

Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 28 May 2021

Quote:

"Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being" Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Message from the Headmaster

With so much going on in the world, we forget how the negative news stories and images impact one's mental health and resilience. This is why it is critical to check in with your feelings and make sure that you're taking the time to build up your mental health.

Strong mental health isn't just the absence of mental health problems, but rather the presence of positive characteristics.

We focus on building character and developing resilience or grit that we know will be key for success later on in life. So much of this is pushing through when we don't want to or even feel we can't.

Many individuals feel that finding happiness is the route to mental well-being. Happiness is a nebulous concept that is, for the most part, fleeting. Resilience and contentment are derived from a sense of accomplishment or doing something meaningful. Whether it is a solid day's work, a significant milestone or finishing a major project, a feeling of accomplishment provides real happiness. We all enjoy the sense of relief when a worthwhile struggle has passed.

It takes bravery to live your ideals in a world that tries to dissuade you from doing so. But everyone, deep down, possesses that guts. Don't be deterred by concerns about what others might think of you. It's difficult to overcome that inclination, but doing what makes you happy without needing approval will become your new normal over time. It is up to you whether you value fame, riches, kindness or sustainability is your choice. Nelson Mandela said, "May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." Remember, you only have one life to live. Make sure that you're living it for you.

Mr K. Watson Headmaster

Academic

Term 2 Formal Assessments: (Timetable below and also included as an attachment to the newsletter email) Two weeks have been set aside for all of this term's formal assessments for Grades 8 -12. The purpose of these assessments is multi-fold. In the case of the Grade 8s - 11s this will form part of this year's standard assessments from which these young men might gauge how well they might do at the end of the year. For the Grade 12s, the assessments have been devised so that these learners can get an idea of what is expected of them for the preliminary examinations next term. With the haphazardness of last year, we would like to ease them into this process as the preliminary examinations count enormously towards their year mark and they therefore need to do as well as possible in these exams. A copy of the assessment timetable is available with this newsletter. Boys will need to report to their respective screening areas at 07h30 each morning. They will then be lead to their respective venues. They should be collected after the completion of the day's assessment so that preparation for the next day's assessment can take place.

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.

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JUNE 2021 FORMAL ASSESSMENT TIMETABLE (FINAL)

* Please note that normal classes will resume on Monday 5 July 2021

School Events



We apologise for any inconvenience caused but our fundraising Burger night has been postponed to the 11 June 2021.

Join us on the 11 June 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. We would love to see you there. Take-aways are also available if you wish to collect and take to enjoy at home too. If you wish to pre-order, please kindly email marketing@graemecollege.co.za.

Grade 11 & 12 - Science

"Find inspiration anywhere and everywhere but most importantly find inspiration within yourself, for that is where Gift and Purpose collide to give you a perfect pathway to Passion" ~ Fredy Mashate (Makhanda Region RSFD). The ESKOM EXPO Makhanda Region Day Camp was a huge success for our Graeme boys who attended at the 1820 Settlers National Monument last Saturday. 54 learners from 7 schools in Makhanda were in attendance. Learners were equipped with the necessary knowledge and inspiration required to start an Eskom Expo for Young Scientists project and left the day camp with clear ideas of research areas of interest.



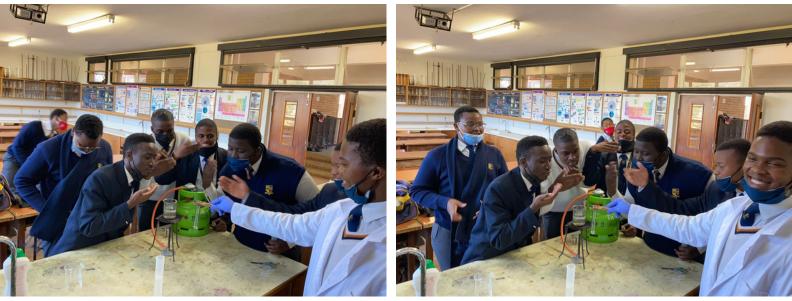
The boys will be participating in the first-ever Virtual Provincial Eskom Expo for Young Scientist 2021. As always there will be some exceptionally good prizes up for grabs!

"Eskom Expo for Young Scientists is an exposition, or science fair, where students have a chance to show others their projects about their own scientific investigations. At the annual prestigious Eskom Expo for Young Scientists International Science Fair (ISF), selected students from 35 Expo Regions in South Africa then compete against the best young scientists from around the country and around the world."

Good luck to all the young aspiring scientists!

Grade 11 & 12 - Science

The Grade 12s made esters this week which are organic compounds with distinctive (usually pleasant, fruity) smells. So you can see them having a sniff and smell in the pictures below.



Grade 11s: A standard solution is a solution containing a precisely known concentration of an element or a substance. Pictured below are the boys putting their theoretical knowledge to good use and making up some standard solutions in the labs this week.



Templeton Drive, Grahamstown • PO Box 281, Grahamstown, 6140 info@graemecollege.co.za • www.graemecollege.co.za • Tel: 046 622 7227 • Fax: 046 622 7491

Sports



Well done to Juan van Der Merwe for coming 1st in the U13 Sportsworld Junior Squash Open in Port Elizabeth. This is a great achievement. You made Graeme College very proud.

Music

We are so pleased with how well our individual music lesson programme is going! The following students all get a special mention this week for:

- Picture 1 below- Morgan Prevec (Grade 6): excellent progress
- Picture 2 below- Musa Ngcayisa (Grade 4): diligent practice
- Picture 3 below- Lihlomile Mdenka (Grade 10): excellent progress

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.





"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."





R10 000 CASH for YOU R10 000 CASH donation for YOUR cause

Enter at myschool.co.za

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.

Click here to enter: 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. Click on this link: http://bit.ly/GCcovidQ

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



Community Outreach Portfolio Project Term 2: SPCA



The SPCA stands for: The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

The great Mahatma Gandhi is quoted as saying:

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated".

South Africa has a poor record in terms of how animals are treated.

Services provided by the SPCA:

- · Medical attention for sick/stray animals.
- Sterilisation of animals to prevent mass breeding.
- Provide support in the outbreak of serious illness amongst animals like RABIES.
- Adoption of homeless animals to get them off the streets and into good homes.
- Prevention of cruelty to animals.
- Legal prosecution of offenders found guilty of cruelty to animals.
- Offer support to poor communities in terms of feeding, vaccinating, sterilizing etc.

The SPCA only receives money from the local Municipality to function: They no longer receive this money.

How does it affect us if the SPCA has to close its doors?

- Animal to human transfer of serious illness like RABIES can occur if no intervention by the SPCA.
- Mass breeding of dogs/cats as no sterilization. Who will look after them?
 Mass outbreaks of disease amongst animals as no vaccinations will be offered to approximate the statement of t
- poor communities.No one to prevent humans from abusing animals.
- No one to rescue abused animals.

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.

Please take the time to read below why we believe it is so important to support this cause and the vital role the SPCA plays in our community.

How can you help the SPCA?



The SPCA requires the following items:

- · Dog and cat food
- Blankets
- Towels
- · Choke chains/collars, leashes
- Cat litter
- · Toys for cats and dogs
- · Dog and cat beds
- Stationery items
- Newspapers
- Washing powder

Let us join hands to support the SPCA.





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

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:

Click here to read more on their website: 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 Grameian 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.



info@graemecollege.co.za ● www.graemecollege.co.za ● Tel: 046 622 7227 ● Fax: 046 622 7491