



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 16 October 2020

Message from the Headmaster

Quote:

“Quality is never an accident. It is always the result of intelligent effort”- John Ruskin

(Picture above: This beautiful male peacock greeted the Pre-primary children on their arrival to school on Tuesday morning.)

We have come to the end of the Grade 12 Trial Examination period and have completed the prescribed assessments for all the other grades. Next Friday (23 October) the third term reports will be handed out. The marks reflected in these reports should be used as a guide to assess academic progress so far.

I assume each of our boys at Graeme College has a different purpose, aim and goal when evaluating their academic progress. When reflecting on this term's results, the following is an appropriate quote for our boys: “If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there.”

Terry Orlick, in his book “Embracing Your Potential”, says that human excellence, in virtually all domains, is guided by mental factors. He suggests that there are seven critical elements of excellence:

- Commitment
- Belief
- Full Focus
- Positive Images
- Mental Readiness
- Distraction Control
- Constructive Evaluation

These elements combine to form a "Wheel of Excellence" that provides a working framework to guide the pursuit of excellence. The first two elements, Commitment and Belief, form the hub, or heart, of human excellence. These two elements of excellence encompass our overall perspective or orientation towards excellence, the way we view ourselves, our capacity and the importance of our pursuit, and our desire to become our best. Our commitment or passion for our pursuit, our willingness to work hard and persist in the face of challenges and obstacles, and the extent to which we grow to believe in ourselves and what we are doing, are critical components of excellence.

Next week will be an ideal opportunity for all of us to evaluate our commitment and belief in our pursuit of academic excellence as we evaluate the academic results.

Kevin Watson

A.G.M. & SGB 2021 BUDGET MEETING

Parents are cordially invited to attend the above meeting in the Templeton Hall at 17h30 on Tuesday 17 November 2020. Please note that the audited Annual Financial Statements for 2019 and summaries of the School budget for 2021 will be available for inspection 14 days prior to the budget meeting. Please make an appointment with the finance office in this regard.

Grade 7 - 2021 - Parents and Guardians meeting

The Grade 7 2021 Parents/Guardians Meeting will take place on Thursday 22 October in the School Hall at 5.30pm. Amongst other things, the learner leadership model for 2021 will be presented. Please make every effort to attend. The standard Covid regulations will be in place. To restrict numbers, the meeting is for parents/guardians only. Boys will be updated in due course. If you would like to attend via Zoom then please send your email address to Mr Swift at a.swift@graemecollege.co.za - your presence is preferable by far, but we understand that it will be impractical if you live out of town.

Grade 12s- Important dates

- 19 October Final Life Orientation Examination; 09h00 – 11h00; Hall (Screening will take place at 08h15 in the junior quad)
- 20 October Senior Photo Day; (The Grade 12s must report to Somerset Field at 07h30, appropriately dressed in full school uniform and appropriately groomed)
- 21 October Prize Giving and Valedictory; (The Grade 12s must report to the library passage at 12h00)
- 21 October Art Boys: Final exhibition installation
- 22 October Final Music Practical Exams
- 23 October Final Music Practical Exams
- 23 October Report Collection

English Olympiad 2021: Call for entries

Any boy currently in Grades 8 - 11 is eligible to write next year's English Olympiad examination. This is scheduled to be written on Tuesday 2 March 2021. While that sounds far away, candidates need to register by mid-October. It costs R90 to enter the Olympiad. This includes the cost of the anthology which is entitled "This is my story". It is a mixed genre anthology which explores the themes of people and personas. Boys who are interested in this experience need to pay their money to Ms Stamper by Monday 19 October 2020. Queries can be directed to Miss Kenyon.

Grade 12 Valedictory/Prize Giving

On Wednesday 21 October, we will have a combined Valedictory Service and Prize Giving for the Grade 12 learners and their parents. This service will start at 12h30. We would ask that all Grade 12s report to the library passage at 12h00, so they might assume their places as the guests of honour for the occasion. This is a fitting farewell after what has been a very frustrating year for the current matric class.

