



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 4 September 2020

Message from the Headmaster

Quote:

“Desire is the starting point of all achievement, not a hope, not a wish, but a keen pulsating desire which transcends everything.” – Napoleon Hill.

Spring Day in South Africa is done and dusted, however, on September 22 the Spring Equinox occurs in the southern hemisphere, one of two times of the year when night and day are about the same length. The sun is crossing the equator (an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth), moving southward, and it is an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole.

With spring day over and the spring equinox in the near future, I think we all welcome the signs that spring is in the air and summer is on the way. We welcome a bit of warmth after the rigours of winter. The change of seasons also signals that we are fast approaching the end of the year and it hardly seems possible that we only have just over three more months of school left.

For our Grade 12 boys who are vigorously preparing for the prelim exams: “Desire is the starting point of all achievement, not a hope, not a wish, but a keen pulsating desire which transcends everything.” – Napoleon Hill.

Hopefully, the Matrics will use the next week to prepare for those all-important exams. It is certainly not the time for socialising and frivolity. The prelims are there for a reason – to serve as a test run for the finals and to guide learners in

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the last few months of their school academic career. The prelims will also give a good indication of how much time is needed to master the various subjects which in turn will help in drawing up an accurate and effective time table for the final exams.

It is important that our boys don't fall victim to procrastination and constant rearranging of their study roster. The Grade 12s have more than enough time to get through and master all the work in the syllabus. The importance of prelims should not be underestimated, because they may well influence the boys' options down the line.

Study like there's no tomorrow because if you keep putting off your studies for tomorrow, you'll probably be too late.

K. Watson
Headmaster

Academic

Arrangements for the Grade 12s for next week:

Monday and Tuesday are ordinary school days where all scheduled academic lessons need to be honoured. On Tuesday valuable information pertaining to the exam sessions and venues will be given out. Other important information for next week:

- Wednesday 9 September: CAT Practical Exam in the Rotary Lab
- Wednesday 9 September: Art Practical catch up lesson at the Johan Carinus Art School from 11h00 until 13h00.
- Friday 11 September: Art Practical Exam from 08h00 - 16h00 at the Johan Carinus Art School (please provide a packed lunch. This is a compulsory part of the preliminary examination process as described by the Department of Education. Any absence will need to be accounted for with a doctors' certificate.)

Grade 7 Assessments:

Please take note of the importance of assessment in Term 3. Term 1 (already completed) and Term 3 count 80% toward the final Grade 7 mark. Term 4 marks (exams) count 20% toward the final mark.

The Test Week (see below for schedule and dates) is when most of this term's assessment will take place – boys must therefore approach this week with careful and thorough preparation.

There would be nothing wrong with them starting to revise work and preparing study timetables in the coming week.
#spiritofexcellence

Grade 7 Test Week Term 3 2020			
	Session 1 8.00 – 9.00	Session 2 9.00 – 10.00	Session 3 11.00 – 12.30
Monday 5 October	LO	Geography	English
Tuesday 6 October	LO	Geography	English
Wednesday 7 October	Technology	History	Maths
Thursday 8 October	Technology	History	Maths
Friday 9 October	EMS	NS	FAL
Monday 12 October	EMS	NS	FAL

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.

Junior School challenge

These inspiring words have been placed on the stairs at school to inspire and remind the junior school children to excel in the spirit of excellence!



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

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.

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Eco Brick Project

The Grant House boys are working on an eco brick project which was inspired by Dr Trevor Davies who started this idea in Grahamstown. We will be working with the Grahamstown Project. 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.

So far the boys this week have made 37 eco bricks and counting!



Staff news



Another Graeme staff member gets a hole in one. It seems that there are somehow less people in the staff room who haven't got one compared to those who have. Congratulations Mr De Lacy!

