Principal’s Report

Thank you to the parents who completed surveys either of an afternoon after school or at the school disco. Your opinions are valued and commonly reflect the feelings of staff and students.

Most parents gave very positive feedback about our school. Assemblies were well received as was PBL, the opportunities offered to students, the tidy playground, the approachable teachers, the canteen, our environment programs, our consistency with students and the friendly atmosphere of the school.

Some parents thought our uniform was excellent others believe it needs improvement. Some parents believe our modes of communication are great others can see the need for improvement there as well.

A number of parents appreciated the community events held at the school and a few wanted more team sport. Some parents wanted increased fitness. Currently Grahamstown students do fitness 4 days per week, which is not team related but endurance related. Each stage also then does one hour of sport per week which is generally of a team nature or skill based. This is the mandatory allocation of time for sporting activities as per the Board of Studies. Fitness is generally of a morning and sport is at varying times depending on the stage group.

There were a couple of suggestions about emailing notes to parents and emailing weekly communications about children’s progress. Both these ideas in theory are great suggestions, however the time consumption involved in both inhibit their implementation. Although mailing lists can be set up the time taken to individually email every parent is prohibitive. All information about notes is in our newsletter which is now on Facebook as well as on our school website. Parents can log on at any time to find out what notes are in circulation.

The suggestion of sending term notes home to inform parents about classroom activities has been taken on board by staff. We will trial this in 2015.

Bullying was also raised by a few parents. During 2015 we are implementing, as an addition to PBL, a bullying disaster scale and a specific bullying plan for the playground. Both these strategies will be taught in classrooms as a PBL lesson and a set of questions has been developed to make that language common among all staff.

Overall the responses given by parents were positive, open and honest. We appreciate the time taken to complete the survey. We will endeavour to address as many of the issues raised as we can. Not all issues raised can or will be part of our agenda for 2015.

Have a good week

Notes in Circulation

- Mathletics
- Yr 6 Farewell
- Healthy Harold
- P&C Pie Order Sheet
- Kindy Party
- Christmas Craft
- Scotty’s Cinema Stage 2
- Springloaded Stage 3
- Transport Excursion Stage 1

EVENTS FOR TERM 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th November</td>
<td>Transport Excursion Yrs 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th December</td>
<td>Spring-loaded Yrs 5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th December</td>
<td>Presentation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th December</td>
<td>Kindy Party Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th December</td>
<td>Scotty’s Cinema Yrs 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th December</td>
<td>Last day of School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE SEND IN CORRECT MONEY WHEN PAYING FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES TO THE OFFICE.
**Canteen News**

**Term 4**

**Tues 18th Nov**: Jo Delaforce  
**Wed 19th Nov**: Lea Wallace  
**Thurs 20th Nov**: Janet Allen, Kerry Formosa  
**Fri 21st Nov**: Danielle Piening, Kylie Bivard, Kirby Cashen  
**Mon 24th Nov**: Di Holden

**New**: Funny Finger Ice-blocks $1.00  
Volunteers are needed for next year’s roster. If you can spare a few hours each month please see Sherri at the canteen.  
The canteen will be modifying their menu for 2015. Only amber (sometimes food) or green (all the time food) items will be sold. All sweets, including ice creams, water ice blocks, milk, juice and lollies served in our canteen fall into the amber category.  
The drinks and lollies served at our disco and the sausage sizzle count as the two allowable red days per term. All red food items have been removed from the canteen for general purchase. Additional items will be added such as sushi and meatball rolls. The meatball rolls will take the place of hot dogs which fall into the red food category.

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**Name Publications**

Name Publications- If there are any parents whose child can be easily identified by their first name and do not want names published in the school newsletter or on our Facebook page please send a note to the office stating your wishes. We will be reviewing our permission requirements for publication in the New Year and will use these notifications in the interim.

