



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 21 May 2021

Quote:

“The only impossible journey is the one you never begin.” - Tony Robbins.

Message from the Deputy Headmaster

With so much uncertainty about the present and the near future at the moment, I thought I would refer to the past in this week's newsletter. Peter Breetzke and Ernie van Hille are furiously working on our book which covers the history of Graeme College over the last 150 years. How apt too, because they seemed to have been around for the entire duration of that history. They pop into the office occasionally, with interesting anecdotes and always have some great conversation points or quirky historical facts. I was intrigued to have a look at a book Peter dropped off recently, which had also been very recently completed. It is the WESSA organization's 'Guide to the Natural and Cultural History of Grahamstown/ Makhanda' which any resident of our area will find interesting. The book was edited by Roy Lubke and Irene de Moor and I look forward to learning more about our area while reading the book in the near future.

You can order your own copy by contacting Roy Lubkhe (r.lubkhe@ru.ac.za) or the Wessa contacts via www.wessa.org.za or <https://www.facebook.com/WESSAEastCape>. Obviously funds raised go to the local Wessa Environmental Organisation which is a great cause to support. The Gala launch of the book will be held at Amazwi (NELM) on Thursday 27th May at 16h00.

Templeton Drive, Grahamstown • PO Box 281, Grahamstown, 6140

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In 2019 you might remember that we took our staff on an incredible 'field trip' where two stalwarts of our community (Ramie Xonxa and Alan Weyer - Old Graemian 1979) discussed the history behind the site of Egazini in Fingo Village, as part of the battle of Grahamstown/Makhanda. Our staff loved learning about the history of our area, which is why any historical book grabs my attention. At Graeme College we often refer to being unified by a single badge and a blazer. We celebrate our diversity every day, but also celebrate the one thing that binds us together - our College. Likewise, there are so many vast differences within our community; but the one thing that we all share together is the stunning natural beauty of our geographic area as well as the rich complexities of the history that it entails. Our role is to educate the whole child and we always celebrate the diversity of culture, language, religion, ethnicity etc. We also try to always take the opportunity to enrich our staff and broaden their experiences as well. The role of a good educator has changed from 'instructing' to more of an 'engaging' process. Within the South African context, I always think of the famous George Santayana quote: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." So with that in mind, even though it is uncomfortable at times, we need to learn about the history of our area; but learn it from a number of sources, not just what we were told in history classes. And hence, I have already enjoyed paging through the new publication. From a purely entertainment point of view - I hope Alan Weyer doesn't mind me adding this audio link to this newsletter - which was downloaded from a tourism website:

Alan Weyer - Battle of Grahamstown/ Makhanda

I love learning more about the history of our stunning country; we are far from perfect obviously. But we are getting there slowly but surely - and a big part of that process is understanding, respecting and appreciating the vast differences in our combined histories.

Mr G. van Molendorff
Deputy Headmaster

Academic

Grade 12 Reports:

The Grade 12s have been issued with a new first term report today. Please make sure that you get this report from them. In this report it will indicate whether the staff will require a meeting with you in regards to your son's progress. The staff will be available on Thursday 27 May between 17h30 and 19h00 in the school hall to discuss their issues with the parents concerned. Please bring your sons with you to this meeting, as it is important that they buy into their own future.

Absence from school - Covid 3rd Wave:

With the rise in COVID-19 cases around the country, we ask that parents be vigilant and monitor their children for the real COVID symptoms. Should they present symptoms, please take them to the doctor and have them avoid attending school. Please can you continue to report when your son will be absent from school, as it makes monitoring easier.



Left: The Grade 6AR class hard at work this week writing their weekly Maths Assessments.

Academic

Nqobile Bala achieved 2nd position in the International Museums' Day essay competition. Nqobile received a laptop for his efforts. Well done Nqobile we are very proud of you. Pictured below: Nqobile receives his laptop from Mr R Xonxa and Mr H Mqhayi.



School events

U11 and U13 cricket teams present our fundraiser

BURGER EVENING

THE FOOD:

150g Grass Fed BEEF BURGERS PLUS chips and mushroom sauce for only R70.

Takeaways will be available from 17:30.

DATE AND VENUE:

28 May 2021
Graemian Centre

TAKE-AWAY PRE-ORDERS

For pre-orders you can email your order to marketing@graemecollege.co.za

We appreciate the great show of support we always get for our burger evenings from our families and for the parents involved in making time to help make them a success. Our school keeps moving ahead in wonderful ways because of you!

Join us next Friday for some scrumptious burgers and support our U11 and U13 cricket fundraiser. Hosted at the Graemian Centre, join for a burger and a drink as the sun settles down for the evening on the 28 May. We would love to see you there.