Steelband

A select group of steelband members had the opportunity to participate in the New Zealand Virtual Steelband project, "1.5 Climate Change". Together with Mr Appollis the boys include Conway Burgess, Aswyn Classen, Duran Jass, Miracle Mgwashu (all Grade 12) and Cairis Appollis (Grade 6). Project included over 50 participants from 9 countries across the world. Well done everyone on learning the music so quickly and facing the pressure on recording individually.

Below are links to the video:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/h2m8rezue5misff/1.5%20Climate%20Change-FINAL.mp4?dl=0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nl10UYOJkzo>
- https://www.facebook.com/tishdeklerk/posts/10158479659322604notif_id=1599128650513689¬if_t=tagged_with_story&ref=notif

The boys have also participated in the USA Virtual Steelband Project, "Pan in Unity" which is set to be released in the coming weeks.



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Art

This week the grade 5s worked on their positive and negative space artworks and they turned out beautiful. The Grade 6s worked on their mandalas and they too, turned out so well.



Grade 3s

Numeracy and maths skills give children an important start to their learning and development. They also help prepare them for daily life at all ages. As children and young people move through life stages the everyday numeracy and math demands become more complex. The grade 3 boys were really developing their maths skills this week by doing practical maths in their new normal space.



Grade 4s

The blue group of grade 4s made their own cars from recycled materials. They had races down the hill by the swimming pool gate. Prizes will be awarded on Monday for the best looking car, the fastest car and the car that went the furthest. Gold group will be showing their cars off this Friday. Well done boys!



The grade 4s also participated in a monkey dance this week. To see some of the fun and entertainment click on this link:

- <https://youtu.be/OTmErxeV9LM>





Left: is a picture of the Maths Top Performers and Top Effort (L to R): Endinako Sicwebu, Dylan Long, Roshan Jeggels, Lihle Mabusela, Dini Mjuku.



Left: Maths Top Performers and Top Effort continued (L to R): BK Nongauza, Roman Prevec, Joy Mukenge, Chris McLean, Jesse McConnachie, Noah Tabensky, Aya Bill, Leon Mwepu, Jethro Visagie, Cullen Goliath, Damien Swart.



Left: Top 10 Academics (from position 1 down): Cullen Goliath, Leon Mwepu, Noah Tabensky, Nick McKeown, Jesse McConnachie, Roman Prevec/Ayamila Bill, Ali Rizvi, Ryan Stobbs, Chris McLean, Damien Swart/Christian Niesing.

Congratulations to the Term 2 Leopard Certificate Award winners:
For effort: Duncan McLeod, Joy Mukenge, Jaycie Pieterse, Oko Figlan, Lungako George.

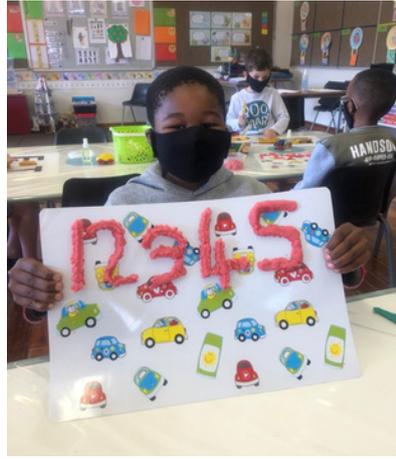
Grade 00s

On Friday the grade 00 class made their own creations out of manipulative toys and then enjoyed a game of "cone soccer". In cone soccer, each player has a cone which they need to protect, while kicking and watching 4 soccer balls. If your cone gets knocked over, you are out. Last cone standing is the winner!



Grade Rs

This week the grade Rs got very creative with play dough. The boys practiced forming numbers by molding play dough. They had lots of fun in their learning process of numeracy.



Grant House

The Grant House hostel boys wanted to do something different last Sunday morning so about 20 hostel boys travelled in the school bus to the SPCA. They braved the chilly temperatures and got to know the rescue dogs by giving them lots of cuddles and walking them! Milani (Grade 4) even wanted to keep one of them! The boys really enjoyed the walk in the fresh air and to get a bit closer to nature.

