

Grahamstown Public School News

Excellence, opportunity, innovation and success in a caring environment

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Issue No: 6

5 March 2012

From the Principal

PSP Survey

Thank you to the many parents who have already submitted the Priority Schools Survey (PSP). The surveys were due back by last Friday. If you have not yet completed the survey I urge you to do so as soon as possible. Without a 100% return we have no chance of gaining the extra funding. The reward offered to children for the return of the survey is coming. All children in the family who return the survey will get a reward.

The extra funding that is gained from PSP funding lasts for three years and provides considerable extra resources for literacy and numeracy. The funding is for the benefit of all students. If your survey isn't back please help us. Return it tomorrow.

Classes

We have been granted the additional class for 2012. As you are aware we have been balancing student numbers since the school year began. The number of classrooms a school is entitled to depends entirely on the number of students enrolled at the school. These pre-allocated numbers are determined by the Department of Education and Communities (DEC).

At the end of last year and the beginning of this year we were two students away from reaching the number for seventeen classroom teachers. This gave us sixteen classrooms.

The census date, where all eastern division schools in New South Wales, had to submit their numbers was February 15th. Grahamstown PS gained two extra students on that day. The allocation of our entitlements for 2012 was given by the DEC on February 27th. This allocation gave us a seventeenth class.

The extra class started today in our school hall. We are waiting for an additional demountable but are pleased that we could reduce the size of our overly large senior classes.

Health Screening

Parents of kindergarten children who have not previously been screened by Hunter New England Health were sent forms to complete on Friday February 24th. The eye test take place this

coming Thursday. If you have not returned your forms but would like your child screened please return them to the office by Wednesday afternoon.

Camp Deposits

Camp deposits are due by Friday of this week. Your deposit secures your child's place at camp. Payments can be made on a progressive basis from now to ease the burden of the cost of camp. Please take advantage of the progressive method to ease the pressure of one lump payment.

Have a great week.

Sue Kane
Principal

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

March 13th	P & C Meeting
March 14th	Shave for Cure/ Disco
March 15th	Cross Country
March 20th	Harmony Day
March 21st	National Ride2School Day
March 27th	Athletics Carnival
March 29th	Year 1 Excursion

Notes in Circulation

- **Mathletics 2012**
- **Bush Camp Expression of Interest**
- **Crazy Hair Day**

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

ASSEMBLY AWARDS 5TH MARCH 2012

KA	3C
Xander	Tiahlee
Chloe	Jordan
Mikayla	Lachlan
KH	3S
Lilly	Caitlin
Ellie	Ellie
	Jacob
KF	4K
Hayden	Harrison
Eleanor	Macey
Stephanie	Ellie
K/1W	4P
Jackson	Tasmyn
Jessica	Dale
Lusis	Jack
	Angel
1K	4/5R
Janae	Matilda
Lachlan	Telesha
Denzel	Sierra
1R	5S
Becky	Liam
Jarrod	Hansie
Tasyn	Tasmyn
2B	5/6W
Emalee	Jacobi
Tavis	Bailey
Kacey	Chloe
2M	6S
Sebastian	
Deakon	
Thomas	

Canteen News

Roster:

Tue 6th Mar: Skye Noffke

Wed 7th Mar: Bev Pegg, Julie Evans

Thur 8th Mar: Leigh Kelty, Fiona Brown

Fri 9th Mar: Vanessa O'Connell,

Danielle Piening, Lyn Dunk

Mon 12th Mar: Naomi Farnham, Kirby Cashen

GET WHEELIE EXCITED

National Ride2School Day is Australia's largest celebration of walking and riding to school. Don't miss any of the action on Wednesday 21 March 2012.

We will be providing a healthy breakfast and will be serving yoghurt and fruit free of charge until we run out.

National Ride2School day aims to raise awareness of the health, economic and environmental reasons for encouraging children to have an active commute to school.

SPORTS' NEWS

Cross Country On Thursday March 15, we will be holding our annual school Cross Country.

Juniors will run/walk the 2km course and seniors 3kms.

All students in Years 2-6 are expected to participate. They are allowed to walk the course if they cannot run the full distance. All those completing the course earn house points for their sporting house.

If a child cannot participate, through illness etc; they will need a note, and they will remain at school.

Every student attending the Cross Country should have:

- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Please write name on all articles
- Sensible shoes e.g. joggers
- Asthma medication if needed.

Parent help will be essential, so if you can assist please see Miss Russell. We require adults to man the various check points and to supervise the safety of students on the run.

If you do not wish your child to take part please inform the teacher in writing.

