Principal’s Report

Well, I can’t quite believe that a year has passed since our last Giant Easter Raffle took place.

We are all looking forward once again in anticipation that our name is called out for one of the great Easter prizes in the raffle draw tomorrow morning at assembly. A huge thank you to all our families for supplying the eggs and of course selling a fantastic number of tickets. A final total of the money raised and a list of major prize winners including the family who sold the most tickets will be included in next week’s newsletter. A special thanks again to Louise McLennan and Regency Florist, Bonita O’Brien, Kim Sparrow and Becky Blanchett for their great organisation and wrapping skills.

On Tuesday 59 children from Gray Street competed in the Hamilton District Athletics Championships at Pedrina Park. Congratulations to all children for their wonderful efforts on the day, with a high number of children receiving ribbons and personal best achievements. This is a direct quote from Sheree McGinley in our staff bulletin ‘It is a long day for all students especially those who may only be in one event for the day but the behaviour of all was fantastic, we should be very proud.’ which we all are. Congratulations to Lawson Prendergast, Danielle Matthey, Nikki Menzel and Claire Cumming on winning the Age Championships. Children in the 10, 11 and 12 year age groups who came first in a relay or field event, or first or second in a running event, have now qualified for the division athletic championships in Warrnambool on Tuesday 23rd April.

Next Thursday the final day of term one we will have our annual ‘Patient Dress Up Day’ for our new families this is when the children are encouraged to come to school dressed up as a patient or a medical staff member and we ask for a gold coin donation. This is a special fundraiser organised by the Junior School Council. The money raised will be forwarded to the Good Friday Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal.

During next week students will experience some slight changes to their normal program. There will be no specialist programs running instead the specialist teachers will be taking classes with the assistance of some of our regular casual relief teachers to allow for our class teachers to have some valuable time together in teams to plan their Literacy and Numeracy programs for Term Two.

Enjoy the week ahead.
Helen

District Ath Results

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**Artist of the Week**

This week’s artists are Flynn Graham and Emerald Selway. Congratulations!

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**Safeway Earn & Learn**

On behalf of everyone here at Gray Street Primary School we would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the parents for collecting all the Safeway Earn and Learn stickers.

Below is a photo of all the wonderful items we received because of this promotion.

Safeway will be running the Earn and Learn promotion in 2013. Stickers will be available from Safeway from Monday 8th April, so please start collecting!!

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**Music News**

The Hamilton Eisteddfod is fast approaching and Miss Robb is looking for grade 4 - 6 students to perform recorder solos, duets and trios. So far there has been only a handful of students who have handed in their permission notes. Please see Miss Robb if you would like to perform recorder on stage at the Eisteddfod this year!

Is your child interested in learning the Saxophone, clarinet or trumpet? Peter Salt is available to teach lessons during school hours at Gray Street this year. Please call Peter on 0409 949 864 for more information.

There will be a ‘Music After Five’ concert next term, so Miss Robb and the music captains will be looking for musical acts from Gray Street Primary as well as the surrounding high schools early next term. All students learning an instrument are welcome to perform from grade 4 up. Start practising!

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**Grade 6 and Prep Families**

Your Grade Prep and Grade 6 class reps invite you and your family to…

- **An Easter Egg Hunt at School!!**
  - When: Sunday 24th March
  - Time: 3:00 – 4:30
  - Where: Hamilton (Gray St) Primary School
  - What to bring: A plate of afternoon tea to share, picnic rug, and most importantly the whole family!
  - We’ll provide: yummy eggs for the hunt, tea, coffee and cordial. This is a great chance for both old families and new to Gray Street Primary School to catch up with old friends and to make some new friends too.
  - Please call one of your class reps by Thursday 21st March to confirm your attendance so the Easter Bunny knows who is coming!
  - Grade 6 – Kim Sparrow (Makenzee’s mum) 0429 806 952
  - Chelsea (Sebastian’s mum) 0437 983 532
  - Prep – Aggie Stevenson (Beth’s mum) 0427 786 243
  - Janelle Biggin (Esther’s mum) 0448 386 385

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**Volunteers – URGENT**

Children love to have their parents and grandparents involved in their school. It isn’t always possible to have a weekly commitment to the school all the time, but the canteen and meals on wheels rosters are areas where a small time occasionally is appreciated and manageable.

If you are able to volunteer to work in the Canteen or to help with Meals on wheels, please complete the forms at the end of this newsletter.

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**Miss Perridge**

At last assembly, Miss Perridge talked about her home and school in England. She displayed a wonderful PowerPoint showing us where she lives and teaches as well as pictures of snow, native animals and the size of England compared to Australia. At the end of her talk Miss Perridge presented Gray St Primary with a beautiful book of British History. Her grade 4A students also presented Miss Perridge with ‘surprises’ to help her with her year in Australia.
New Uniform

The Uniform Shop will be open Tuesdays from 8.30 to 9.00am and 3.00 to 3.30p.m. for sizing purposes only.

Please hand Uniform Orders with payment (cash, cheque or credit card) into the office.

If you require uniform for term 2 as the weather will be a little colder, please consider ordering these next week, as uniforms take approximately 2 – 3 week to arrive here at school.

