



# Graeme College

*To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential*



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 9 April 2021

Quote:

"Butterflies can't see their wings. They can't see how truly beautiful they are, but everyone else can.  
People are like that as well" - Unknown

### Message from the Headmaster

Over the Easter Weekend we received the tragic news that one of our sons, Olisa Vani, had passed away in a car accident. Olisa was a Grade 8 learner who joined us this year.

The death of a child is devastating, unthinkable and emotionally unfathomable. It is the worst experience a parent can endure. Unfortunately, words just can't say enough. As a school community, our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this difficult time and we pray that God will grant Olisa's family the serenity and peace that they will need, to get through this painful loss.

Olisa will be remembered as a positive and happy boy, who always walked around with a smile on his face. He was the epitome of a fine Graeme College young man, with his well-mannered, caring and respectful nature. His absence will leave a gaping hole in our lives.



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Messages in remembrance:

Mr. van der Meulen (Physical Education teacher) commented on how Olisa enjoyed the Physical Education lessons and that Olisa achieved the highest level (record) in the grade for the Beep Test.

His friends in Grant House wrote messages describing their dear friend: They spoke of a kind person. Fun, loving, respectful and always happy. "He had big dreams and an even bigger heart".

These were some of the other thoughts they wrote...

I have written this letter to celebrate Olisa's life and to show my condolences to the family. Olisa was a bright person who always lived life to the fullest. He always had inspirational quotes to say to other people. He always had big dreams with an even bigger heart. His dream was to be an influencer to influence people to do great things. In other words, he wanted to be the next Nelson Mandela of his own.

When we felt down, Olisa would uplift us. He held the group of Grade 8s together. He was our super glue. I know I did not know him long but it felt like I knew him for years. On the second day we were in hostel together, he made me feel like an old friend he had not seen in years. He was a joyful person and I think his life was cut short too early. We might not see him, but we will see him one day. This I say with a promise in my heart that we will remember and continue his teachings. He was my 'brother' and we are brothers by choice, not by blood. I think that is the strongest brotherhood possible. We chose to be brothers even though we had a choice not to be. However, we made a choice to stick together as the Grade 8s of 2021.

Olisa Vani was, to us, not only a friend, but a brother. Olisa was kind, funny and an innocent young soul.

The Grant House boys will never forget Olisa Vani and we will miss him every day.

All the grade 8 hostel boys talked about all the weird, but funny things he would say which cracked us all up. Olisa, you are a legend that we will all tell our children stories about. We will all miss you, Olisa.

He shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember him.

Mr K.Watson  
Headmaster

## Academics

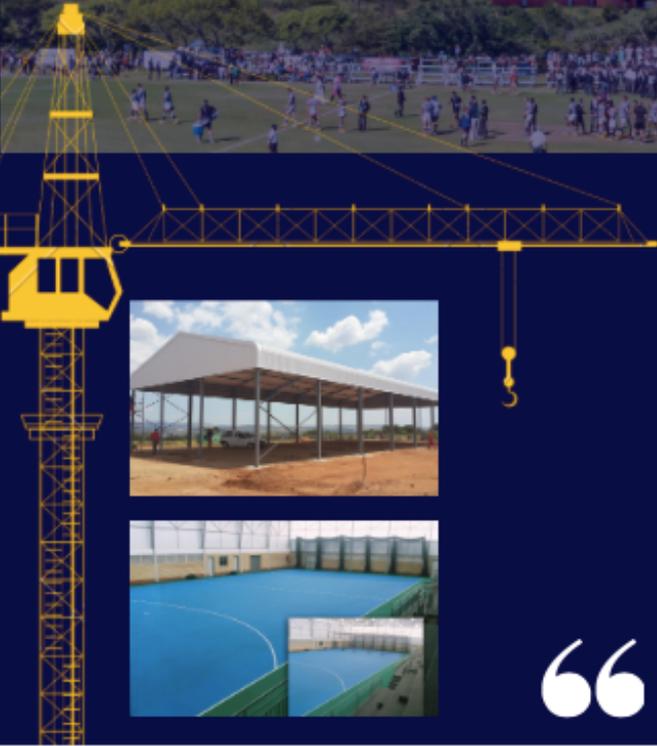
Peer Assistance Extra Lessons:

We would like to congratulate the leaders in the Academic Portfolio for this fantastic initiative. Boys from Grades 8 to 12 were given the opportunity to sign up for extra help from an older student. Many of the younger boys jumped at the opportunity for help from an older Graemian, all of whom have proved their academic worth. These lessons take place on a Tuesday afternoon. In addition, the portfolio committee has organised academic help for Grade 11s and 12s doing Accounting on Friday afternoons. We applaud their efforts and look forward to seeing the fruits of their labour.



