

# Grahamstown Public School News

Excellence, opportunity, innovation and success in a caring environment

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## From the Principal

### P & C FUN-A-THON CHANGE OF DATE

Due to a clash with a talented students program being run by the Lakeside Learning Community at Irrawang High School on 9 June, we have moved the date of the **P & C Fun-a-thon** to **Tuesday 14 June. (Tuesday after the long weekend)**

We will have a number of Year 5 and 6 students involved in the program at Irrawang High School with other students from Medowie, Irrawang and Wirreanda primary schools and Year 7 and 8 students from Irrawang High School. We want all students to have the opportunity to enjoy some fun-based activities and have a chance to win some great prizes, so the date has been moved to allow that to happen.

Please note that class teachers will be seeking the support of at least one parent per class to help run the activities so the groups can be smaller. Obviously parents will be very welcome to come along and cheer on their children, so consider helping out because you will probably enjoy it.

### Congratulations

Our students came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Junior Justice program conducted at Raymond Terrace Court House recently. Great work Mrs South and the team!

### DISCO this Wednesday evening 1 June

Our Term 2 disco is on this week. The usual arrangements will apply, but we need some extra parent volunteers to help with the canteen. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Details are outlined further on in this newsletter.

### Semester 1 Reports and Parent – Teacher Interviews

Teachers are currently preparing Semester 1 reports for distribution by the end of this term. Part of the Semester 1 reporting procedure includes a parent – teacher interview and notes will go home this week for parents of students in Years 1 to 6 outlining times teachers are available for interviews and an interview request / booking form.

Students whose parents have booked an interview will receive reports at the end of Week 8 so they

can read them prior to the interview and all reports will be sent home by the end of term.

Parents of Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) students have already had their parent – teacher interviews at the end of Term 1.

### Uniform Survey

The P & C have sent out a uniform survey with the newsletter. This survey was distributed previously but there were not enough returns to justify a decision.

Please complete and return the survey. There is a cut-off section at the bottom of the survey to fill in family names for children to receive a free ice-block.

Paul Henry,  
Principal



*Members of the drum group practising at lunch time for the Showcase Concert at I.H.S. next term*

## Coming Events for Term 1

Date	Event
Wed 1 June	DISCO
Tues 7 June	Art Show Meeting at GPS at 7 pm
Tues 14 June	"Fun-A- Thon" Yrs 3-6 from 12:20 to 1:20 pm K-2 from 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm Canteen / P & C Meeting - 6:30 pm / 7:00 pm
Fri 24 June	Fun-a-thon sponsorships to be returned
Thurs 30 June	Fun-a-thon prizes and awards presented

**Hip Hip Hooray! Cross Country results for places found!!!**  
**All children who came 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> in their age event will be presented with their ribbons on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May at our morning assembly.**

## CANTEEN NEWS

### ROSTER:

**Tues 31:** May Mandy Bridge, Cathy Hedges

**Wed 1:** June Di Soper, Melany McLean

**Thur 2:** June Fiona Brown, Janet Allen, Kirby Cashen

**Fri 3 June:** Christine Hebert, Toni Madigan, Skye McAlpine

**Mon 6 June:** Fiona Brown, Barbara Govan

**Wanted Urgently** – volunteer bookkeeper for canteen. Responsibilities - pay accounts and wages. Do up a monthly reconciliation. Not necessary to attend meetings.

**No Hot Milo served on Friday mornings**

## Junior Justice Competition

Congratulations to the Grahamstown P.S. "Junior Justice" team who came second in the recent "Law Week" competition. This was a terrific effort and an experience that proved to be most valuable for all involved. Well done to those Stage 3 students who participated. Certificates will be presented at Tuesday's morning assembly.

Kylie South

## Sports Exchange

### HATS:

It is the school policy at Grahamstown P.S. that ALL students MUST wear a hat when playing outside in uncovered areas. This applies to Sports Exchange on Friday too. From this Friday, students who do not have their hat will be required to sit in a shaded spot and not be permitted to participate. If you have any concerns regarding this issue, please contact Mrs South.

### MOUTH GUARDS:

We have received notification that students undertaking AFL for sport are required to now have a mouth guard as well. These can be purchased from the school for a low cost of \$2. If your child is doing either Hockey or AFL and does not have a mouth guard as yet, please organise for them to buy one this week. Your support with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Kylie South

## GRADUATION BEARS & BALLS

### Orders in by Thursday JUNE 2

Year 6 have been given an opportunity to purchase a graduation bear or ball to sign as a memento of their years at Grahamstown PS. The Baer stands 40cm tall with moveable arms and legs. The ball is 8 inches around. Both come with a pen for signatures. I know that it is early in the year but I am trying to get organised early. Any parents who wish to view samples may do so at the office. Any parents who wish to purchase one of these items and don't have children in Year 6 may obtain an order form at the office. \$1 from each sale will go towards the Year 6 Farewell.

**There is no obligation to order!**

## \$3 DISCO

Grahamstown's second disco of the year will be held on Wednesday June 1, 2011. The money raised at the door will benefit the Year 6 Farewell.

Juniors 5pm - 6.45pm

Seniors 7pm - 9pm

Please don't wear hats or caps and be aware of safety issues regarding footwear. Thongs and sandals are not appropriate. A canteen will operate selling hot food and drinks only during the first part of each disco and lollies are available towards the end. Parents may leave money at the canteen for their child to spend, order for their child or let children make their own purchases. A parent must come into the hall to collect all children unless an alternate arrangement has been made with staff when children are dropped off.