Easter Workshop

Easter Workshop will be held for primary school aged children on Tuesday 26 March from 3.30-5.00pm at the Uniting Church, Lonsdale St, Hamilton, cost $5 per child. The session will include afternoon tea, story telling, food and craft. Numbers are strictly limited and children need to book in by ringing Uniting Church on 55724881 or email to untinghamilton113@bigpond.com by Friday 22 March.

Old School Uniforms

As mentioned in Helen’s newsletter piece last week, it has been suggested by parents that it would be a great idea to forward any of our old school uniform no longer in use to a charity organisation – YWAM (Youth with a Mission).

The uniform will be forwarded to villages in Papua New Guinea and Ethiopia. Jules Thomson has volunteered to store and pack the uniform up as it is donated.

If you have any uniform no longer in use please leave it at the Office by next Wednesday.

Lake Hamilton

The Lake Hamilton All Abilities Playground Official opening is happening next Thursday 28th March. Southern Grampians Shire Council would like to invite all children and families to attend an afternoon of activities at the new facility from 3.30pm to 6.00pm.

City of Hamilton Eisteddfod

The City of Hamilton Eisteddfod is looking for a secretary. This position involves a knowledge of computer skills, meeting procedures and the ability to learn quickly about the many different tasks. Please contact the committee via email enquiries@hamiltoneisteddfod.org.au or Denise Fenwick on 0418 538 716.

Giant Easter Raffle

The Gray St Giant Easter Raffle will be drawn tomorrow morning at assembly.

Please ensure all raffle books and money are returned by first thing tomorrow morning.

Gardening Club

The gardening club are looking for some donations of manure to use in the vegie garden as we prepare the beds for the winter vegetables.

Urgent Junior Netball Changes

Due to insufficient team entries to viably conduct junior netball on a Sunday in any age group, a decision was made to schedule games back to Saturday mornings rather than Sunday mornings. Saturday morning netball will commence 27th April 2013 and run for 12 weeks to 10th August, with finals commencing 17th August.

Games could commence at 9.30am and possibly 10.30am for U10s & U12s (8.30am - U14s & U16s) although this cannot be confirmed until it is known how many teams are eventually entered in the competition.

Fees have been set for the winter season:

Juniors (born between 1/1/1996 & 31/12/2001 (12-17 years))

VNA fee $43.00 + HNA fee $60 = $103.00

Modified (born on or after 1/1/2002 (11 & under))

VNA fee $33.00 + HNA fee $60 = $93.00

The HNA fee translates to 12 games @ $5.00/game.

 Fees are to be paid to the registration officer at Pedrina Park on Saturday mornings (not to Gray Street) and all fees must be paid before round 3. If families foresee real difficulties in meeting this requirement they can contact the registration officer to discuss a formal repayment plan.

Interested players are asked to complete and return to Gray Street an amended Expression of Interest Notice by TOMORROW FRIDAY 22ND MARCH, confirming their child can play Saturdays, not Sundays.

If you are able to coach a team, or umpire, please indicate this on the amended notice sent home recently.

We apologise for any inconvenience these changes may have caused but we can only pass on the information provided at each netball meeting. With so few team entries for the proposed new Sunday time it was decided by those in attendance at the meeting, to try Saturdays in the hope that more teams would be entered and a viable competition result.

Carolynn Murray & Di Brimble

Auskick

Hamilton Auskick will commence in 2013 at Pedrina Park on Saturday April 20th at 9.00am concluding Saturday June 22nd. Excluding the Queen’s Birthday weekend Saturday 8th June.

All registrations must be online this season and the cost is $65.00 plus credit card fees. All participants that register and pay online before Monday 15th April 2013, are eligible for the AFL Gameday Club Connect offer of four free tickets to selected AFL games. Go to www.aflauskick.com.au. Auskick packs available on Friday 19th April from 4pm to 6pm at Pedrina Park or Saturday April 20th after 10:30am at the completion of Auskick.

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CANTENE DUTY

Volunteers are required
One volunteer from
One Volunteer from.

Duties include packing food into lunch bags, selling various food items and a quick tidy up.
We hope you can help us to make the canteen a great resource for our school.

If you are able to volunteer in any capacity, please complete this sheet and return to school by Monday 18th March.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

CANTENE DUTY

I, ________________________________, (ph number: )

Can help: (please tick) Days which suit me are: (please tick)

☐ Weekly
☐ Fortnightly
☐ Monthly
☐ Once a Term
☐ On Call with short notice

☐ Monday
☐ Wednesday
☐ Friday

Eldest Child's Name: .................................................. Grade: .............
MEALS ON WHEELS

As part of our community service program grade 5 & 6 students deliver meals to those in need every Friday during term 2 and 3. We require two parent volunteers every Friday. Parent Volunteers collect three students from the school office at 11.30am. and then collect meals from Hamilton Hospital, deliver to approximately 8 – 10 houses, drops the esky back to the Hospital and then return the students back to school at approximately 12.30pm/1.00pm.

We require at least 20 volunteers (you don’t need to have children in grade 5 & 6 to volunteer) to drive the students twice a year (but more times if you’d like). Comprehensive car insurance and a Working with Children Check are compulsory.

If you are able to volunteer in any capacity, please complete this sheet and return to school by Monday 18th March.

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Name: ____________________________, (ph number: )

Please tick your preferred dates below:

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