



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 4 June 2021

Quote:

“Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say: This was their finest hour.” - Winston Churchill

Message from the Deputy Headmaster

Every year, reminders pop up on social media about events in history. I apologise for using this in a newsletter again - but the message is so incredibly powerful. I can only hope that when we remember these brave deeds, that it can also inspire our young Graemians to make a difference in the world.

On this day, we remember a very special event that occurred 81 years ago. It started on May 26, in 1940, as Hitler's armies overran France. British and French troops retreated, by the tens of thousands, into the little French port of Dunkirk. From Dunkirk there was no place left to go but into the English Channel.

The British navy had few ships small enough or agile enough to go in and evacuate the men. Thus the Free World could do nothing but sit by the radio in frustration and anguish, waiting for news that these vast armies of brave men had been wiped out.

Then, in the early hours of May 27, a miracle began to unfold. From everywhere in the British Isles they came – poor fishermen with creaky, beat-up fishing boats, noblemen with yachts, sportsmen with racing yawls and motor launches. The first of this motley fleet, captained by men with neither guns nor uniforms, set sail by moonlight from Sheerness,

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

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putt-putting across U-boat and mine-infested water.

As the morning sun lighted the beaches of Dunkirk, the first of the hundreds of small boats pulled onto the shore. The cheers of the trapped soldiers were drowned out by the roar of the Luftwaffe overhead, strafing and bombing the beach, and by the crackle of British Spitfires trying to fight them off. Under that hell in the sky, the miracle of Dunkirk continued for nine days and nights. All together, 338 226 British and French lives were saved. The evacuation was completed on 4 June 1940.

On June 18, Winston Churchill paid respect to these men, with arguably one of the most powerful quotes in modern history - that quote is obviously used at the top of this newsletter. Stories like this have inspired us all over the years; I trust that those attached to Graeme College in some way, will remember these types of deeds today. Churchill said it so profoundly, later that year: "Never was so much owed, by so many, to so few". I can't think of a greater story to inspire the young men of Graeme College. They don't need to be powerful, wealthy, athletic or influential to make a difference in the history of the world. They just need to find the courage to stand up when the moment arises.

G van Molendorff
Deputy Headmaster

Academic

Term 2 Formal Assessments: Timetable below and can also be found on this link:

<http://www.graemecollege.co.za/media/1387/june-2021-formal-assessment-timetable-final.pdf>

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. Please note that the Grade 8s and 9s will have normal school on 17 and 18 June. The commencement date for their examinations is on Monday 21 June.

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.

Academic

Life Orientation Task for Grades 10 and 11:

The Grade 10s and 11s will write the Life Orientation second term assessment/test on Thursday 10 June, during the school day. This is the assessment for Term 2 and absence from school will need to be supported by a doctor's certificate. The assessment will be based on the work for terms 1 and 2.

Grade 9 Natural Science Assessment:

Part of the Grade 9 assessment for the term is a Natural Science practical which involves doing an in depth practical and writing it up for marks. The arrangements for this are as follows:

Monday 7 June

Grade 9NH need to set up their practical between 14h00 to 14h30 in Room 2.

Grade 9SA need to set up their practical between 14h30 to 15h00 in Room 2.

Friday 11 June

All the Grade 9s will examine and record their results on Friday 11 June from 14h00 - 14h30. Grade 9NH must be seated in Room 2 by 14h00 and Grade 9SA must be seated in Room 5 by 14h00 on this date.

The Grade 9s will write the results of the experiment up in the form of an assessment over the weekend. The hand in date for ALL Grade 9s will be Monday 14 June.

This is a compulsory academic activity and will be part of the term mark.

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:

11 June 2021
Graemian Centre

TAKE-AWAY PRE-ORDERS

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

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

Join us next Friday evening 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.

Child Protection Week 2021

On Thursday Mrs Niesing attended a Child Protection Course held at The Nompumelelo Enrichment Centre in Joza and hosted by Child Welfare SA Grahamstown. Representatives of various schools and child wellness organisations in Makhanda attended the course. Attendees received excellent material and resources for use and application in their respective organisations. Moreover, this material is suitable for use in our classrooms to promote self-awareness, responsibility, personal empowerment and a balanced sense of morality in our learners. Material and concepts covered in the course can be accessed at <https://www.couragechildprotection.com>.

The presenter of the course was Dr. Dee Blackie. She is a child protection researcher and community worker based in Johannesburg. In 2015 Dr. Blackie launched 'Courage'. 'Courage' is a community engagement programme aimed at assisting child protection officers and communities to address the challenges they experience in every-day life. Over the past five years she has used this programme to empower meaningful change in the care and protection of children in communities around the world. Read more about her work at <https://www.deebackie.com>.