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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## Cricket: Junior School Results vs Queens Junior

This Thursday saw the last Junior School cricket fixture of the term. They played superbly yet again, and managed to win both games against Queens. We would just like to acknowledge the exciting future of Graeme College that we see developing on the Junior cricket fields. It is a combination of exceptional talent coming through, as well as superbly enthusiastic, knowledgeable and dedicated staff, along with an unbelievably supportive and proud group of parents. It is just the perfect recipe for what is going to be such an exciting number of years ahead, which will set the benchmark for Graeme College going forwards, past our 150th year celebrations. Even more impressive than the results that they are obtaining, is the exceptional humility of these young sportsmen. You won't find better mannered young men anywhere in the world. A short walk around Junior fields makes you want to burst with pride to see the calibre of sportsmen that is associated with Graeme College. And far more important than any performance or result, is the way these young Graemians carry themselves on and off the field. They will not only set the benchmark for Graemians in the future, but these lads will set the benchmark for every single school that we play against.

### U13A vs Queens U13A

Graeme 256/6

Chris Zimmerman 57

Zuko Pontshi 42

Iviwe Mshubeki 47 not out

Queens 82 all out

Erin Stevens 4/15

Luke Doyle 2/17

Graeme won by 174 runs

### Graeme U11A vs Queens U11A

Graeme 256/4

Connor Holder 69 not out

James Muir 68

Queens 45 all out

Jordan du Plessis 2/0

Daniel Hanlon 2 / 3

Graeme won by 211 runs



## Junior cricket: Graeme versus Muir

Two weeks ago the Graeme junior school dominated against Muir, with young Rhys Wiblin notching up another century. Both the u11A and u13A had big wins on the day.

### U11A vs Muir

Graeme 195/5

Connor Holder 49

Muir 20 all out

Caleb Jattiem 5/9

Daniel Hanlon 3/4

James Muir 2/7

Graeme won by 175 runs

### U13a vs Muir

GC 314/4

Rhys Wiblin 103 not out (retired)

Chris Zimmerman 55

Enrique Strydom 40

Muir 46 all out

Andrew Muir 3/10

Leroy Adriaan 2/9

Olo Jaca 3/0

Graeme won by 268 runs.



# Sports

The senior school found things tough when they played Pearson two weeks ago. The 1st XI were bundled out for 56 after which Pearson declared on 198/ 8. The Graeme batsmen showed much better responsibility in their second innings, finishing on 103 for 3 at the close of play. Onosizo Ntinga reached his first half century for the 1st XI, finishing on 54 not out. He was superbly assisted by Liselihle Maphekula (29) in an opening stand of 75. Pearson won the match on the first innings.

Graeme u14 A vs Pearson  
Graeme 69 all out  
Lihle Mabusela 20  
Pearson u14A  
Pearson 71/3  
Luphelo Mdyesha 2/10  
Graeme lost by 7 wickets

Graeme 2nd XI  
Pearson 154 all out  
Mihlali Kobese 5/21 (13)  
Nathan Gabriel 4/54 (21)  
Graeme 76 all out  
Mihlali Kobese 25  
Graeme 2nds lost by 81 runs

Graeme 1st XI vs Pearson  
Graeme 1st innings 56 all out.  
Pearson 1st innings 198/8 declared.  
Aphiwe Mnyanda 2 for 37  
Viwe Gana 2 for 58  
Connor Pieterse 2 for 33  
Graeme second innings 103/ 3  
Onosizo Ntinga 54 not out  
Liselihle Maphekula 29  
Pearson won on first innings.



## Senior School Fixtures (Saturday 10 April):

- 1st XI and u15A at home vs Dale (09h30 start)
- 2nd XI and u14A away vs Dale (09h30 start)

## CRICKET - Aphiwe Myanda invited to SA u19 Camp

Exciting news! Aphiwe Mnyanda has been invited to the SA u19 cricket camp at the HPC in Pretoria from 26 to 30 April. This is incredible, and well deserved. His work ethic and personal commitment are sensational. Obviously he has been phenomenal on the field, performance wise, as well. Aphiwe is in Grade 10 this year, and has lit up the cricket fields at Graeme with phenomenal performances. He is a 'left -arm quick' bowler, who also bats at 3 for the 1st XI. Even more impressive than his success, has been his remarkable attitude towards the young learners in Grant House. You will see him helping and coaching every single day of the week. He is an unbelievable young man, who is an incredible role model already. What a great experience for the young man.



