



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 28 August 2020

### Message from the Deputy Headmaster

Quote:

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

-John Quincy Adams

It is an exciting time at Graeme with regards to learner leadership. I joined Messrs De Lacy, Xonxa and Swift at Rhodes for a course on 'Learner leadership', and they have continued to run with it. We have investigated our own leadership model along with our leadership education at Graeme. This has ended up with a completely new model, which was presented to the Grade 11s recently. In fact, today was the deadline for Grade 11s with regards to applying for Portfolio Leadership. I have tried to copy some of Mr De Lacy's summary below, which looks absolutely amazing. I can't think of many more exciting and positive changes to have occurred at Graeme.

#### Graeme College Learner Leadership Model Portfolio Heads

Graeme College will be moving from the current prefect system to one which involves willing learners within specific portfolios. Each Grade 11 learner will have the opportunity to apply to be the head of a portfolio. A learner can apply to be the head of a maximum of three portfolios, but can only act as the head of one. Learners must submit an application form to the relevant teacher in charge of the portfolio. Applicants will need to prepare a video of themselves detailing what they will offer and why the other learners should vote for them. Once this process has been completed, the Grade 9-11s will vote for the portfolio heads.

## Head of Learner Leadership

The portfolio heads will also get the opportunity to apply to be the Head of Learner Leadership (Head Boy). This will follow a similar process as above, with an application letter. The Grade 11s, portfolio heads and staff will vote for the Head of Learner Leadership.

## Portfolio Committee Members

Members of the Grade 11 and 10 class will get the opportunity to apply to be a member of the portfolio of their choice. This will be done through an application letter to the head of the portfolio and the staff member on the portfolio board. A learner can be a member of a maximum of two portfolios. If a learner had applied to be a portfolio head, they will not need to re-apply to be a member of that portfolio.

## Portfolios at Graeme College

DISCIPLINE/DIVERSITY/SCHOOL CULTURE  
HOUSE LEADERSHIP (Vernal, Wiles, Hutton, Neilson)  
SERVICE  
ARTS  
CAMPUS MANAGEMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL CARE  
EVENTS/EVENTS MANAGEMENT  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
SCHOOL SPORT/SPIRIT  
GRANT HOUSE  
RCL  
ACADEMIC  
MARKETING

## Learner Leadership Colours

If a learner excels in his position within a portfolio, the portfolio teacher can nominate that learner for half or full colours.

You can see why we are so excited about this process; and why the Grade 11s have bought into it so much. It will be a game-changer for us, with regards to how we approach leadership at Graeme. Our staff have already established the framework for each portfolio, and will now engage with the learners and establish a brand new way forward for our dynamic leadership model.

Gregg van Molendorff

## Academic

### Campus Facilities:

- Unfortunately, a reminder that all campus facilities are off limits/ out of bounds to our community members; as per the State Regulations.
- Mr Watson has allowed affiliated coaches and staff to use various facilities, adhering to strict protocols, which are busy being established, depending on the facility.
- Sadly, this is very much out of our control, and in the meantime we are going to ask parents to be patient, as we work through the logistics of this.
- Slowly but surely the Graeme staff, will get our learners involved in activities that will have very strict social distancing and sanitization procedures.
- The safety of our learners and community members is always our priority.

- Full school uniforms will be worn on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Full school tracksuit/school uniform will be worn on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

## School news

Derick Haggeman from Amatola Quarries donated a load of Crusher Dust to Graeme College. This has helped enormously with the fixing of pot holes on and around campus. Our ground and maintenance staff were working hard today after receiving the donation. These gestures are so amazing and greatly appreciated.



## Finance

# Internet payments- please note

Please use your sons name and surname as the reference. Unfortunately, we are unable to credit your account if there is no reference to your son. We receive far too many references as "Graeme College, GJG, School Fees, etc".

Kindly remember, there are 650 learners in the school and without the correct reference, it's impossible to allocate the fees to the correct account!

A big thank you to those who understand the financial implications of the current lockdown restrictions and who continue to pay their school fees monthly.

## School Magazine

The school magazine is a historical document of the growth of the school. It informs the future generation of students about the traditions built up of their school and is the window to the activities of the school.

The 2019 Graeme College school magazine is available to buy for R150.00

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# Eco Brick Project

The Grant House boys are working on an eco brick project which was inspired by Mr Trevor Davies who started this idea in Grahamstown. Mrs Liz Manning is overseeing the making of the eco bricks at Grant House. Plastic 2 litre bottles with lids are required and plastic packets etc to "stuff" into the bottles. Boxes will be placed in the corridors in the junior school. Please send your cleaned/sanitized plastic to school with your son and he can simply place it into the box in the corridor. Ms White can be contacted at school for further information.



# Grade 5s

This week Mr Vaccaro paid the grade 5s a visit for a short magic show and afterwards he taught everyone a card trick. The grade 5s had a wonderful time and will even be having an extra lesson on card tricks with Ms Coetzer again next week for performing arts.



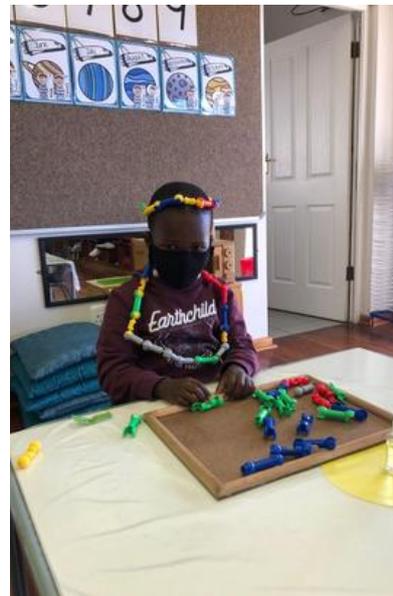
# Grade 00s

Grade 00 boys were really developing their fine motor skills today by using giant pins and carpets to create “push pin” pictures. This is great as an introduction to writing. They also used those little muscles to manipulate playdough and create “cookies”.



# Grade Rs

The grade Rs have been excited to be back at school and have settled back into their routines. We have been learning about farming this week and the boys really enjoyed it. Today we did some fine motor activities and practiced building puzzles in centers. The boys had lots of fun.

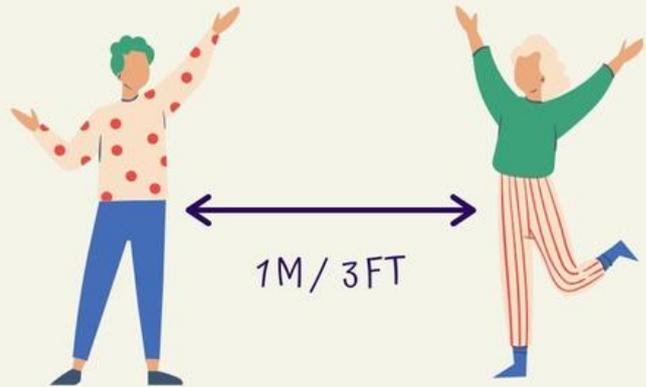


# STOP THE SPREAD



## WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.



## MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.



## AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH

Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth.



## IF YOU HAVE A FEVER, COUGH AND DIFFICULTY BREATHING, SEEK MEDICAL CARE EARLY

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.

Source: World Health Organization