From the Principal

Last week the Education Week award ceremony was held at Hunter River High School for the Lakeside and Hunter River Learning Communities. We are very proud of the recipients from our school who received awards for excellence in their field. The recipients from Grahamstown Public School were Caitlin Ping and Claire Harris for the outstanding student awards, Mrs Jodie Bennett for the community award, Ms Helen Saville for excellence in teaching and Ms Jenni Tolhurst for the non-teaching award. Our School Sport Program was recognised for its excellence and Miss Leanne Russell collected the award on behalf of the school. We congratulate and thank all the award recipients for their dedication and hard work at our school.

Have a good week

Notes in Circulation

- Mathletics
- Canberra Excursion
- Science Week Show Yr 3-6
- Oakvale Farm Kinder
- Awabakal Environment Yr 2
- School Concert Costumes

EVENTS FOR TERM 3

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<td>Science Week Show Yrs 3-6</td>
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<td>11th August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting,</td>
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<td>12th August</td>
<td>Awabakal Environmental Yr 2</td>
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<td>13th August</td>
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<td>24th - 28th August</td>
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REFUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES
If your child is absent on the day/s of an activity/excursion/performance etc, you will need to apply for a refund. Application forms may be collected from the school office. A full refund may not always be provided as the school is still liable for the full costs of some expenses. Applications for refunds of $5 or less must be made no later than 5 school days after the activity. Applications for refunds over $5 must be made no later than 21 days after the activity. All monies must be collected from the office and signed for by an adult. A copy of the refund policy can be collected from the office if you wish to read it.

Move SAFELY and sensibly around the school

PBL Awards
Damien, Logan, Haylee, Liam, Paige, Jack, Zach, Tiffany x 2, Cooper, Shaeele, Caitlin, Ally, Jordan, Ethan, Janae, Damien, Tyson x 2, Leland, Aydyn, Tia, Alana, Bella, Liam, Gracie, Pearl, Seth, Ella, Nicole, Thalia, Gemma, Chelsea & Matthew.

GOLD AWARDS
Javanna, Taleaha & Reuben

"Congratulations"
Assembly awards
Grandfriend’s Day

Last Thursday our school held Grandfriend’s Day. It was an awesome day with lots of grandparents and other relatives seeing how great our school is!!! It started off with a special assembly. The Les Belles performed and so did the school choir, drum group and drama group. The Les Belles are women aged 60 to 70 years old who tap dance. They were step-tacular!!! After the assembly our visitors were able to come to the students classrooms and look at all their work. When lunchtime came everyone got a sausage sizzle and could buy tombola cups and get a picture taken or buy a portrait. As well as that, the dance troupe performed their ‘Safe and Sound’ dance which was mind blowing. Those dancers are very talented.

The ball games carnival was next after lunch and with everyone involved it was awesome!! This year the winning house was Colman on 66 points and Eldon coming a close second with 65 points, Finnan coming 3rd on 61 points and Hastings coming 4th with 60 points. Well done to Colman and great effort to all the other houses!!! The trophies will be handed out on Friday August 21st at the assembly!!!

Minister of communications
Ellie

P & C NEWS
The P&C Association meeting is on the 11th August 2015 at 6:30pm in the Grahamstown School Staff Room.

Father’s day stall will be the 3rd of September 2015. If anyone can help on this day could you let us know please?

Grahamstown P&C also has an email address. If you would like to make a suggestion or let us know if you can help on any upcoming event please contact us at grahamstownpublic.pandc@yahoo.com.au

"Congratulations to all students"

Canteen News
Term 3
Tues 11th Aug: Rebecca Squires
Wed 12th Aug: Kelly Bink
Thurs 13th Aug: Janet Allen, Kerry Formosa
Fri 14th Aug: Prue Green
Mon 17th Aug: Amanda Evans, Kelly Mills

Healthy kids fruit promotion starts Tuesday 11 August and will run for the next few weeks. Buy a piece of fruit, salad sandwich or salad plate and receive stickers and entry form. Bring the form filled in correctly to the canteen to get your prize. There are six different ones to collect. Fruit 80cents
**Hunter Inter-Schools Primary Public Speaking Competition**

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who represented Grahamstown P.S. last week in their respective heats at the annual public speaking competition.

Stage 1 – Matilda and Alex  
Stage 2 – Ellie and Lochie  
Stage 3 – Caitlin and Jacob

All of the students did an absolutely brilliant job with their speeches! Stay tuned next week for some fantastic results and photos! Well done Jacob, Caitlin, Lochie, Ellie, Alex and Matilda! We are all super proud of you!!!

**Books Light up our World**

Book Week is being held in Week 7 from the 24th -28th August. The theme this year is *Books Light up our World* which is creating some wonderful memories from staff and children when they remember books which have made them smile, cry, laugh and be challenged.

Our annual **Book Fair** will be open on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th August from 8.30 – 9.00 and 2.30- 3.00 both days with an extra opening time on Thursday at 11.00.

The highlight of our Book Week celebrations is the **Parade**, where students and teachers are encouraged to dress up as a character from a book that lit up their world. The parade is showcased on Thursday 27th August at 10.15. All parents are welcome.

The **Children’s Book Council Award** winners will be announced on Friday 21st August.

Jane Lockhart

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**Concert Tickets**

**Once Upon A Time**

There will be 2 performances of this year’s school concert:

**Wednesday 9th September at 6pm**

**Thursday 10th September at 6pm**

**Price:** $5.00

Tickets will be available from the school office and seating will be numbered.

There will be 2 rounds of ticket sales.

1. The first round of ticket sales will commence at 8:30am on Wednesday 12th August. There will be a limit of **two** tickets per family during this first round of sales from 12/8/15 – 25/8/15. We have restricted seating available for the concert, so have limited the first round sales to two tickets per family to give as many families as possible the opportunity to see the concert.

2. The second round of ticket sales will commence at 8:30am on Wednesday 26th August. From this date, tickets will go on general sale and families will be able to purchase extra tickets. Please note, however, that they will not be in the same location as any tickets previously purchased, as the seats are numbered.

**Grahamstown PS Soccer Boys**

On the 6th of August Grahamstown PS played Gloucester PS at the soccer fields in Gloucester. With all our hard effort we won 3 nil and the 3 people who scored goals were Tom, Jack and Jayden. Well done to the soccer team.

Mason & Dylan
The **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 17 August and 16 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by 21 August, (Term 3, Week 6). Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

The **Partners in Learning** parent feedback survey

Our school will also be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents’ and carers’ perspectives on their child’s experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school’s support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 17 August and 16 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated.


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**Year 6 Farewell**

Our first Year 6 Farewell meeting for 2015 will be held on Thursday 13 August at 3:15pm in Mrs Webb’s classroom. All Stage 3 parents are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

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**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.

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**Late Arrivals**

If students are late for school, they need to be brought to the school office by their parent or carer so the reason can be verified and recorded. This is a child welfare and protection procedure to ensure children are not turning up late to school without their parents’ knowledge. Your support with this matter is greatly appreciated.