From the Principal

Congratulations to all the kinder students who have had a fantastic start to the year. Every child has started in a very confident manner and all are showing their independence by being able to find their class lines at the end of each break and can line up readily in two lines. This may seem like a small task but it is quite significant that they are able to do this independently so quickly.

As usual the Grahamstown students have started the year looking fantastic in school uniform and they are again displaying their beautiful manners and friendly outlook. Grahamstown students are great children and great school citizens.

Parent Meetings:
February 17:
Stage 2: (grades 3&4) In Library at 3:15
Stage 3 (grades 5&6): In library at 4pm
February 18:
Kinder in classrooms at 3:15
Stage 1 (grades 1&2): In Library at 4pm

Parent Contact:
If you have changed your phone numbers over the Christmas New Year break it is VERY important that the school has this change of contact details. If there is an emergency or if a child has missed a bus or they are sick current contact details are vital.

Please contact the school as soon as possible if you believe we do not have your current contact details.

It is also important to remember that we cannot allow a child to go home with anyone unless they are on our list of contacts, even if it is a relative known to the child. If there is a chance that someone other than a parent or a person on our contact list is to pick your child up a note needs to be sent informing the school that this is to occur. Thank you for your cooperation in the interest of the safety of your children.

Have a great week.
**Attention Parents of Year 5 and 6 students**

Notes will be going home this week. CANBERRA will be the destination of stage three’s annual school camp in 2015! Stage three will be heading to our nation’s capital during Term 4 (October 13-16). This is to support, our HSIE unit on Governing Australia. Past excursions have been very positive, with both staff and students gaining a lot from the experience.

Whilst in Canberra we will be visiting places such as:

- Parliament House
- War Memorial
- Questacon
- National Gallery
- Australian Institute of Sport
- Anzac Parade
- Lake Burley Griffin

We will be unable to finalise exact costs until we have a better idea of numbers. The cost in 2013 was $350 per student which includes 3 nights accommodation, coach transfers, entry to all attractions and meals. It is expected that there will be a slight rise in cost.

A $50 non-refundable deposit will be due by 3pm Thursday March 26, 2015. Hope to see all children attending.

**Scholastic Book Club**

Welcome to Book Club for 2015. Scholastic Book Club catalogues have been handed out to all classes. Orders are to be returned to the front office no later than Wednesday, 18th FEB. 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.

Happy Reading
Mrs Smith
Teacher Librarian

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**Do Your Best**

Harrison x 3, Jordan x 2, Tom, Andrew, Kaitlin x 2, Jackson, Ellie, Riley, Charlie, Jackson, Janae, Lili, Cooper, Henry, Mustafa, Madeline, Paige, Haylee, Emalee, Aidan, Denzel, Tracey, Seth, Kayden, Jordan, Oliver

**GOLD AWARDS:**

Byran, Brandan, Nikala, William, Riley, Chantelle.

“Congratulations”

**Graham will be spending this week in 3S**

**MONEY FOR ACTIVITIES**

When making payments for school activities please ensure notes and the CORRECT money are placed in envelopes or plastic clip-lock bags with the student’s name on them. Money and notes must be in separate envelopes/bags for the P&C, Canteen, classroom collections and activities paid to the office. Payments to the office need to be brought in BEFORE class of a morning.
terms

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**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**  
6 FEBRUARY 2015

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<td>Jake</td>
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“Congratulations to all students”

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**Canteen News**

**Term 1**

**Tues 10 Feb:** Sue Ryan  
**Wed 11 Feb:** Kelly Bink, Katie Trezise  
**Thurs 12 Feb:** Cathy Hedges, Tanya Picot  
**Fri 13 Feb:** Nerada Lowe, Kristy Manning  
**Mon 16 Feb:** Di Holden, Amanda Evans

- 2015 Rosters are ready to be picked up from the canteen.
- New price list and menu for 2015, Meatball Sub, Sushi, Mini spring rolls are now available. All food available every day.

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**Cross Country**

On Friday March 6 we will be holding our annual school Cross Country.  
Juniors (children who are aged 7-10 years) will run/walk the 2km course and seniors (Children 11 years or 12/13 years) 3kms.

**Midday-** Children walk the course to learn the route.

**On return-** Children will have usual 15min recess (earlier than usual)

**After Recess-** 7/8 year old boys followed by 7/8 year old girls etc

Once the carnival is over children will return to their class.

The ZONE CROSS COUNTRY will be held on Friday March 27 beginning at 10am. At this carnival children aged 7/8&9 run together. Your child may gain a place in the school carnival but may not represent the school at the zone carnival if they do not place in the first 6 (7/8&9 year old combined group).

**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.

Miss Russell
Organiser

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**Defence School**
**Transition Aide News**

*Apologies for the misprint in last week’s school newsletter, the morning tea is this THURSDAY, it would be greatly appreciated if you could please RSVP by Wednesday 11th February, thank you.*

**WELCOME MORNING TEA**
To all parents/carers:
We would like to invite you to a Welcome Morning Tea
In the school hall
Thursday 12th February
From 9:15am

*We would like to welcome new families to GPS and it would be great to have existing families join in this event, Looking forward to seeing you,*
P & C Committee and
Deborah O'Donoghue
(Defence School Transition Aide)

For catering purposes, we would appreciate it if you could please let us know if you are able to attend, thank you.

Please return this note to the front office:

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Yes, I am able to attend the morning tea on Thursday, 12th February:
Name/s:

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Thank you.

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**PARKING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL**

A reminder that there are parking restrictions in Hastings Drive outside the school.
The Ranger patrols the area regularly

- Parents may use the “No Parking” Zone to drop students off and collect them in the afternoon. You cannot leave your vehicle, nor have your car standing in the space. It is a “Kiss and Drop” zone only. If you wait longer than a minute or two, your vehicle is likely to be photographed and you are liable for a $220.00 fine.
- The bus zone is a no standing and no parking area between 8.30am and 9.30am and between 2.30pm and 3.30pm.
- The Council has also made a section opposite the school a restricted time no parking area as well.

These areas have been put in place for the safety of your children.