Take-aways are also available if you wish to collect and take to enjoy at home too



The Department of Basic Education has released a media statement to suspend close-contact sport. Graeme College will continue with non-contact sports practices until the official gazette provides schools with more clarity on the matter. The different sporting codes will communicate to the boys regarding practices going forward.

This is a very trying time for our learners and staff; however, we also need to be vigilant and make sure that the health and safety of our community is never jeopardized. As a result, as much as we love our learners to be actively busy, we will always take every measure to reduce the risk of Covid.

Rugby Results vs Oatlands:

- Graeme u11C beat Graeme u9A 10-5
- Graeme u11A beat Oatlands u11A 32-0
- Graeme u13B beat Oatlands u13A 31-29

Rugby Results vs Framesby:

- u14A Lost 19-29
- u14B Lost 45-0
- u15A Lost 29-0
- u15B Lost 29-0
- U16A Lost 12-10
- U16B Lost 21-12
- 3rds Won 27-26
- 2nds Lost 12-10
- 1st Won 38-15



Mountain Biking Club:

The GC Mountain Biking Club is about introducing more learners to bikes and encouraging our students to adopt mountain biking as a great sport to get out and about and explore our surrounding natural areas. Mountain biking combines the “cardio high” of an endurance sport with the flow and adrenaline rush of an action sport like surfing or skateboarding. The combination of these opposites creates a sport that demands things of its participants that no other sport does. New members are welcomed and just need to talk to Mr Swift about participation.



Sports- Squash

Well done to the following boys who have been selected for the respective Eastern Province squash teams and will be playing in the Inter Provincial Tournament during the July holidays:

U11A team - Connor Holder

U13A team - Juan van der Merwe

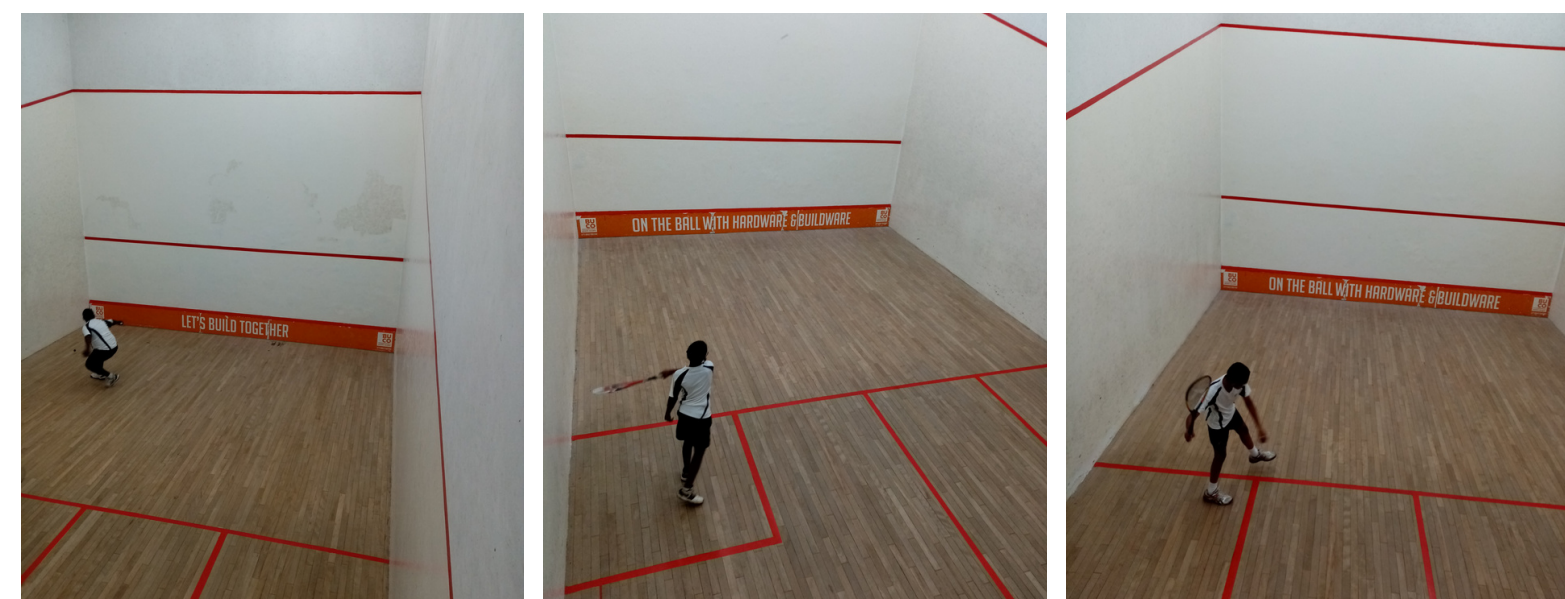
U13B team - Christopher Zimmerman, Enrique Strydom, Umar Hayat and Olo Jaca.

