



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 12 March 2021

Quote:

“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.” – Mark Twain.

Message from the Deputy Headmaster

We were thrilled to have a new member of our community assisting our staff this week with some modern day issues. Mr Thabang Moleko is in fact a new part of the Graeme College family. He is helping staff work through a number of issues that occur in the workplace and will be having a few more contact sessions with us. On Tuesday we had our first meeting where various complex scenarios were mentioned by the staff, and Mr Moleko gave some stunning advice and feedback. Mr Moleko is currently a lecturer in the Rhodes Business School. He has a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Rhodes University and has also obtained his Master's in Business Administration from Nelson Mandela Business School. He has vast experience in the corporate world in dealing with a wide variety of scenarios and he is also the recipient of the Mandela Washington Fellowship which allowed him to train in public management at Morgan State University in Baltimore, USA. Mr. Moleko is pursuing his Phd in Business Management at Rhodes University and we are thrilled to continue our great relationship with the Business School and with Rhodes University in general.

The modern world has changed so much with our learners facing far greater pressures. Likewise, Covid has pushed mental health and anxiety of the learners and staff to new levels. As a result, parents are under even more pressure to find the balance with regards to their own relationship with their children. This becomes complicated when the school and learners have problematic encounters at times. Graeme College strongly believes we are leaders in working, on a

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number of social issues, and are so proud of the progress that we are making with regards to learner happiness. We are strongly determined to make sure all our learners feel that they 'belong' to this great school and that they develop immense pride as part of that belonging. This is such a difficult challenge with regards to a wide variety of socio-economic disparities in our community. Our learners face immense challenges of their own in their home environment and even in their community. One of the topics we discussed in the first contact session was developing even more trust between the school and the parent body. It would be naive to think that we have achieved our goals; we know how much there is to still accomplish. We have come so far as a proud South African school - but we aim to be the very best. We constantly strive to be the benchmark for every other school in South Africa. We might not have a huge amount of resources available to us, but what we do, with what we have, just feels incredible to be part of.



During this journey, we will have a number of hiccups and hurdles but we are always getting better each day. An example of this collaborative relationship with our community was the Grade 6 & 7 Big Walk today. It was an incredible effort where funds were raised to add to the aesthetics of Junor Field. Well done and thanks to all who were involved in the project.

G. van Molendorff
Deputy Headmaster

Library

The library will be open at first break only, every day. If you would like your son to study in the library in the afternoons, you need to write a letter to the school (Mrs Strutt) to get permission. Thank you for your cooperation.

The 2nd hand clothing shop

The Graeme College second-hand clothing shop will be open between 13h00 and 14h00 every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (excluding public holidays and school holidays). Please contact Mrs Mary Siebritz should you have any queries.

Google Calendar

Google Calendar

Please click on the link below to be directed to the school Google Calendar. The link helps you subscribe to the school calendar which you can add to your phone, tablet or computer. Just click on the 'plus sign' at the bottom right hand corner of the calendar.

<http://www.graemecollege.co.za/calendar.html>



2023

Our Graeme College 2023 "Dream Project"



As Graeme College approaches its 150th birthday in 2023 we look to the past and celebrate numerous milestones of significant success and achievement. However as we look to the future we are determined to continue to inspire our boys toward future greatness. We do not want our boys to rest and rely on past glory, we want them to take a hold of their destinies and become the future leaders and champions we know they can be.

In order to do this we want to offer our boys the best possible facilities to assist them to achieve their dreams. We could think of no better way to do this than to open a multi-purpose indoor sports facility as Graeme College turns 150 in 2023. What better way to celebrate an incredible milestone of an incredible school? And what better way to open the way for another 150 years of growth, achievement and success?

Sport is an unbelievable banner of unity and togetherness at Graeme College. It has enormous power for good, both for the individual and the community. It has the ability to change the way Graeme boys think about themselves and the world that they live in. It can challenge their assumptions about their own ability, about what it means to work hard and the sacrifice required to achieve a standard of excellence.

The indoor sports facility would provide the space for world-class strength and conditioning equipment and training, indoor cricket nets and meeting/coaching rooms.

We are determined not to wait another century before producing our next international fly-half or cricket all-rounder.

This project seeks to celebrate and affirm our past, while embracing – with great passion – our shared future.

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Bank: Standard Bank
Branch: Grahamstown
Branch code: 050917
Account name: Graeme College
Account number: 081996551
Ref: Name & "Dream2023"

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Senior School Cricket:

Results:

1st XI vs St Andrews

St Andrews 232/7 declared

Graeme 179/ 7 declared

Match drawn

It was just incredible to be part of inter-school cricket fixtures again. This might sound ridiculous, but the excitement on the face while talking to a 1st XI player on Saturday just seemed so far out of place. It was the type of excitement you see on Christmas morning - I think we underestimate how much these boys miss their sport. That excitement was such a blessing with regards to the actual results - the boys weren't caught up in the pressure of results in a derby fixture. They allowed them to play with freedom, and they were brilliant.