Learner Dress and Neatness

Obviously the school has been very lenient with regards to uniform and neatness in the chaos of the pandemic. As the normality slowly but surely returns and school can start to function as before, we ask parents to please support us with regards to uniform and neatness. With learners wearing masks, a number of them have neglected shaving, which is something we are hoping will be addressed at home. Likewise, Graeme has strict and proud regulations around hair and uniform. We ask parents to please assist and send out the same message to our learners. We are incredibly proud of our uniform and of how smart our learners look at all times.

Uniform:

Full summer school uniform will need to be worn every day by all boys. The only exceptions to this will be when the boys have Physical Education classes. On these days boys will be expected to be in full school tracksuit. We trust that this step towards a disciplined routine and work ethic as these young men start working towards their final examinations.

Dress Code pertaining to sport

All boys who are attending any sports practice on the Graeme College campus need to be dressed in the Graeme College sports kit. No other kit will be allowed. This pertains to tennis (both private and school), cricket and attendance at the gym. Pupils will be asked to leave practices, if they do not adhere to the dress code.

Senior Photo Day: Tuesday 20 October

Please note that photo day for the Senior School is on Tuesday 20 October. All high school boys and those Grade 7s who have represented Graeme College in U14 teams need to report to Somerset Field at 07h30. Roll Call and screening will be done at the field. Please wear your full school uniform and the uniform masks that were given out by the school. Please make sure that you are appropriately groomed for the day. Individual photos will be taken early next term, when the junior school has their photo day.

The junior photos will be taken next term. The date will be confirmed next term.

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.

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. Below is the Grade 7 boys hard at work at Grant House. 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 97 eco bricks and counting! The boys are desperate for plastic to fill them so we are eagerly awaiting donations of plastic. The appeal is for plastic chip packets etc.

Thanks to everyone for bringing in their contributions so far. We challenge all boys to make their very own bricks and bring them in. They must weigh between 400-600 grams.

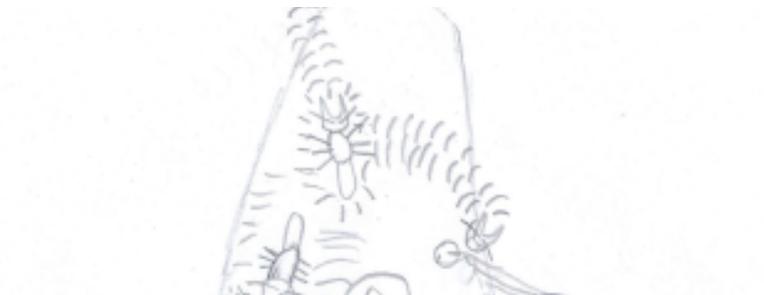
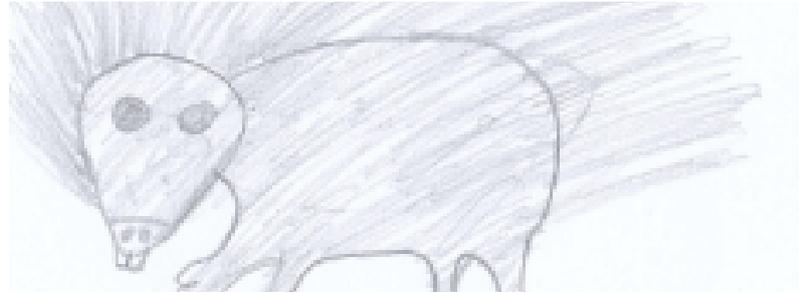
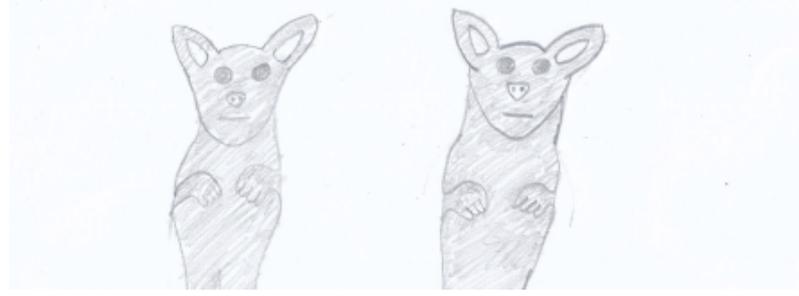
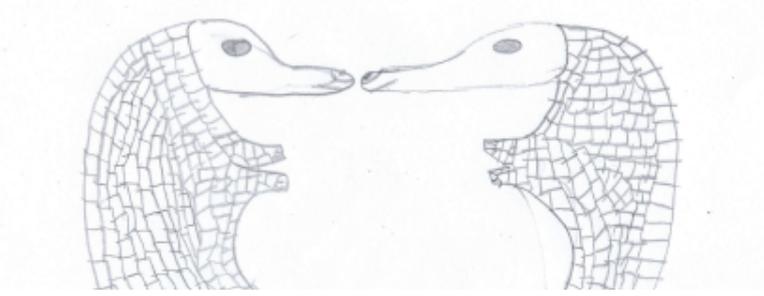


