Principal Report

Well after a faint glimmer of sunshine earlier in the week it seems we have now returned to some rather wet wintry days.

With only two weeks left in the term the school continues to be a hive of activity with the rehearsing of acts for the Gray St's Got Talent Final which will be held next Thursday (13th September) at 2.00 pm, parents and friends are most welcome and the excitement is building in the Grade 5/6 classes with the Melbourne Camp coming up in the last week of term.

Thank you again to our great group of fundraising parents for working so hard to ensure that all students had the opportunity to purchase a gift for their dad for Father's Day at the stall last Friday.

It is that time of year where we are looking at the workforce plan for 2013. It is extremely important that we have an accurate number of enrolments for 2013, as the majority of school funding is based on enrolments. If you know of anyone who is yet to enrol their child for next year or if you know that your child/ren will not be continuing on at Gray St in 2013 please let us know as soon as possible.

A huge thank you to Hugh Koch, Leigh Whyte and Chris Annett for cooking up a gourmet BBQ on Saturday for the visitors who came to see the AGL Cube, celebrating AGL’s 175th Anniversary.

Just to clarify a point regarding the upcoming changes to the school uniform which we are hoping to have ready for display and your comment early next term. The new school uniform items will be phased in over the next 12 months. It is definitely not an expectation that families have to purchase the new uniform until the beginning of 2014.

On Monday we see Gray Street again host ‘Chess Kids’ Interschool Chess Tournament. Students representing schools from around the South West will spend the day competing and enjoying the challenge of playing chess. Thank you to Janelle Harms for organising this great opportunity for the students.

I would like to strongly recommend that you take up the opportunity to attend a special evening forum with well known Clinical Psychologist, Andrew Fuller at the Hamilton and Alexandra College, Kantor Music and Performing Arts Centre on Monday 17th September at 7.00 p.m. and it’s free. Andrew’s talks are always fun and informative. Andrew is the author of Tricky Kids (Finch), Help Your Child Succeed At School, (Inyahead Press) Raising Real People (ACER), From Surviving To Thriving (ACER), Work Smarter Not Harder and Beating Bullies. Andrew has also co-authored a series of programs for the promotion of resilience and emotional intelligence used in over 3500 schools in Britain and Australia called THE HEART MASTERS. He is a Fellow of the Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Learning and Educational Development at the University of Melbourne.

Topics covered will include:

- Resilience and emotional intelligence contribute more to career and life success than academic intelligence
  - The active ingredients of resilience
  - How parents can develop these in their children
  - Friendship skills
  - Parenting tricky kids
  - Creating happy kids
  - Building self-esteem and dealing with set backs
  - How to talk to boys and girls

This will be my final newsletter piece for this term as I will be on Long Service leave for the remainder of the term. I would like to in advance thank Anthony Hill and Kerrie Mc Fadden who will be replacing me in my absence. Maree will also be on Long Service Leave at this time, she is accompanying a group of Monivae College Year 11 and 12 students to Papua New Guinea, Leesa will be holding the fort (Office) for us. Thanks Leesa.

For now though, be it a little early, I would like to wish all students and their families a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back, well rested and refreshed, for a busy final term!

Helen

A reminder - there is a Working Bee this Saturday at 8.00 a.m. Please if you could spare a couple of hours it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!
PE Report Newsletter

As reported previously grades prep to six have been participating in various old fashioned sports games including dress-up relays, with an emphasis now on the Para-Olympics. What an inspiration these athletes are to us all!

Liisa Beaton, Carolynn Murray & Sheree McGinley
PE teachers 2012

Staff Profile

Sylvia Murray – Grade 2 Teacher

What is your earliest childhood memory of school?

Walking to school with my brothers and sisters and avoiding swooping magpies. An older sister made us walk in line from eldest to youngest.

What would your last meal be?

-Creamed Pumpkin Soup
-Green Chicken Curry (not cooked by Mr Murray)
-Pancakes with Nutella and strawberries

Name five people in history or current date that you would like to meet?

1. Dr. Seuss
2. Major Mitchell
3. JK Rowling
4. Pro Hart
5. Alexander McCall Smith

What do you do when you are not working?

-Become a taxi-mum
-Walk and swim
-Read
-Help about the farm.

What is the most interesting trip you have ever taken and why?

This year my husband and I travelled to the USA to catch up with his old exchange student host family. We visited their spectacular National Parks in California and saw The Phantom of the Opera in Las Vegas. We marvelling at the views of the Grand Canyon. In New Mexico we explored Indian ruins in cliffs that showed vast communities and early farming. At Albuquerque we cheered and ate hot dogs as we watched the Isotopes win their baseball. I loved staying with the farming community in South Dakota where we saw a wide variety of wildlife such as deer, skunks and coyotes still wandering through their fields.
Music Report

Term Three has been all about investigating cultures from around the World. Students have been immersed in folk music ranging from Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, North America and some Australian influences as well. Students have learnt traditional dances and have had a go at playing different musical styles with percussion and mallet instruments. Students have also learnt about the history of some instruments including the djembe drums and even the spoons!