Thursday's course focused on challenges specific to the various communities in Makhanda. The various Course attendees participated interactively in identifying various challenges that hinder general wellness of our children. The course content and material guided the attendees towards practical and empowered plans for promoting a safe and secure environment for our children despite the every-day challenges we all face. Attendees all agreed on the following: we want our children to grow up as self-accepting and confident persons who can manage themselves and their activities in order to live a happy and healthy life. To raise children that are happy, healthy and loved - what a wonderfully simple statement that in fact acknowledge all the rights and values that underscore child care and protection.



The child protection & empowerment community

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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 4 and 5 marimba rehearsals are now on Thursdays. Please see the new times below:

Tuesdays: Grade 6 - 13h30-14h30

Wednesday Grade 7 - 13h30-14h30

Thursday Grade 4 - 13h30-14h00

Grade 5 - 14h00-14h30

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.



One of our youngest musicians deserve a special mention this week. Ben Shaw in Grade 2 practiced so well over the past week, that he was able to play all of his pieces in a piano ensemble with Mrs Niesing. Left is a photo of Ben rehearsing one last time before playing one of the duets.

Sports

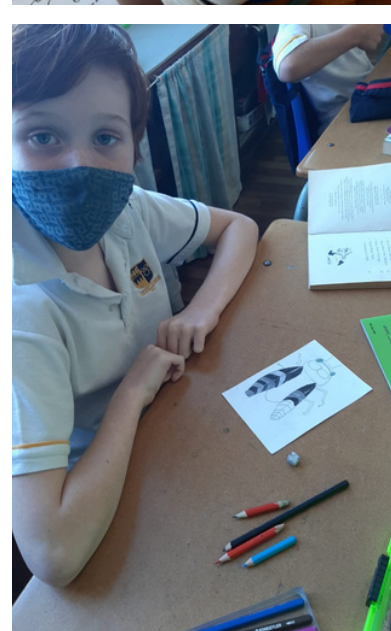
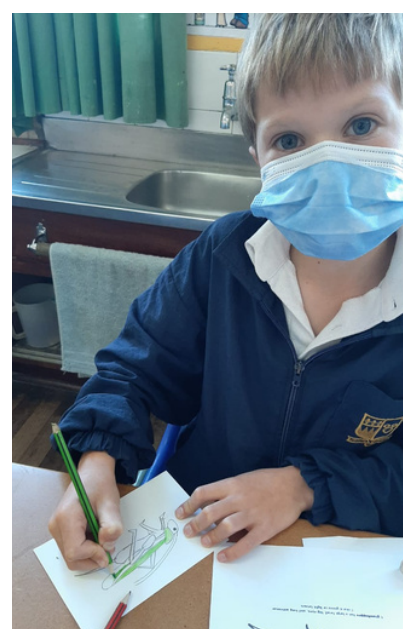
School Golf Plan

The Belmont Golf Club School plan is available for all boys at Graeme College that are interested in becoming scholar members.

Please contact Mr Kilian if you would like further information
s.kilian@graemecollege.co.za

Grade 3s

The Grade 3 boys are learning about insects and their habitats in Life Skills. They then went on an exciting adventure - an insect hunt to count the insects around the school, and are busy creating insects to put together insect mobiles.



Grade 7s

The Grade 7OX class have been doing some interactive experiments, taking their understanding of natural disasters to the next level! Engaging the students in creating their own projects truly helped them to understand more about the science behind these geological and meteorological events. The boys could create their unique projects using any materials they had available to them and had to also present to their class. We were impressed with their creativity and science skills used to investigate the inner workings of natural disasters.