U16B team - Ethan Beyleveld

All the best with the tournament, we know that you will do Graeme College proud.



- The U13 squash boys played against SAP U13 boys on Tuesday 18 May. The GC U13 boys won 8 - 0 in their matches. Well done.
- The U11 squash boys played against SAP U11 boys on Monday 17 May. The GC U11 boys also won 8 - 0 in their matches. Well done. Well done boys- some played their first match ever for Graeme College and did us very proud!



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Sports- Senior Tennis

Last week the U/16 tennis boys participated in the highly anticipated second edition of the BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis series held at Pearson High School.

Our Graeme boys had the privilege of competing against the best tennis schools in the country and finished in 3rd place, after Nico Malan just beat the boys in the last round.

It was a great learning experience for our tennis boys and we are proud to be associated with this prestigious event.

PNB Paribas Rising Stars u/16 Tournament

vs Stirling High School, Won 3-0

vs Nico Malan, Lost 1-2

vs Pearson, Lost 0-3

vs Merryvale, Won 2-1

Mixed Doubles with VG vs Port Alfred High School, GC/VG won 17-7. Picture 1 below, thereafter photos from the BNP tournament.



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Sports- Junior Tennis

Last Saturday, the following U13 boys competed at the Provincial schools tennis finals, which were sponsored by BNP Paribas rising stars:

Andrew Muir, Rhys Wiblin, Christopher Zimmerman and Kits McConnell managed to finish 3rd overall, after losing in the semi finals by only one tie breaker.

Well done boys, you made our school very proud.



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Pre-Primary

We believe that learning about responsible pet ownership, as well as animal safety and care, needs to start early. So today the Pre-Primary Leopard Cubs went on an outing to learn more!

The goal of our visit today was to promote a better understanding of animals and foster a sense of curiosity about the animal kingdom by discussing topics such as how to treat animals well and how to behave safely around them, as well as how to choose, prepare for and care for a pet.

The boys had an informative talk about looking after pets by the vets, followed by a tour of the veterinary practice and then on top of that they got to groom and have races with Rupert and Morse the dogs! And thanks to Hills, the boys walked away with incredible goodie bags for their beloved pets at home!

The boys adventure did not stop there. They then went onto the Grahamstown Riding Club where they fed many a carrot to the ponies, ate a packed lunch from the school tuck shop and ran around on the show jumping area!

We feel that the boys at the end of today had a greater appreciation of animal behaviour as well as the joys and challenges of pet ownership and perhaps most importantly, understand how to behave safely and responsibly around animals.

We would like to extend a very hearty thank you to Ikhala Vet, Hills and the Grahamstown Riding Club.



Pre-Primary



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Art

Well done to these GC Junior artists and Ms Janse van Rensburg - they won awards at the Bathurst Art Show. Logan Strauss, Hein Myburgh and Rikus Pieterse were awarded Gold Awards. Giles Griffin, Kits McConnachie and Zimfefe Pokile received Silver Awards. So proud of your creativity boys!



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Art

We are just on a roll with the art awards this week! Well done to the high school boys who received awards from the Bathurst Art show. Two Gold awards were awarded to Noah Tabensky and Braam Du Toit and five Silver awards were given to Omila Keta, Nicholas McKeown, Jaycie Pieterse, Sonwabiso Sizani and Lesedi Mothibe.



Picture 1: Omila Keta (Grade 10) received a silver for his self portrait painting he completed in 2020 when he was in Grade 9.

Picture 2: Braam Du Toit (Grade 10) received a Gold for his self portrait painting completed in 2020 when he was in Grade 9.

Picture 3: Sonwabiso Sizani (Grade 10) received a silver award for his woodblock print he completed in 2020 when he was in Grade 9.

Champion's Board

Top 10 - Grade 4 Term 1 Academic results:

Matthew Lamont
Tseliso Matsoso
Apakhe Luwaya
Kenzo Prince
Aveb Sam
Eddie Sarvant
Soso Somala
Musa Nqayisa
Nathi Manzana
Sheraad Russian

Efforts

Jayden Issacs
Usi Jadi
Ezinhle Ngubane
Jed van der Merwe
Llunathi Tuaku

Top 10 - Grade 5 Term 1 Academic results:

Connor Holder
Daniel Czeredrecki-Schmidt
Anesipho Mraji
Mawande Mayalo
Jayden Conroy
James Muir
Aidan Lensley
Blake Boswell
Tylo Bridger
Rory Robertson