An exciting part of this term has been the Gray Street’s Got Talent competition. Students have been working very hard on their acts and the Grade six judges have found 20 of the best acts which will perform next Thursday 13th September in the Grand Final at 2pm. This competition will showcase some of the schools most exceptional musicians, dancers and actors. There will be awards given to the best Prep Act, Junior School Act (grade 1 – 3) and a Senior School Act (grade 4 - 6). The following acts will be performing in the Grand Final:

- Fire work dance
- Best of Both Worlds
- Tweedle Sisters
- Payphone dance
- Beautiful
- The Story of us
- TV Show King
- You’ll always find your way back home Dance
- Magical magicians
- Someone like you
- Tick Tock Dance
- Twinkle Twinkle
- Dance -Sophie Lean
- Pink panthers
- Reality
- Plates in the kitchen
- Forget you
- Shuffle dance
- Somebody I used to know
- Dumb things
- Skinny Love

In other news… Grade 4 – 6 students attended ‘Bach to Brazil' at the PAC on Wednesday 5th. Students learnt about different percussion instruments including the vibraphone, guiro, djembe, bongos and many more percussion instruments. There were a few lucky students who got to go up on stage and experience playing the vibraphone including Sophie Duncan and Dale Fitzgerald who got to feel what it was like to play the instrument with two mallets sticks in the one hand, which looked very tricky! Other Gray Street students got to be a part of Nick’s percussion ensemble along with Tarrington school students. What a lovely way to spend the afternoon, thanks to Nick, Matt and the PAC for putting on such a great performance.

Victorian Golf Schools Regional Championships

Rory Gill, Josh Kealy and Louis Beaton competed on Friday 31st August at Warrnambool for the regional golf championship. The boys all played extremely well on a very tough course. Josh Kealy should be commended for the great persistence he showed throughout the day. Louis Beaton scored 54 shots and tied with 4 other boys.

Rory Gill was most impressive and kept his cool. He has progressed to the next level with 51 shots and competes at the Melbourne Championship next week. A fantastic result.

Special thanks to Andrew Gill who kept score for all our boys and gave excellent caddy advice! Thanks

Junior Netball Season 2

The Hamilton Junior Netball Season 2 will commence Saturday 13th October and run for 7 weeks, finishing Saturday 24th November 2012. Game times have not been finalized as this depends on the number of teams entered. Last season times were 8.30am, 9.30am and 10.30am.

Registration costs for Season 2 are payable before the first round. Players that played the first season in 2012 will only pay the HNA fee of $28.00 as the VNA fee is paid only once per year. New players pay the full fees.

- U10 - $58 (VNA $30 + HNA $28 - VNA is payable only once per year)
- U12 - $68 (VNA $40 + HNA $28 - VNA is payable only once per year)

Players who have not paid their fees will not be able to take the court in round 2.

Notices confirming these arrangements will be distributed shortly. Teams must be submitted by Friday 21st September, the last day of term.

Carolynn Murray & Sheree McGinley
Netball 2012

Artist of the Week

This weeks Artist is Blayke Bradley 2B. He created a construction picture using pencils and texta.
Father’s Day
Father’s Day was a huge success and so easy, raising over $700 for our school. A special thanks to Bonita O’Brien who was our chief organizer and shopper for this event. The kids were really excited by the range and quality of the gifts. I know the dads were equally impressed. Thank you to all the mums and grandmas who wrapped and assisted on the day!

After the holidays a Quiz Night is organised for Saturday 27th October from 7pm. Please put this date on your calendar. More details to follow.

Meals on Wheels Drivers
7th September
Kim Sparrow and Bonita O’Brien

Volunteers are needed for Friday 14th September and Friday 21st September, please contact the office if you are available to assist.

Canteen
Canteen operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Mon 10th September
10.45 – 2pm – Danni Sarena

Wed 5th September
10.45 – 2pm – Helper Required

Friday 7th September
10.45 – 1pm – Susan Bradbeer
12.00 – 2pm – Helper Required

We need more helpers in Canteen. Please contact Lyn at school if you can help out. Thanks

Dental Clinic
I am the new dental therapist at Western District Health Service dental clinic, Roberts Street, Hamilton. As a dental therapist I am qualified and experienced to look after children’s dental needs. Dental Health Services Victoria recommends that children have a dental check up at least once every two years.

The scheme is currently funded by the state government and all primary school children in Victoria are eligible. For those with a Health care card the service is free and for those without there is a small one off fee of $30.50.

Secondary school children need a health care card to qualify.

Parents are encouraged to ring the clinic to make a check up appointment for their children. The number is 555 18347. The clinic is open for appointments between 9.00am and 4.00pm.

Amanda Fennessy
Dental Therapist

Building Resilience
Andrew is the author of TRICKY KIDS (Finch), HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED AT SCHOOL, (Inyahead Press) RAISING REAL PEOPLE (ACER), FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING (ACER), WORK SMARTER NOT HARDER and BEATING BULLIES.

Andrew has also co-authored a series of programs for the promotion of resilience and emotional intelligence used in over 3500 schools in Britain and Australia called THE HEART MASTERS. He is a Fellow of the Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Learning and Educational Development at the University of Melbourne.

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The Hamilton and Alexandra College
Kantor Music and Performing Arts Centre
Chaucer Street Hamilton
Monday September 17th
7:00pm Start