## P&C News

### Uniform Shop News

I would like to welcome Fiona Brown to the Uniform Shop. Fiona has volunteered to take on the position of Uniform Shop Coordinator and the times Fiona will be available to open the shop for parents are listed below. Please note that the uniform shop is conducted by unpaid volunteers and the opening times are based on when the volunteers are available. Thank you Fiona for volunteering and thank you to Ruth Parks for coordinating the uniform shop and best wishes for improved health in the future.

Tuesday 8.45am – 9.15am

Tuesday 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Thursday 2.30pm – 3.00pm

These new times will be effective from Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

### Disco

The term Disco is to be held this Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011. The P&C are looking for any parents who would be able to help serve in the canteen on the night. At the last term disco helpers were very low and as you can imagine the canteen does get very busy. So anyone who is willing to help please come along to the canteen on the night of the disco. Thank you for your support, we hope to see you there.

Kellie Sandeman, President

## STAGE 3 MERIT AWARDS

### ST3C

Jesse Romero

Joel Gam

Brooklyn South

Kiara Gadd

Andrew walker

Jadd Giddings

### ST3R

Grant Soper

Scott Anderson

Monique Murrell

Caitlin Fyfe

Cameron Walsh

Jesse O'Beirne

### ST3S

Katie Evans

Bailey Pitt

Dakota Gordon

Katie Griffiths

Luke Keating

Tahyla Roberts

Mr Cornish

Class

Class

Class

spelling

Class

HSIE

Miss Russell

Class

Maths

Class

Writing

Maths

HSIE

Miss Shepherd

Literacy

Maths

Maths

HSIE

Class

Literacy

*"Congratulations to all students who received Merit awards"*

## Gifted and Talented Placement Tests held at Irrawang H. S

On Thursday May 26, nine Grahamstown Public School students took the placement test for entrance into the Year 7 Gifted and Talented class in 2012. The test took an hour and contained 3 sections. There was a multiple choice General section, a multiple choice Numeracy section and a Writing Task. Overall 69 children sat for the exam and in a couple of weeks will be notified if they will progress to the interview/portfolio presentation stage of the selection process. Good luck.

# GET EXCITED

Author and Illustrator  
Dr Cameron Stelzer  
Is coming to school



Meet the creator of the colourful Stroogle book series and join in an exciting workshop on writing and illustration. It's all about creative stories, cool pictures and clever writing!

Visit the fun children's site: [www.thestroogle.com](http://www.thestroogle.com)

## Author Visit

Next Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, the students of Grahamstown P.S. will be treated to a visit by "real, live" Australian author/illustrator – Cameron Stelzer. During the day, Cameron will be conducting fun and exciting workshops with each stage. Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 will be in the morning. Stage 2 will have their session after lunch and Stage 3 in the afternoon. Cameron's visit to our school has been funded using the prize money we won from the "Christmas Tree Competition" organised by Centro Raymond Terrace at the end of last year.  
Kylie South

# G.P.S. SCIENCE FAIR -2011

Gravity is the force that keeps us on the ground. We use energies and the forces of push and pull to make things move.

Designing and creating objects that move can be fun and a great way to learn about gravity.

That is why this year we are asking children from Kinder to Year 6 to:

**'Create and design a model that will move a mass a distance!'**

- We need an explanation on what the model is demonstrating and how it works.
- Children will show the judges how heavy the mass is and how far their model can move the mass.
- Models must be able to fit into a milk crate.
- Use clean recycled materials e.g. old toys, clean milk bottles.

There will be cash prizes for each stage and the models will be displayed for all to see.

BUT most have fun learning and **'MAY THE FORCES BE WITH YOU!'**

**Entries Due: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August, to be left in classrooms.**



## NAMES ON CLOTHING / UNIFORM ITEMS

It is important that students have their uniform and other clothing named for school...Please spend 5 minutes writing the names on labels or somewhere so that the items can be identified.

You would not believe how many "LOST" items we end up with in the Lost Property bin.

Owners cannot be found if the items are not named.



## Under 10s/12s Knights Knockout Wrap Up

Over the last two Tuesdays our Under 12s and Under 10s Rugby League Teams have competed in the annual Knights Knockout Carnival.



Our U12s team of experienced and first time players travelled into Waratah Oval to compete against schools from across the Hunter. All players enthusiastically competed with a positive attitude and great sportsmanship. Although the U12s were unable to achieve a win from their five games there were plenty of memorable moments including great team tries, line breaks and try saving tackles. The players also had the opportunity to meet Knights Captain Kurt Gidley and Knights veteran Adam MacDougall.

The U10s travelled into Hudson Park in search of Grahamstown's first win of the year. It was going to be tough with a draw packed with quality teams. With their persistence and eager approach the U10s improved every game and were able to get a great win in their 3rd game.

Thanks to all the parents and carers who helped out on both days. The boys positive attitudes made both days a fabulous experience for everyone involved.



## STUDENT ABSENCES REMINDER

- Students between the ages of 6 and 15 are required by law, to attend school.
- Parents should ensure that their children attend school regularly.
- Students are allowed to be absent from school due to illness, incapacitation, or if they accompany their parent/caregivers for a legitimate reason.
- Explanations for their children's absences are to be provided promptly.
- Parents are expected to contact the school if their child will be absent for more than two days or if their child is reluctant to attend school.

**Attendance at school is very important. Students need to be at school every day and should arrive prior to the 9 a.m. bell. It is not acceptable for students to arrive late on a regular basis.**

## A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health.

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing. **Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.** We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information that you provide will be stored securely and will only be used to support your child's health needs or as otherwise required by law.