Leanne Russell
Organiser

Athletics Carnival

Grahamstown Public School's Athletics Carnival is on Tuesday March 27, 2012. All children from years 2-6 will be competing. Permission notes will be sent home closer to this date. All parents are welcome and we will need some volunteers to help with running the carnival.

Hats and sunscreen are essential for sun protection.

If the weather is unkind to us our alternate date for the carnival is April 4.

HIGH JUMP

Grahamstown Public School will be holding its high jump events as part of its Athletics Carnival at school this week. Meet on the grass near Mr Henderson's shed when you are allowed into the playground. Children should come with appropriate clothing (shoes that stay on and clothes that don't flap). Children who are absent on their day may jump on a day later in the week. Talk to Mr Kelly or Miss Russell if you miss your event.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday.
Junior Boys (8,9 7 10 year olds)	Junior Girls (8,9 7 10 year olds)	11 year old boys and girls.	Senior Boys (12 & 13 year olds)	Senior Girls (12 & 13 year olds)

Another Swimming Record broken

Year 5 student Kimberley Jaeger broke her own 11yr old girls backstroke record while competing at the Port Stephens Zone Swimming Carnival on Friday February 24. The old mark of 50.94, which she set at our school carnival, now stands at 46.73 sec. Kimberley set the new record while on her way to winning the 11 yr old girls backstroke at the zone carnival.

Chloe Barnes also competed at the zone carnival and placed third in her heat of the 12 yr old girls freestyle.

Well Done girls.

Sport in Schools Australia

Next term, students at Grahamstown P.S. will be given the opportunity to participate in the 'Sport in Schools Australia' program. This highly valuable

program allows students to participate in a variety of fun and interesting sporting activities using equipment that they may have not experienced before. The 'Sports in Schools Australia' team will visit Grahamstown P.S. every Monday morning in Term 2. The program will cost students \$4 per week, with payment being capped at \$8 a family (i.e. only the first two children in each family will be charged.) More information about this outstanding program will be provided in coming weeks. Please contact Mrs South if you have any questions.

HARMONY DAY

Grahamstown Public School is celebrating Harmony Day on Tuesday March 20. Children are invited to wear sensible mufti (close toed shoes, shirts with sleeves and school hats) in warm colours (pink, red, yellow, orange).

We will be having a visiting performance by the SUARA Indonesian Dance Group. This performance will introduce traditional and contemporary Indonesian culture. The cost will be \$4 per child **collected by class teachers**. The K-2 performance will begin at Midday and the yrs 3-6 performance will begin at 1.45pm.

The canteen will be adding taste sensations from other countries to the menu on this day so keep a look out for those order forms for macaroni cheese or nachos.

Permission notes and canteen order forms will be sent home shortly

Mathletics

Our school is in the process of completing the 'roll-over' of Mathletics for 2012. The 'roll-over' is where students are placed in their new classes and are working on the Mathletics program appropriate to their grade. This process should be completed within the next week. Once the 'roll-over' has taken place, students who have paid their \$10 fee will be issued with new usernames and passwords. (Usernames and passwords from 2011 will no longer be valid.) The new usernames and passwords will remain valid till the end of February, 2013. Please contact Mrs South if you have any questions concerning Mathletics.

CRAZY HAIR DAY

When: Wednesday 14 March

What: World's Greatest Shave

Bring: A gold coin donation

Why: To help raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation – all money goes towards research into better treatments and cures.

Come to school wearing your craziest hair-do! Style it, spray it (with temporary colour) or wear a wig!

Lunchtime Activities

Hair spraying will be available for \$2 per student (until it runs out). Some brave teachers will have their heads shaved and those students wanting it done must have written permission from their parents (\$2 donation as well). For those students with permission we will have spray available to colour hair. Notes will be sent home closer to March 14.

Premier's Reading Challenge!

We are again embarking on the Premier's Reading Challenge this year, with lots of books for the students to choose! 2012 is also the National Year of Reading so it is a good time to visit the library and share some books together. The PRC challenge encourages students to read 20 books before September, 15 of which are from the PRC specific list of books. We have lots in the library, and many of the local libraries participate as well. The registration of the Premier's Reading Challenge participants means that, if the task is completed and your child reads 20 books within the given time frame, their names will be published on the PRC Honour Roll and will appear in the newspapers.

If you do not wish to have your child's name published as completing the challenge, please notify the school as soon as possible. For more information, please visit the Premier's Reading Challenge website at <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/private.html>.

Mrs. Smith
Teacher Librarian

\$3 DISCO

Grahamstown's first disco of the year will be held on **Wednesday March 14, 2012**. The money raised at the door will benefit the P&C

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.

Piano Lessons
Including theory
From 4 years old till
advanced
Call Eva 4987 1482