

Grahamstown Public School News

Excellence, opportunity, innovation and success in a caring environment

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Issue No: 10

12 December 2011

From the Principal

The year is almost at an end. I need to thank staff, parents and students for making my first two terms at Grahamstown Public School rewarding. I have been made feel welcome from the beginning and enjoy particularly the friendly nature of the students of this great school. It is a pleasant experience to walk into the playground and be greeted by so many smiling faces.

Myself and the staff of Grahamstown Public School wish you all a merry Christmas and safe and happy new year. Take care of yourself and we will see you all in the New Year.

Best wishes to our out-going Year 6 students. Congratulations on the achievements made during seven years of primary education and I am sure the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes formed at GPS will provide the basis for on-going success in secondary education.

School finishes for students on Friday 16th December. Staff return for the 19th and 20th for training and development before going on holidays on Wednesday 21st December.

Merry Christmas everyone

Sue Kane
Principal

Return to School

Staff return to school on Friday 27th January.

Students return on the following Monday, January 30th.

Kinder students will have been posted their start times and dates.

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 4

December 13 th	Year 6 Farewell
December 16 th	Last Day of term

Notes in Circulation

- Year 6 Farewell

Extra copies of all notes are available from the front office. Please remember to send notes and payments in together by the due date.

ADVANCE NOTICE- Stage 3 Camp 2012

In 2012, Stage 3 will be going on a 4 day overnight excursion to the Outdoor Education Experience at Morisset. The camp will take place from Tuesday October 9 to Friday 12 October 2012 (Week 1 Term 4).

It is anticipated that this camp will cost approximately \$250 - \$300. Your expression of interest will be a \$50 deposit which will be required no later than March 9, 2012. The final date for full payment will be September 21, 2012. This excursion aims to prepare students for High School. Responsibility and independence are included in the aims of this excursion and as a result parents are not invited on this excursion.

Missing Size 6 Baseball Jacket

A on the white tag and surname written in black marker on waistband and neck band. It would be appreciated if it is return to school or ring 0401 593 458 as this is the third one to go missing. Thank you

Head Lice

Head lice may be found anywhere on the human head. They tend to congregate at the nape of the neck and behind the ears; small red dots indicate where head lice are found. Black sandy excrement and discarded louse skins found on pillows and collars can also indicate head lice.

An itchy scalp can be a sign of head lice, but not all cases may necessarily itch. Lice are wingless insects and cannot hop, fly or jump; they crawl from host to host. Consequently children in their natural play tend to pass the infection. Head lice are not an indication of a lack of cleanliness. They can be found in the best cared for hair.

Children who are found to be infected may return to school after the appropriate treatment which can be purchased from the local chemist. To reduce the occurrence of re-infection it is essential that bedding, hats, headbands, etc are also washed and exposed to sunlight. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

MINI-PULT OF DOOM

Last Wednesday 7th December a group of 16 year 6 children travelled into Newcastle Basketball Stadium with 3 parents /grandparents and Mrs McDermott to compete in the Engineers Australia Mini-pult of Doom Competition. The children were divided into four groups of four and in their groups they had to construct a mini sized catapult using elastic bands, masking tape, sticks and a plastic dessert spoon. At the competition children used their catapults to catapult a small ball through a hoop from 3, 6 and 9 meters. All four of our groups made the 3 distances with some accuracy. Three groups made it into the top ten for distance and accuracy and another 3 groups made it into the top seven for creative design, with one of our groups winning the design category. I would like to thank the parents who helped with travel to and from the event and congratulate the students on their great results as well as the manners and respect they displayed on the day.

DEFENCE SCHOOL TRANSITION AIDE NEWS

I am still missing a book titled "Antarctic Dad", if anyone finds the book this week or over the holidays, I would appreciate if it can be returned to the school office, thank you. There are a couple of families at Grahamstown whose

families are affected by an overseas deployment this Christmas. Messages to the troops are encouraged and can be sent to: messagesothetroops@defence.gov.au or postcards (not letters or parcels) can be sent to Messages to the Troops, R1-5-A056, Russell Offices, Department of Defence. Terrace Buddies will be meeting at Fighter World on Wednesday 6th January from 10am. All defence partners welcome.

Please contact terracebuddies@bigpond.com I wish all the families at Grahamstown a safe and fun filled holiday, Happy Christmas!

Deborah O'Donoghue
Defence School Transition Aide

CANTEEN NEWS ROSTER:

Tues 13 Dec – Cathy Hedges

Wed 14 Dec – Di Soper, Melany McLean (last day after 7 yrs on canteen).

*Stocks are running right down, please be aware that some items are unavailable.

***Last day of the canteen for the year is Wednesday 14th December, no food will be available Thursday or Friday.**

*If you received an account please have them paid by Wednesday 15th December, 2011.

I'd like to wish all students and their families a Very Merry Christmas and see you all in 2012.

P & C NEWS

Need a last minute Christmas gift idea? We have some of our cookbooks left for sale. Have a look at the sample copy in the office. The cost is \$8.00 and would make a great gift for the family. Any orders are to be placed by Wednesday 14th December. These orders will be distributed on Thursday. Please ensure correct money is enclosed along with the students name, class and quantity.

GPS COOKBOOK ORDER

I wish to purchase _____ (qty) Cookbook/s.

Enclosed is \$ _____ (\$8 per copy)

Name: _____

Class: _____

Thank you for your support!