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Grade 5s

Amakhala game reserve had a competition of who can draw a wild animal. Some of the grade 5 boys from Mrs Luden's class drew some lovely pictures.



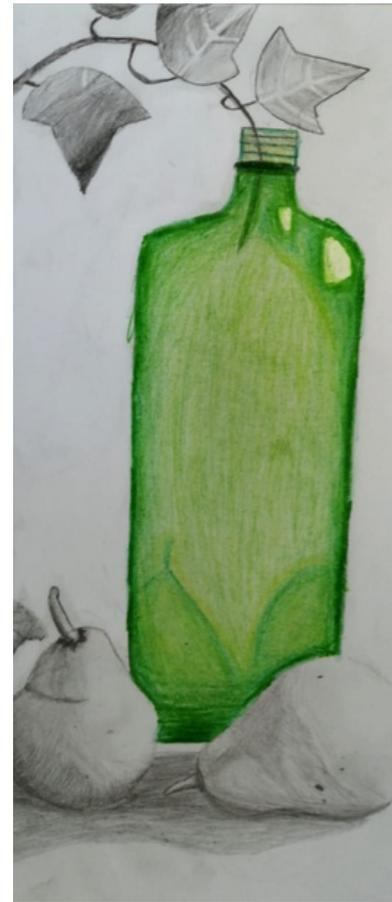
Grade 6s

Blayden Connolly and Liam Bodill scored top marks in a recent Maths test in Grade 6. Well done boys!



Grade 7s

A still life is a drawing or painting that focuses on still objects. The subject matter is inanimate and never moves, typically with a focus on household objects, flowers, or fruits. The Grade 7 boys did an exceptional job with their recent still life drawings.



Tennis

The u15 school championship results are in. The results for the semi finals are as follows:

Ethan Beyleveld vs Steven du Preez; Ethan won 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Murray Tyson vs Oliver Ripley; Murray won 6-1, 6-4.

The results for the finals are as follows:

Ethan vs Murray, Ethan won 6-4, 7-5.





AMENDED 2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Read to Lead
A Reading Nation is a Leading Nation



STAY HOME
SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

January 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

October 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

May 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

September 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Weekends
Days for administration
School days
Public holidays
Special school holidays
School holidays

Public and School Holidays 2021	
01 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
22 March	Public holiday
02 April	Good Friday
05 April	Family Day
26 April	School holiday
27 April	Freedom Day
01 May	Workers' Day
16 June	Youth Day
09 August	National Women's Day
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

Duration	No. of weeks	No. of days	No. of public holidays	Actual no. of school days
(25) 27 January-31 March	10	46 (48)	1	45 (47)
13 April – 25 June	11	54	2+1	51
13 July – 23 September	11	53	1	52
05 October – 08 (10) December	10	47 (49)	0	47 (49)
Total	42	200 (204)	4+1	195 (199)