Playing our first match of the year against St Andrews on Lower, isn't an easy task by any stretch of the imagination. And what a great venue to play on any day, but even more special to hand over 1st XI caps to Ethan Beyleveld and Onosizo Ntinga in their debut matches for the college at our highest level. In fact, both went on to play significant roles within the game which is exactly what we expect from any youngster representing the college. All our teams played in a longer format, with a second innings of 5 wickets.

Graeme lost the toss in the 1st XI game, and St Andrews decided to bat with no hesitation. Graeme struck first though, and St Andrews were under early pressure at 2-2. Good partnerships through the morning saw a see-saw battle ensuing between the two teams. St Andrews showed their great experience, and never seemed to get flustered. Graeme though managed to get crucial breakthroughs after each break in play. The period just before lunch and after lunch had vastly different outcomes. Graeme took the new ball just before lunch and struck three times leaving St Andrews on 187/7 at the break. After lunch, Graeme's experience cost them badly as St Andrews raced to 232/7 declared. Aphiwe Mnyanda (3) and Onosizo Ntinga (2) were the main wicket takers and bowled superbly well.

Graeme were quite superb in their reply against a fine bowling attack. After losing an early wicket Liselihle Maphekula and Aphiwe Mnyanda batted superbly under pressure. The St Andrews bowlers gave them nothing, and the batsmen kept their cool despite struggling to score freely. Graeme got to tea at 52/1, but lost Maphekula just as he seemed to express himself with freedom. Losing Mnyanda was a big blow soon thereafter but Mornay Kohl (42) provided a superb captain's performance. He joined with Fabio Rischbieter (46) in a fantastic partnership. Both got out with a few overs remaining in the day, but Graeme had done enough to secure a solid draw on the day. At the close of play Graeme were 179/ 7. It was an impressive start for our young 1st XI.



- Fixtures for Saturday 13 March 2021 vs Kingswood
09h00 start for all games.

1st XI - Somerset Field

2nd XI - Gane Field (Kingswood)

3rd XI - City Lords (Kingswood)

u15A - Marais Field

u14A - Knight Field (Kingswood)

- Junior Cricket vs Kingswood

Matches at Graeme

U9A on Junor C at 08h30

U11A on Junor B at 08h30

U13A on Junor A at 08h30

- Matches at Kingswood

U11B on Dold at 08h30

U13B on Dold at 08h30

Boys to meet at 07h45

Senior Tennis:

The U/15 tennis team played against Hoerskool P.J. Olivier on Monday 8th March.

Results:

Four doubles matches were played and Graeme College won 3-1 (matches)



Music

MUSIC

Steelband Rehearsal Times

Mondays: Grade 8 - 13h30-14h30

Tuesdays: Grade 9NH - 13h30-14h00

Grade 9SA - 14h00-14h30

Wednesdays: Grade 11 and 10 - 13h30-14h30

Fridays: Grade 12 - 13h30-14h30

Marimba Band Rehearsal Times

Due to clashes with sport the grade 7 and 6 groups have swapped. Please see the new times below:

Mondays: Grade 4 - 13h30-14h00

Grade 5 - 14h00-14h30

Tuesdays: Grade 6 - 13h30-14h30

Wednesday Grade 7 - 13h30-14h30

Due to a staff development meeting next week the grade 6 marimba band will be cancelled.

The music centre has also started offering private individual and group lessons. These take place after school. If you would like your child to participate in these lessons please collect a form at the music centre. These lessons are private and are to be paid for. The lessons will be taken by our full time staff members as well as outside music specialists.

Below: The Grade 9 Music classes playing guitar.



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.

Traffic control

For easy movement of traffic, please adhere to the following:

- 1) Only Foundation Phase boys (Grade 1, 2 & 3) may be dropped or collected from the front of the school. This must take place at the "circle" and not in front of the main entrance to the school building.
- 2) Between the times of 07h15 and 07h45, please use the main school gate as an entry ONLY and please exit the campus via the Grant House (boarding establishment) gate i.e. one way.
- 3) Boys in Grades 4 to 12 must be dropped off and collected at the Graemian Centre car park or at the Selborne or swimming pool gates i.e. at the back of the school.

Please adhere to a speed limit of 20km/hour on the school roads and be a responsible road user.

MySchool Card

Link your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet and Builders cards!



