Principal’s Report

Well, it was most encouraging and quite humorous watching our budding athletes in prep and our younger year one students compete in their ‘special field events’ morning. I could see potential Olympians for the 2024/28 Olympics amongst the competitors.

Congratulations to Ellie Jeal who won last week at the Hamilton District Tennis Tournament. Ellie will now play in the Warrnambool. Portland, Hamilton Division Tennis Tournament next Friday in Warrnambool. All the best Ellie.

Next Thursday we have our school swimming team consisting of Chella Biggins, Jacob Cook, Tess Dempsey, Grace Diedrichs, Lily McLeod and Tegan Menzel representing Gray St in the Division Swimming Meet at Hughan Park. We wish them all the very best for the day.

Next Thursday, we have a special poetry incursion. Brian Nankervis the performer, the creator of the character Raymond J. Barholomeuz will perform. Brian has performed on television and radio and has published a book of poems. Laburnum Primary school's comments about his performance were: The children were enthralled and engaged throughout the entire session. Raymond had them eating out of his hand from the moment he began. The teachers were just as captivated, with children creating some fantastic poetry after the session.

Planning for the purchase and installation of our new play equipment is well under way. The students have been asked for their input and this will be collated and used to finalise which type of equipment we select. As previously mentioned last year all monies raised from our fundraising activities over the past couple of years will be used to purchase the equipment.

Handed out with the newsletter today is the Schools new Headlice policy and information sheet. Please take a moment to read over the information.

Finally, we are adding to our clubs program. Presently, we have Gardening, Chess, Art and Library. We are starting a Lego Club and I am asking for donations. I understand Lego is something that families tend to keep hold of and pass on through the family or give it to other family members but if you do have any you would like to donate to the school we would be very grateful.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Helen

GIANT EASTER RAFFLE

The Gray St Giant Easter Raffle will be held again this term.

It would be appreciated if each family would donate an Easter Egg or two for the raffle. Please send all donations to the office. The more donations the more prizes.

Raffle tickets will be sent home with the eldest student next week. Tickets are great value at 50¢ each.

Raffle books and money are due back to the office by Friday 28th March.

The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday 4th April.
Young Leaders Conference

On Monday four of our School Leaders Millie MacKirdy, Kellie Mitchell, Ellie Jeal and Angus Harms went to Melbourne to attend the National Young Leaders Day. There were five guest speakers, Mike Martin (Halogen Foundation), John Marsden (Author), Daniel Flynn (Thank you water), Jess Fox (Silver Olympic Medalist) and Kevin Sheedy (AFL Coach and Past Player). Here are some of the thoughts they came away with:

Mike Martin – Halogen Foundation
- Nothing cool, great or longlasting ever starts out that way
- Stuff is safe
- Stuff is fair
- Stuff is awesome

It’s not the badge that makes you a leader, it’s the influence you have. You have got to have empathy to be a proper leader. Empathy means putting yourself in someone’s shoes or knowing what they’re going through.

Jess Fox – Silver Olympic Medalist
- If you give up you never know what might have been but if you give it another try you could get a step closer
- You don’t have to be great to start you have to start to be great
- Aim High
- Have a good support system, like family and friends

Daniel Flynn - Thank you Water
Daniel Flynn is one of the most inspiring people I have ever met. When he was 19 he saw a documentary on how so many kids in the world were walking kilometres and kilometres each day just to get water and the water wasn’t even clean. Then he had an idea to make a brand of bottled water and when someone bought it the money would go to finding clean water that would go to the families and the villages in 11 countries all over the globe. And he called the brand Thank You. So he made an appointment with a bottle company called Visy and they thought it was a great idea and they gave him a bunch of free bottles and he started to make water bottles and after 2 years of selling products there are now 67,000 people with clean water. Like Daniel said “impossibility is only an opinion, not a fact.”

Golf Clinic Report by Claire & Victoria

On Monday grade 5 & 6 children participated in a Golf Clinic with Tony. Tony was a great teacher and we all picked up the golf club with confidence on our first time. Tony taught us how to hold the club properly and how to swing in a perfect style. Some children showed great potential and may get to go to the next level.

All children were invited to attend a coaching clinic in Hamilton if they were interested.

Library News ....

We are asking for donations of any comic books, cartoons books, old games (with all the pieces) for the library. I will be adding a new reading corner to the library, with comic books and more of those comfy cushions. If you have any of these items could you bring them to the artroom please.

Many Thanks, Emma Brown.
Athletics Sports – Tuesday 4th March

On Tuesday 4th March the Athletic Sports will be held at Pedrina Park (North Boundary Road). All students in grade one to grade 6 will participate in these sports. (Prep students and some grade 1 students will participate in the afternoon session but will have already participated in field events on Tuesday 25th February at school.)