## Junior Tennis:

The tennis boys played against the following schools and did very well:

- Friday 19 March

GC U11A vs KC U11A

GC won 59 - 32 in games

GC U13A vs KC U13A

GC won 72 - 12 in games

- Friday 26 March

GC U11A vs SAP U11A

GC won 26 - 18 in games

GC U13A vs SAP U13A

GC won 36 - 6 in games

Below: U11A tennis boys vs SAP.



## Senior Tennis Results:

The senior tennis boys ended their fixtures on the perfect note beating Marlow 10-8 in matches.

Well done to Dullareo Strauss, Lubabalo Tshongweni, Ryan Stobbs & Joey Matsoso for winning both their singles and doubles on the day.

## JUNIOR SCHOOL RUGBY

Rugby will start on Monday 12 April for all boys from u9 - u13

u9 Practice 14:15 - 15:45

u11 Practice 14:30 - 16:00

u13c/d squad Practice 14:30 - 15:30

u13a/b squad Practice 15:30 - 17:00

# Sports

## Water Polo:

Water polo came to an end this term with an Inter-house competition. A ruthless Hutton-Wiles combination defeated a gallant Nielson 4 2 in an epic final. Thanks to Grant Mackenzie for generous time in the SAC pool - much appreciated.



## SENIOR ATHLETICS

Ten of our senior athletes participated in the last series of the Nelson Mandela Bay track and field athletics meeting organized by Eastern Province Athletics in Gqeberha over the last weekend of 26 to 27 of March.

It must be said from the onset that the competition at these series is very tough but our athletes held their own against their unrelenting opponents. This will be a comprehensive report of all the results from this championship meeting.

Khanya Pieters ran well in the U16 100 meter heats and qualified for the finals in which he placed 6th with a time of 12.55s. He also tried his level best in the 200m but the competition proved too tough and he couldn't make the finals.

Neo Lesoro improved his personal best distance in the U17 Javelin when he finished in the 6th place with a distance of 37.33m.

Likhona Mhono continued to display his promising sprinting acumen when he placed 5th in the U17 100m finals with a time of 11.77s. He unfortunately couldn't make the threshold for the 200m finals.

Licebo Ngwentle ran a promising heat in the U17 400m with a time of 57.97s but struggled to replicate or better this heat performance in the finals. However, he redeemed himself in the 800m finals, finishing 4th with a time of 2.16.51s.

Avuyile Matsha struggled to produce a telling throw in the U19 shot put, but finished 3rd with a distance of 9.3m.

Ndima Shoba did well in the heats to qualify for the U19 100m finals where he finished in the 7th place with a time of 11.74s. He also qualified for the 200m finals but could not run this due to an injury.

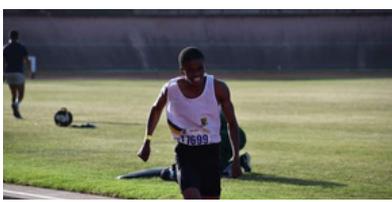
Asemahle Didiza managed to qualify for the U19 200m finals after a good race in the heats with a time of 24.42s but couldn't run the finals due to an injury. However, he did reasonably well in the U19 400m finals where he finished 5th with a time of 55.29s.

Emihle Mgedezi found the going tough in the U19 1500m finals where he finished in the top 12 with a time of 5.04.54s.

Loyiso Nyoka performed satisfactorily in the U19 400m finals where he finished 4th with a time of 55.06s. He also ran well in the 800m where he finished in the 5th position with a time of 2.08.45s.

Mihlali Xalabile continued to display his competitive leaps in the U19 triple jump as well as long jump. He finished in the first place in the triple jump with an impressive distance of 12.55 meters and earned a gold medal. He also competed well in the long jump where he finished 4th with a distance of 6.1 metres.

We congratulate all our athletes for their efforts and fortitude to battle with the best in the province and never back down!



# 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

### Traffic Concerns on Campus

A disturbing concern has been raised by a number of parents recently, with regards to traffic and safety on the campus during drop-off and pick-up times. Those concerns are primarily based around speeding vehicles and congestion. Our staff has been very concerned and have discussed this in depth recently again. We are currently putting together various plans to tackle these issues, but would like to raise the concerns in this newsletter at least.

We just need our parents to be aware of the problem, and remember that the speed limit at any school is 30km/h. The following have been identified as hot-spot areas:

- The area around the Graemian Centre where many learners are enjoying their second break; vehicles are driving too quickly and we are also trying to keep our learners away from that parking area. We have plans in place to achieve this.
- The morning traffic congestion outside the main gate (Templeton Drive), which in theory is a four-way stop. Parents and public transport vehicles are stopping there, creating a dangerous scenario. Vehicles may not stop there to drop off or pick up learners.
- The area outside the Grant House gate (Templeton Drive). This is a blind exit where vehicles are speeding around the corner creating a dangerous scenario.
- The road around Somerset Field - vehicles speeding and not adhering to the 30km/h limit is a significant concern. Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions in the meantime.

