the cow
The milk goes to the factory
Goes in a truck to a shop
Then I can eat my Breakfast!!

By Devlin Monseen

Calf and a Cow
Grass for them to eat
Cow gets milked and then they go out to eat some grass
All the milk goes on the truck
The milk goes to Safeway

By Sophie Taylor

The cow is eating the grass
The cow is getting milked and then it gets more milk
The truck is taking the milk to the factory
Milk is put into cartons
The trucks take the milk to Safeway

By Brady Jones

YOU CAN DO IT

This term our focus is on ‘Persistence’—this means trying hard to do your best and not giving up when something feels like it’s too difficult or boring. Examples of persistent behavior are continuing to try even when school work is hard, not being distracted by others and checking work when it is finished to make sure it is the best it can be.

Positive Habits of the Mind that develop a young person’s persistence include:

I Can Do It—thinking that I’m more likely to be successful than I am to fail.

Giving Effort—thinking that the harder I try, the more successful I will be and knowing that success is achieved by giving effort.

Working Tough—thinking that in order to be successful in the future I sometimes have to do things that are not easy or fun in the present.

Staff Profile

Mr Damian Hayes       Gr 5B

What is your earliest childhood memory of school?
Dress up day in Grade One. I was dressed as a cowboy, but I don’t remember from what book.

What would your last meal be?
Probably a good steak and salad.

Name five people in history or current date that you would like to meet?
1. Paul Jennings
2. Tommy Emmanuel
3. Roald Dahl
4. The Queen
5. Captain James Cook

What do you do when you are not working?
I enjoy spending time outside exercising and spending time with my wife.

What is the most interesting trip you have ever taken and why?
A family holiday we took in 1996. We went through the centre of Australia, across to Queensland and down the east coast.
Fundraising

The Ice Age movie on the last day of term was a terrific success. It was a sell out with extra seats being placed in the cinema. A huge thanks to Sophie Koch who organised all the details and to the Hamilton Cinema who helped on the day. A big thank you for all those parents who baked delicious cupcakes and lollies and donated prizes making the event another fabulous occasion for our students. Also a big thanks to all those parents who gave up their time to help set up and pack up. We raised over $700 dollars. Well done!

Ladies Night

The major events coming up this term include a Ladies Night which is to be held on Thursday August 23rd from 7pm. This will include a number of different stalls and demonstrations of cooking, flower arranging, hair styling and a mini fashion parade. Please put this date on your calendar mums and grandmas! More information to follow.

Prep 2013 Discovery Day

This year we will be holding a series of Discovery Days for all prospective 2013 Prep children.

We warmly invite your child to Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School to experience school life in a fun, friendly and stimulating environment during our ‘Prep Discovery Days’.

Our Prep teachers together with our Music, Art, Physical Education and Italian teachers, will provide your child fun-filled and educational sessions. Our wonderful Year 5 students will assist your child in these sessions to foster the special bond between older and younger children.

While your child experiences the excitement of primary school we invite you to have a coffee and chat with staff and current parents.

**Wednesday 25th July, 2012** - Spectacular Sport with Mrs Murray

**Wednesday 8th August, 2012** - Amazing Art with Ms Brown

**Wednesday 22nd August, 2012** - Marvellous Music with Miss Robb

**Wednesday 5th Sept, 2012** - Inspiring Italian with Mr Antonelli

All sessions run from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

To confirm your child’s attendance please call the school office on 5571 9295.

Canteen

Canteen operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Volunteers for the first week of term 3 are:

- **Mon 23rd July**
  - 10.45 – 2pm – Robyn Young

- **Wed 25th July**
  - 10.45 – 2pm – Jodie Barras

- **Friday 20th June**
  - 10.45 – 1pm – Shelley Muldoon
  - 12.00 – 2pm – Jodie Barras
  - **Mon 30th July**
    - 10.45 – 2pm – Dani Sarena

- **Wed 1st August**
  - 10.45 – 2pm – Helen Nelder

Education Maintenance Allowance – Instalment 2

A reminder to parents/guardians who **have not** already applied for the Education Maintenance Allowance at our school in 2012 will need to submit a new EMA application. Applications close on 3rd August 2012. Forms are available from the office, current Health Care/Pension Cards need to be sighted with the application.

Parent Teacher Interviews

If you haven’t already returned your parent teacher interview slip, please bring it to the office tomorrow. The timetable will be sent home tomorrow with the eldest in the family. Thank you.

**HAMILTON JUNIOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Presents** - AUSSIE HOOPS

For children born in 2005 & 2006

- 8 week program on Sundays from 3-4pm @ HILAC
- Dates: 26 Aug-16 Sept, 14 Oct-4 Nov
- Cost: $60 inc pack (ball, backpack, tshirt, drink bottle)
- Rego night: July 23rd & 27th at HILAC 5-6pm (money will need to be paid then to secure spot)

**Meals on Wheels Drivers**

20th August

Dianne Evans and Narelle Pitts