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**Gold Awards:**

Brandon, Nicholas, Mustafa, Alycia, Breony

“Congratulations”

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**Graham will be spending this week with 2B**

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**Bus Passes for 2015**

If your child is going into Year 3 next year, currently has a bus pass, lives outside the 1.6km radius and you wish them to continue with free travel, then a new application will be required. Please come into the school office to collect a new application form. If you are unsure whether you are outside the 1.6km radius please contact the school office.
Also if your child has a bus pass and you have changed your address, then you will also need to complete a new application form.
GPS Talent Quest

Auditions for this year’s Talent Quest will be held during Week 8 at lunchtime.
Monday 24th – Kindergarten/Stage 1
Tuesday 25th – Stage 3
Thursday 27th – Stage 2
Friday 28th – Finals (School Hall 11:00-12:00)

ALL STUDENTS are responsible for providing music, costumes, instruments etc.

Students will be informed if they have made the final after the auditions on the Thursday.
For any further information please contact Mrs Blake

Student 2 Student Program

This year, a selected group of students were lucky enough to participate in the Student 2 Student Program run by the Smith Family. These students have completed the program and will receive their awards this Friday at our assembly. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club catalogues were handed out last week. Orders are to be returned to the front office no later than – Thursday 20th November. Some spare copies of catalogues are in the Library.

To place an order:
Make sure the order slip has student’s full name & class.
If paying in cash please have the correct amount of money for your order. Cheques to be made out to Scholastic Australia, and credit cards are done online. Please check order sheet for details.
Place order in an envelope marked clearly with Book Club, Child’s Name & Class.
Hand order in at the front office before school.

‘Connect to Reading’
Mrs Smith
Presentation Day

Presentation Day is the day for recognising excellence at our school. On this day it is expected that all students wear full school uniform, including white ankle length socks and black shoes. Sport’s uniform is not to be worn and the correct girls skorts or tunic are also the preferred uniform.

Last year the school looked fantastic in their uniform and the same excellent presentation would be appreciated this year. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

DEFENCE SCHOOL TRANSITION AIDE NEWS

I hope all the Defence Families received their invite to the End of Year Function at Lakeside Bowl on the 28th November. There are spare notes at the front office. I would appreciate it if you could please RSVP by Wednesday 26th November, thank you.

The Williamtown RAAF Base Christmas Treat is being held on Friday 5th December from 1-5pm. Tickets are $12 per child aged 2-16 (free for under 2) which includes unlimited rides, ice block, drink and sausage sizzle. Tickets can be purchased from Defence Bank and ADCU.

The Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour Sydney, recently launched the War at Sea-the Navy in WW1 Exhibition on 11 Sep 14. In recognition of the importance of this exhibition and sharing the message of the Australian Navy’s role in WW1, the museum will provide complimentary admission to the exhibition (including all permanent galleries) for all Defence personnel, Defence Reserves and their families (value $7 per adult). The exhibition will be held until 3 May 2015.

If there are any families that are posted that I am unaware of or any other issue that I may be able to assist with, such as absences, etc. I would be grateful if you could please contact me by leaving a message with the front office or email: deborah.odonoghue1@det.nsw.edu.au.

Many thanks
Deborah O’Donoghue
Defence School Transition Aide

P&C News

A big thank you to all the parents that helped in the canteen at the disco and those that have helped in the canteen throughout the year.

Thompson’s Pie Order Form for Christmas orders have been sent home. If you haven’t yet received one or need another they are available at the office. Orders are due back Friday 28th November 2014 at 9am with the correct money in envelopes or clip lock bag. Pick up is on the 8th December 2014 after 12pm in the school hall. Only parents may come and collect the orders.

The next P&C Meeting will be next year on Tuesday 10th February 2015 at 6.30pm in the staff room all are welcome to come along.

We have a big fundraising day coming up next month where we will need help from parents. If you are free to help for a hour or more on Saturday 6th December 2014, Masters Heatherbrae are having a sausage sizzle to raise money for the school to buy performing arts uniforms (ie choir, drum corp and debating team). Any help would be gratefully appreciated. Please let us know by either telling Sherri at the canteen or ring the school office. Alternatively please fill in the form below and send it back to the P&C box in the front foyer of the office.

Name: _______________________
Phone No: ___________________
Time you can help:
8.00am till 10.00am: ___________
10.00am till 1.00pm: _______
1.00pm till 4.00pm: ____________
Or what time: ___:___ am/pm til ___:___