# Pre-Primary

How adorable are these photos of some little feet?

The Pre-Primary had Crazy Sock Day today and it has been one of our favourite Fun Friday themes! The boys loved getting into the spirit of being bright and colourful and it showed off a little bit of each of their personalities too. We just love how the teachers got fully involved and silly too, of course!



# Pre-Primary

The Grade 00s and Grade R's had their annual Easter Egg Hunt last week and had so much fun scavenging for eggs that the Easter Bunny had hidden all over the garden.

Within their arts and crafts time, the children created their own Easter baskets to collect the eggs and while doing so made some memories that they will never forget!



# Junior School

The junior school had a crazy hat competition on Thursday 1 April. What a turnout! Some boys made a lot of effort.

These are the grade prize winners:

- Gr1 - Julian Smart
- Gr2 - Ben Shaw
- Gr3 - Julian Boy
- Gr4 - Keagan Berriman
- Gr5 - Daniel Czeredrecki-Schmidt
- Gr6 - Blake de la Mare
- Gr7 - Devon Marechal

These are the overall prize winners:

- 1st - Keagan Berriman
- 2nd - Daniel Czeredrecki-Schmidt
- 3rd - Julian Smart

We raised an amount of R1175, which will be handed over to Sinesipho's school. Thank you to all the boys and teachers who made the effort to support this day.

Mr Swift won the most crazy hat from the junior staff.



# Junior School



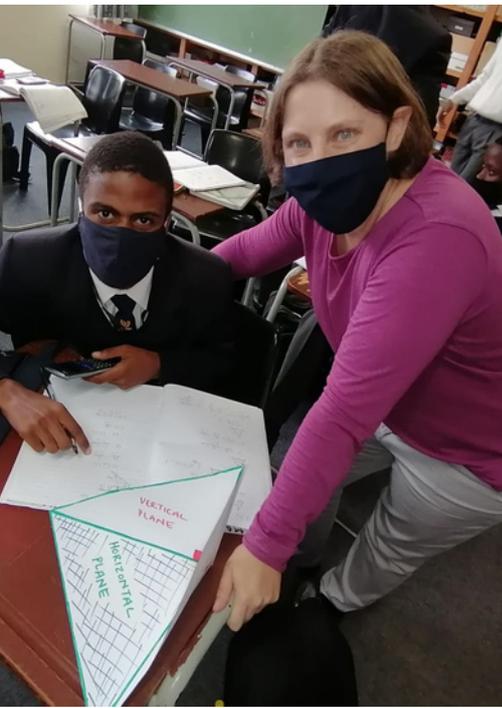
# Grant House Hostel

The Grade 4 and Grade 5 Grant House boys also participated in crazy hat day. With the help of the House matrons, who helped with the sewing, they came up with all sorts of crazy ideas. Here below are a few pictures.



# Grade 12s

The Grade 12s learnt their trigonometry in mathematics this week through paper modelling.



# Library

Library times

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.



Two Grade 5 learners, Daniel Czeredrecki-Schmidt and Rory Robertson, donated their Diary of a Wimpy kid series to the library. This type of generosity is what makes Graeme College special.

# 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.

# The Karri App

You would have received a notification regarding the use of the Karri payment app. There are some new parents to Graeme College, so let us explain what it is briefly.

We are trying to slowly move away from learners carrying cash to school for a number of reasons. Obviously it is safer, but even just for accounting purposes - we prefer to use the app. The app itself is backed by Nedbank and you can find more information at:

<https://www.karripay.com/za/>

The app is free and the school has supported using it in many capacities like tours, fundraisers, events etc.

The school's database is linked to the Karri system - hence the notification that you received.

We have not had many events over the last 12 months obviously - so we thought we would send out this reminder of how the app works. This Friday we are hosting a Burger Night as a fundraiser for the 1st XI cricket team, and burgers can be purchased using the app. Of course, you can pay with cash or via card at the Graemeian Centre as well. Take away burgers will be available from 17h00 onwards this Friday. There is also a T20 cricket match against the Stanley CC starting at 14h00. The OGU has their AGM at 5pm. Please pop in and support the event, or just maybe order take-away supper for your family.

THANK YOU for your support. If you need any help accessing the app - please don not hesitate to contact the school.



REMOVE CASH ON OUR  
SCHOOL GROUNDS



USE KARRI TO PAY!

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