



# Graeme College

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



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 7 May 2021

Quote:

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” - Henry Ford

### Message from the Deputy Headmaster

Photo credit: Stephen Pittaway

We have all read the following anecdote on social media over the years and after it popped up again recently, I paid it a little more attention. Obviously the scenario is classroom based and that is the first thing that creates interest re: our educational environment. The message is, however, also about parenting and relationships. Relationships between teacher-learner, parent-child and obviously peer relationships. In the work environment we can also refer to relationships between colleagues.

“During a prank, a student stuck a paper on his classmate's back that said "I'm Stupid", and asked the rest of the class not to tell the boy.

Thus the students began laughing on and off...

Came afternoon maths class started and their teacher wrote a difficult question on the board.

No one was able to answer it except the boy with the sticker.

Amid the unexplained giggles, he walked toward the board and solved the problem.

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The teacher asked the class to clap for him and remove the paper on his back. She told him: "It seems that you don't know about the paper your classmate has pasted on your back." Then the teacher looked at the rest of the class and said: "Before I give you a punishment, let me tell you 2 things: First, throughout your life, people will put labels on you with many nasty words to stop your progress. Had your classmate known about the paper, he wouldn't have gotten up to answer the question."

"All you have to do in life is ignore the labels people give you and seize every opportunity you have to learn to grow, learn and grow and improve yourself."

Second, it's clear that he doesn't have any loyal friend among you all to tell him about the sticker.

It doesn't matter how many friends you have - it is the loyalty you share with your friends that matters.

"If you don't have friends who can defend you behind your back, who can watch over you, protect you and who genuinely care about you, you are better off alone."

A significant point not mentioned in the post is one that I want to pick up on. That being - what was the motive/intention for the 'prank' in the story? Immediately you can argue that it is just a case of bullying which makes sense, but if you dig a little deeper and look for the actual aim, you would say that it is a tactic of 'divide and conquer' which is explained as 'gaining and maintaining power by breaking up groups in order to secure an advantage or control'. This can be evident in relationships between colleagues and peers and is something that needs to be avoided at all costs. A sports team, group of friends or a group of colleagues needs to work together towards one goal. If an individual breaks down that cohesion for their own benefit, it is a clear sign of narcissism. In every social environment you need to inculcate and foster a positive culture of support and understanding to be successful. Nowhere is this more important than the relationship between management and staff in a work environment. We need to remove the divide and encourage transparency, cohesion and respect.

I hope you find your own message in the story; there is so much more to it when you start to consider the various layers that it could represent. Or just take it as face value and encourage a positive relationship between learners and help develop an anti-bullying culture within our school.

Mr G van Molendorff  
Deputy Headmaster

## Awsun App



Remember to please download the AWSUM app for our school news too.

The AWSUM 1st Quarter School Highlights edition has come out and we are featured on page 21. We will have a few free editions printed and delivered to our school. If you would like a copy, please do take one this term.

To view the edition online, here is the link:

[https://issuu.com/tiemedia/docs/pe\\_\\_\\_surrounds\\_-\\_1st\\_quarter\\_school\\_highlights\\_2021](https://issuu.com/tiemedia/docs/pe___surrounds_-_1st_quarter_school_highlights_2021)



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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# Music

## CHOIR

We are so excited to announce that choir will begin this term. We would like to welcome Mr Devon Florence as our new choirmaster for the high school. Please see the choir times below:

Senior choir (grades 7-12)- Music center - Thursdays, 13h30-14h30

Junior choir (grades 4-6)- Music center - Mondays, 13h30-14h30

Please note that the Junior choir will start from next Monday (10 May). The first rehearsals will be auditions.

## 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

## Individual Private music lessons:

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.

# Sports

## Rugby Fixtures

Senior Rugby vs Port Rex in East London

A - Field                      B - Field

09h00 - u14A                  09h00 - u16B

10h00 - u15A                  10h10 - 3rds

11h00 - u16A                  11h20 - u14B

12h10 - 2nd                    12h20 - u15B

13h20 - 1st

ALL COVID PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED & NO SPECTATORS ALLOWED AT THE FIELDS.



# Leadership Induction

Below is a picture of the Group 2 leadership program induction.



# Grade 5s

Well done to the grade 5 boys who received a leopard certificate for their hard work during term 1.



# Pre-Primary



Some photos of little slippers...

Slipper Day is Reach For A Dream's fundraiser and this year the Pre-Primary children supported this fundraiser by buying a supporter sticker. Not All Heroes Wear Capes is the running theme of the campaign and is a fitting reminder that our brave children and all our doctors, nurses and their families are the true heroes of this time. This Slipper Day promises to echo the hearts of all these heroes and why all of us need to come together to believe in the magic of a dream come true. Well done boys on your support!