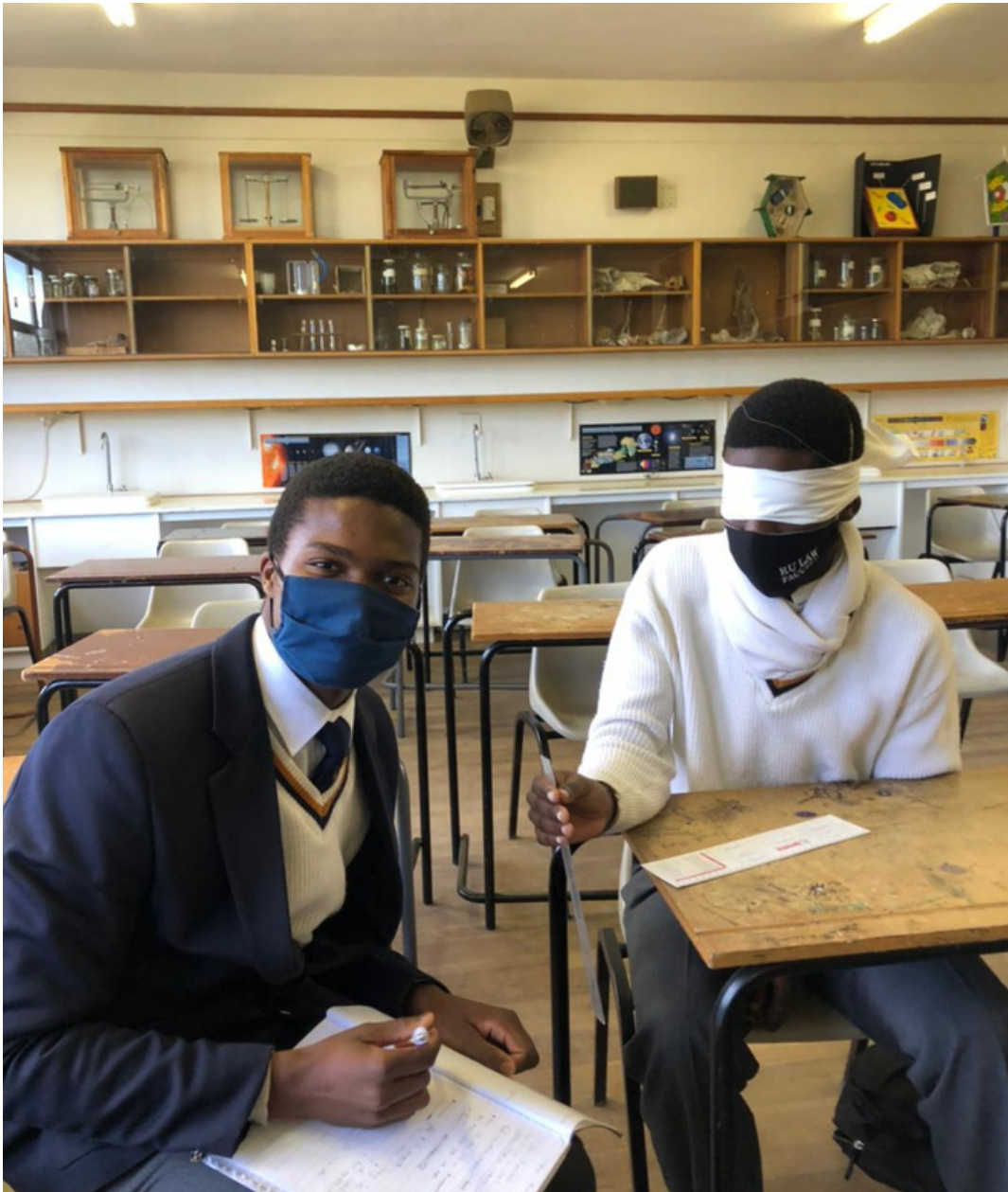
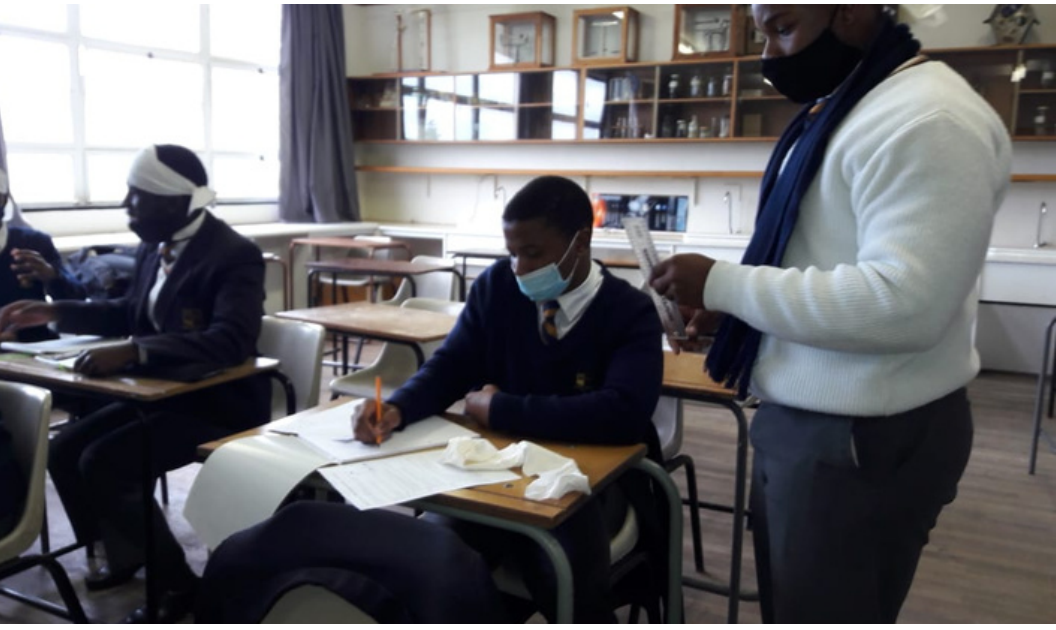
Grade 11s