Efforts

Okuhle Gongqa
Tyler Boucher
Ashton Burger
Likhanye Ndevu
Iyazi Zwedala

Top 10 - Grade 6 Term 1 Academic results:

Kits McConnachie
Ruben Bodenstein
Keyaan Goliath
Jed Youthed
Kutenda Chinomona
C-Jay Jeggels
Keathan Edwards
Nicolas Cock
Mbulelo Gama
Blake de la Mare

Efforts

Lithabo Flack
Malakiwe Nikelo
Tristan Boy
Connor Richardson
Morgan Prevec

Top 10 - Grade 7 Term 1 Academic results:

Andrew Muir
Rhys Wiblin
Ethan Mostert
Heinrich Bouwer
Rikus Pieterse
Cian Keulder
Liam Bodill
Jayden Brits
Lwakhe Nxosi
Lilo Booi

Efforts

Leroy Adriaan
Athi Manyati
Ahlumile Maqungu
Larson McKaiser
Iviwe Mshubeki

Grade 7s

To prepare for an English transactional text, the Grade 7 boys had to (on their own!) use a recipe to produce a dish. Here are their pictures from last week. We were so very impressed with their delicious looking dishes.







2023

Our Graeme College 2023 "Dream Project"



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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.

“

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

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Win a share of R200 000 in CASH

Simply swipe your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet or linked Woolies card at any partner store and stand a chance to win your share of R200 000* cash for you and Graeme College!

Every swipe is an entry! Competition closes 24 June. *TC's apply.

Enter here: <https://www.myschool.co.za/heres-to-the-people-swipe-to-win/>

Stay Connected

Do you follow Graeme College on the following platforms?

- Instagram:

@graemecollege

@graemeboys

- Facebook:

Graeme College

- Link to online Covid Questionnaire - must be completed by all visitors and sports teams visiting Graeme College. It must be completed on the day that you visit: <http://bit.ly/GCccovidQ>

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.

Community & Fundraising



Term 2 SPCA Drive

Please bring dog and cat food



Any old blankets toys beds and some dog and cat jerseys as well

Closing date: 18 June Friday

Prize: Lindt Chocolate cupcakes for the class that donates the most



The Community Outreach Portfolio has chosen the SPCA as their organization to contribute towards for term 2.

Each class from Grade 00 to Grade 12 is encouraged to participate!

The class that donates the most towards the drive will win Lindt Chocolate cupcakes from EC Fresh.

All donations must be made for the attention of Ms Morgan White.

Grant House



Grant House

Exclusive boarding facility to Graeme College (est 1873).
Apply now to avoid disappointment.



Grant House hostel (est 1975) prides itself on providing a safe and nurturing environment that caters for boys from Grade 4-12. With access to all that Graeme College has to offer, as well as having its own facilities, Grant House enables young men to make the most of their future.

Enquiries: m.pretorius@graemecollege.co.za

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:

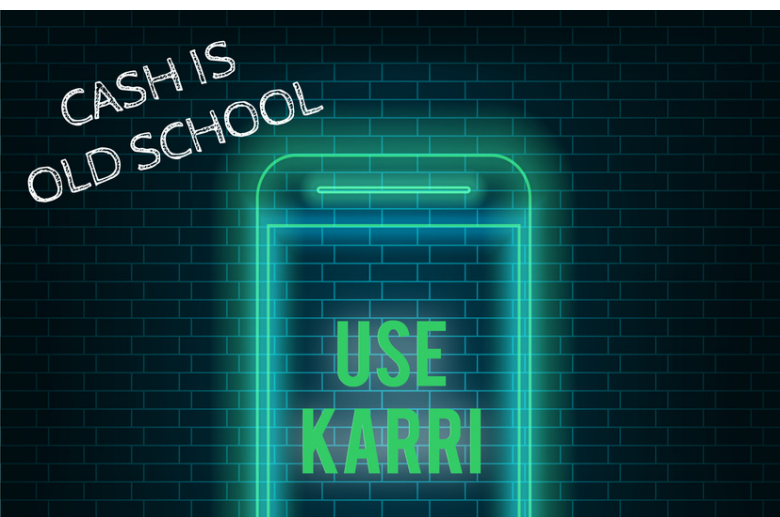
<https://www.karripay.com/za/>

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

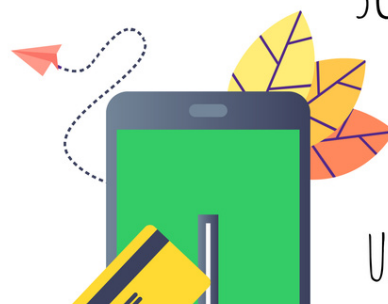
The school's database is linked to the Karri system - hence the notification that you received.

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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