# Grade 7s

Grade 7 boys were awarded Leopard certificates today. These certificates relate to Term 1 - boys must be consistent regarding 1) excellent work, 2) excellent behaviour and 3) excellent manners. No mean feat! Well done boys, richly deserved.

Photo 1: 7OX (from L to R): Olo Jaca, Lwakhe Nxози, Leroy Adriaan, Lilo Booи, Larson McKaiser, Chris Zimmerman, Luke Doyle, Ahlumile Maqungu, Thabang Madiba, Hamish Haakonsen, Liam Bodill, Andrew Muir.



Photo 2: Cadence Sickle, Iwiwe Mshubeki, Ethan Mostert, Cian Keulder, Jayden Brits, Erin Stevens, Athi Manyati, Jovan Radovic, Heinrich Boucher, Rikus Pieterse.



## My School card



Mom, we salute you! Thank you for caring enough to make every swipe count.

With every swipe of your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card, you help to #MakeADifference!

Don't have a MySchool card yet?

Join now: <https://www.myschool.co.za/portal/register>

And of course, please make Graeme College your beneficiary of choice!



**Mom, we salute you**

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# Pre-Primary

In celebration of Mother's Day this Sunday, the Pre-Primary held a 'Muffins with Mom' date today. Moms/special female figures came to enjoy a breakfast muffin with their child, in honour of the special day. The boys all put on a very special concert, which they have been practicing for in their music lessons. There were definitely some tears in the moms' eyes as the boys sang words of appreciation and adoration for their moms. There was also a craft activity done together- a great few moments just to spend time together and some very special memories were made today!





## Graemian Spirit

We celebrate two true Graemians - what legends! Sanvuma Joni (4CvdM) and Likhanye Ndevu (5JB). These two leopards came across lost property on campus which included a bank card and a sum of cash. It would have been so easy to pocket the cash and go on their way, but they made the right choice. Beautiful! They delivered everything to Mr Watson who in turn passed it on to the delighted owner. Well done boys - decisions like yours make us SO proud and happy.



Old Graemian boys: Murray Holland completed the 160 kilometers Drakensburg Ultra Trail run in 40 hours and 162 kilometres later. Finishing time 53 hours with only 20 minutes of sleep in total. Chesney Long, who was at Graeme College with Murray they finished in 2003, drove up to be there for Murray when he arrived around 3am in the morning. We are proud of Murray and the old Graemian support.



## 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.

## 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.

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# Staff function

Independent eateries and small businesses are the backbone of local economies and communities. While supporting local businesses has always been important, it is now more critical than ever. We also love to support our Graeme College staff family. One of our teachers, Mr Odwa Xonxa's family, runs an amazing eatery called Backyard Braai in Makhanda. The staff decided to go test out the food today as a staff outing and team building event. The photos depict just how delicious the food was, as was the incredible vibe. We suggest you go test it out for yourself too!





# 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:

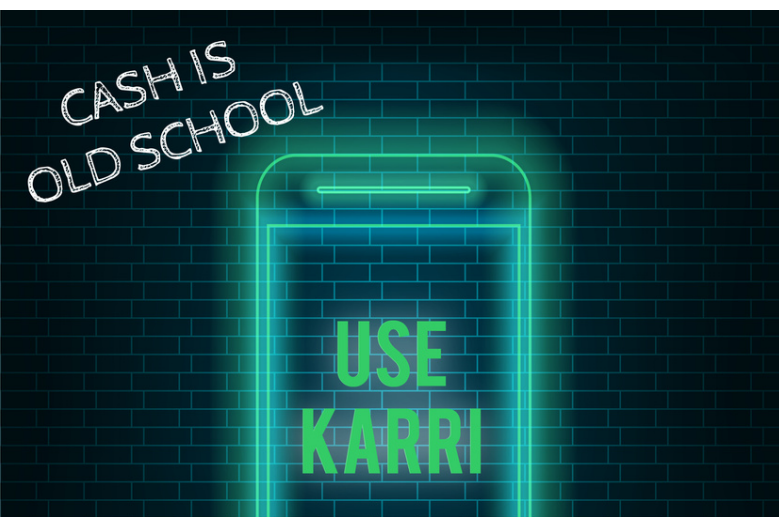
<https://www.karripay.com/za/>

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

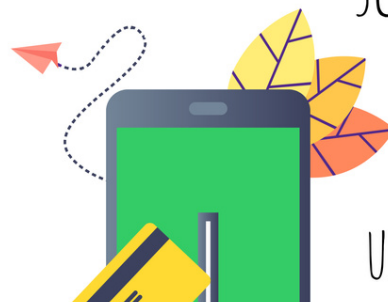
The school's database is linked to the Karri system - hence the notification that you received.

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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