The day begins at 9.30am and concludes around 3pm. Students in grade 1 to 6 are bussed to Pedrina Park leaving school at 9.10am. Students participate in a variety of athletic sports. The program will be handed out with next week’s newsletter.

Students in grade 1 to grade 6 will participate in the morning field event sessions (ie: long jump, high jump, shot put, discus).

Prep students (and some grade 1 students) will be bussed to Pedrina park at 11.10am and will join students in grades 1 to grade 6 in track activities (ie: sprints, hurdles and relays).

If you would like to take your children home with you at the end of the day directly from the sports, (approximately 3.00pm) please complete the notice handed out last week and return it to the class teacher by tomorrow Friday 28th February. **Students who have not returned their forms will return to school for dismissal at 3.30pm. Arrangements CANNOT be changed on the day. Students are not permitted to leave before the Athletic Sports have concluded.**

Students need to bring:
- Morning Tea and Lunch (food to ‘graze’ on)
- Drinks
- School Hat
- Sunscreen
- A coat
- A safety pin for ribbons

Parent Helpers required for Athletic Sports

We require parent assistance for the morning and the afternoon of our Athletic Sports Day on Wednesday 6th March. (Parent volunteers must have a Working With Children Check). If you could assist please leave your name with Leesa in the office. Thank you.

5/6 Year Old Field Events

On Tuesday the 5 and 6 year old students competed in high jump, long jump, shot put and discus as part of our School House Athletics carnival. They tried very hard all morning to reach the highest standard they could, which was great to see. The students also enjoyed competing in front of parents and later proudly showed off their ribbons. Thank you to grade 6 students Harry Clarke, Millie MacKirdy, Lucy Clark and Riley Dark for assisting on the day. Thanks also to staff and parents who helped give out ribbons, add up points, take photos and generally ensure things ran smoothly.
New Uniform

The Uniform Shop will be open Tuesdays from 8.30 to 4.00p.m.

Lost Property

Please ensure you clearly name all of your children’s belongings with their full name (initials or first names only make it very difficult for items to be identified and returned to their owner).

This year all lost property handed in to the office throughout the week will be put on display at Friday morning assembly. Items not collected by the end of assembly will be disposed of at the end of the day. We already have a number of unnamed items in the lost property box and the term has only just started! If you are missing something please come and look in the lost property box which is located in the office foyer.

Many thanks, the lost property fairy.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

A reminder that EMA applications must be handed in to the school office by Tomorrow - 28th February 2014. NO LATE APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED. Any questions please see Leesa or Maree.

Conveyancing Allowance

The transport of students to school is primarily the responsibility of student’s families. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) provides financial support to some families to assist with the cost of transport to school. Assistance in the form of a conveyance allowance is available to students that are in rural and remote areas and do not have access to a free school bus. If you live more than 4.8km from your nearest government school or bus stop you may be eligible.

For further information please contact Leesa or Maree in the office.

Canteen - Specials for Term 1

| Monday: | Chicken Burger (the lot) $3.50  
| Bread Roll, chicken burger, lettuce, tomato, cheese, beetroot and special sauce.  
| Chicken Burger – Plain $3.00  
| Bread Roll, chicken burger, lettuce & special sauce  |

| Wednesday: | Chicken Twister $3.00  
| Crumbed chicken, salad and special sauce, served in a wrap  |

Available Monday, Wednesday & Friday

| Salad Boxes $3.00 –  
| Lettuce, tomato, cucumber, grated carrot, beetroot, pineapple, cheese & dressing  
| 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

Demons Hockey Club

Demons Hockey Club are currently recruiting for the 2014 Season. If you are interested in playing Hockey this year please call Narelle Pitts on 0409 719 874.

Hamilton Gymnastics Club

WANTED WANTED WANTED BOYS AND GIRLS to join us at the Hamilton Gymnastics Club.
Tumbling, balance, trampolining, bars, vault and plenty of floor activities and exercises to enhance your co-ordination, balance, strength and fitness…….but best of all…..lots of fun and new things to try!
We have classes for all ages – toddlers through to teenagers. Drop in for a chat or to watch a class in action Mon-Wed after 4pm at 266 Mt Baimbridge Rd or contact the club on 0457 719 431.
Canteen Duty

Volunteers are required
Monday 10.45am – 11.45am and 12.30pm to 2.00pm
Wednesday 10.45am – 11.45am and 12.30pm to 2.00pm
Friday 10.45am to 1.00pm
Friday 12.00noon to 2.00pm

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 Friday 7th March.

Canteen Duty

I, _______________________________, (ph number: ____________________)

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

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

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 Friday 7th March

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Name: _____________________________, (ph number: _____________________________ )

Please tick your preferred dates below:

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Eldest Childs Name: _____________________________ Grade: __________