Login/Builders South Africa
<https://www.builders.co.za/register>



Register & create a Builders profile or sign in to your existing Builders account

On your profile, select MY BUILDERS CARD on the drop down menu

Click: Additional cards & add your MYSCHOOL MYVILLAGE MYPLANET card number

Once your MySchool card reflects, your chosen Beneficiaries will benefit

SWIPE either linked card in store or online.

Pre-Primary

This Friday the pre-primary had “bring your favorite car to school day”. The boys each got to bring their favorite car to school and play with it on our playground track.



Grade 6 & 7 'Big Walk' - Friday 12 March

The Grade 6 and Grade 7 boys accepted the challenge of walking 20km's to raise funds to improve the Junior precinct. The boys were absolutely brilliant, tackling the scenic, hilly circular route around Mountain Drive with good cheer and gusto. A BIG, BIG thank you to the intrepid parents who joined us for the walk and to Lois Marechal and her team, who prepared the finish area with aplomb. A great day out and a job well done!



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Grade 6 & 7 'Big Walk' - Friday 12 March



Grade 4s

Our own museum: The Grade 4 learners brought in very old, unique and interesting objects for our museum this year. Teachers came to see our objects and ask questions about them. The boys were very confident and answered all questions with ease. Well done to all the boys!



Graeme College cares

Please help Graeme College to support our local community with the following drives/events.

DONATION DRIVE

GRAEME COLLEGE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We need your help to keep our sisters at school everyday of the month.

We are looking for you to donate female sanitary products such as:

- + Pads
- + Tampons
- + feminine sanitary products.

Your donations will be highly appreciated.
For more information contact:

d.pearson@graemecollege.co.za

All donations (At Graeme & Pick n Pay) will be collected on the 15th of March.



GLOW IN THE DARK Virtual FUN RUN/WALK 2 AND 5KM ROUTES



In aid of
The Grahamstown SPCA

Virtual event dates: 13 - 27 March 2021

Participation fees:

Adults R25 🐾 Children ul2 R15 🐾 Dogs R10 🐾

Email glowingmay@gmail.com Whatsapp: 076 878 0137

COMPETITION FOR

Most glowing Families, individuals and pets

The brighter the better!

Enter via contact details above



Visit SPCA Grahamstown's Facebook page for more info!

Eco-Brick Project



2021 - the year to look after our environment

2020 was a challenging year to say the least, but the Grant House boys managed to make 160 eco-bricks. Well done gentlemen! The project is headed up by Ms Liz Manning from Grant House and Asive Mpaku, the portfolio head of Environmental Management and Campus.

This year the hostel boys are challenging day boys to also make eco-bricks.

What you will need to make an eco brick:

- 1. 2 liter plastic cooldrink bottle with a lid
- 2. A stick or dowel rod at least 45 cm long to press the plastic into the bottle
- 3. Any plastic bags, cling wrap, chip packets, cling wrap, foil cereal packets (eg Future life packets)

Your eco-brick must be packed tightly, the firmer the better. It must weigh at least 500g.

Lets see what you can do in 2021, Leopards and Leopard Cubs - the challenge is on!

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Graeme College Golf Day

We hosted our annual golf day last Friday at the local Belmont Golf Course and the day was a huge success, with those who attended the event, giving it their utmost support. A heartfelt thank you to all the players, the staff involved and the kind sponsors who helped with prizes and auction prizes.

The main sponsor commentated that "it was a great to be a part of such a well organised and well attended event. We commend Graeme College, the Belmont Valley Golf Club and the other sponsors on getting this done. We at Khula Tech Solutions are proud to have been the 1st prize sponsor on the day. A HUGE congratulations to Angus Mc Rae and Edward Wilson who each won the Khula Tech Solutions sponsored first prize: Free WiFi Installations accompanied by a 4Mbps line with uncapped data for the year! Enjoy the prize and welcome to the Khula Tech Solutions Family." Khaya Tantsi, the proud dad of a Grade 2 Graemian, and his company, Khula Tech Solutions, are committed to supporting local enterprise. "It is an honor to give back to the school that is giving my son a good education. We look forward to growing our business with the local support, and to giving back more to the town. Here's to many more successful ventures together".



WELCOME TO *Graeme College* THE FAMILY



DR. LAUREN SHAW

**INTERVIEWED BY STUDENT ZIMI
SISHUTA**

Dr. Shaw is a brand new addition to the Graemian family and teaches physics. Upon interviewing her, it was clear to see she had used physics to better understand the world we live in and to additionally impart that knowledge to students. She sees students as team mates that all have the same dream to do their absolute best. She believes in creating a safe and interactive environment in class where everyone can benefit. The sneak peak into Dr. Shaw's classroom holds a very promising future to the Graeme boys and we hope her arrival serves an additional reason to why Graeme is best.