The Grade 11 class had a very successful Leadership Development day today. They had the opportunity to listen to Mr Trevor Amos' talk on leadership about the times we live in. Mr Kyle Fichardt and Mr Jason Pennie shared practical advice on applications to universities and bursaries and careers, post school. Coachbit tutors gave the learners an idea of how to study and gave advice on good study habits. Each learner received a voucher entitling them to a free assessment to the value of \$49. The portfolio leadership programme at Graeme was explained to them by Mr de Lacy. Thereafter, Ms T Kenyon advised them on better time management. Mr Bryce Rennie put the teams through their paces building team spirit on the field. The day started with coffee and rusks and ended with an enjoyable meal from the Grant House caterers. We hope our Grade 11s have begun to understand the advantages of team work and the huge potential each and every one of them have. Teatime biscuits were provided by staff members. A big thank you to Mr Wille for making virtual presentations possible.



Grade 12s

The Grade 12s this week are studying the nervous system and nerve pathways. They experimented with different practical tests in order to test reaction times to different stimuli and in the while doing so had so much fun!



Grade 00s

This week the Grade 00 class read the story "Little cloud" by Eric Carle. After reading the story they ventured outside to look up at the clouds in the sky to see if they could see any pictures in the clouds. They then came inside to draw what they had seen.



Pre-Primary

Good old fashioned games such as “snakes and ladders”, “Bingo”, “Snap”, “Memory game” and many more, teach young children so many wonderful skills. The Little Leopard Cubs (Grade 00 and Grade Rs) spent the day trying out all sorts of games for this week’s Fun Friday.



WELCOME TO *Graeme College* THE FAMILY



MRS JENNIFER GUSH

INTERVIEWED BY STUDENT ZIMI
SISHUTA, EDITED BY JORDAN
SHARE

Mrs Gush arrived at Graeme College in term 2 as the high school's new Life Science teacher. After a few days at Graeme one of our students had some time to ask Mrs Gush a few questions.

Mrs Gush said that, in her first few days, she has felt very welcome by both the staff and the students. Mrs Gush had an interesting transition from being a parent of a boy at the school, who matriculated last year, to being part of the teaching staff. She has always been very involved in the school and is now gifting the students with her teaching skills and her knowledge on the subject. When asked what her strong points as a teacher are, she said that she strongly believed in the visual aspect of learning, for subjects such as biology in particular. She believes it is important to get the boys to understand how the biological system works.

We asked Mrs Gush what her ideal result would be at the end of the year and she said "If I could inspire each boy as best as I can in the subject, even though it may not be their favourite subject, they can go home knowing that they had done their best."



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

Enter at [myschool.co.za](https://www.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/GCccovidQ>
- Awsum App:

<https://www.awsum.co.za/download-the-awsum-app-for-schools>

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.

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



Community Outreach Portfolio Project Term 2: SPCA



National Council of SPCAs



The SPCA stands for: The **S**ociety for the **P**revention of **C**ruelty to **A**nimals

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 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?



National Council of SPCAs

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.



National Council of SPCAs

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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:

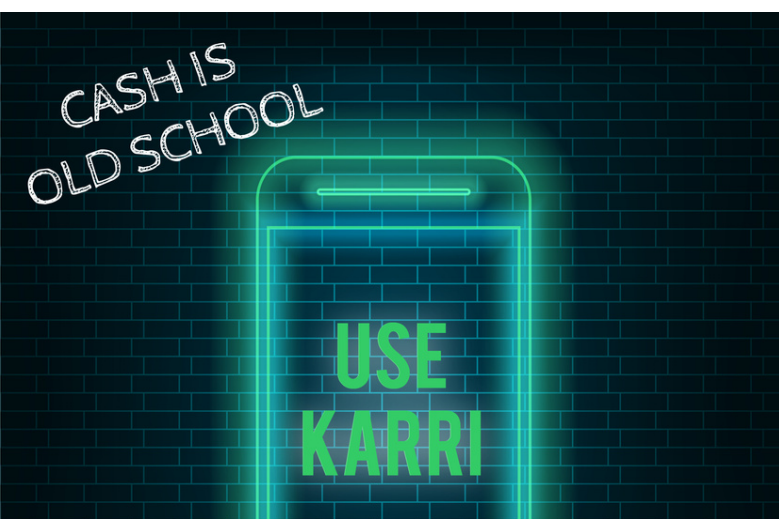
Click here to read more on their website: <https://www.karripay.com/za/>

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 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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