



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 11 June 2021

“Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must vigorously act. There is no other route to success.” - Pablo Picasso.

Message from the Headmaster

During the past two weeks, the realization dawned on me, yet again, that teaching is not easy, and it never will be. At the moment, teachers are trying to strike a balance between ensuring that all our boys have covered the required work, while also managing academic assessment pressure and continuing with cultural and non-contact sporting activities under the new normal.

In a comic strip cartoon Peanuts, “Charlie Brown” shoots an arrow at a fence and then proceeds to draw a circle around the arrow. When Charlie Brown is asked why he only draws the target after he shoots, Charlie responds by saying “if you do it my way, you never miss!”

Much like Charlie Brown in the cartoon, many of our boys’ approach end of term assessments in this manner. (they do not clearly define the target)

It is thus important to encourage your sons to “draw the target BEFORE they shoot the arrow”.

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Drawing the target at which we aim our proverbial arrow is the setting out of good action plans outlining all the necessary steps to achieve one's goals that will help reach the intended target.

The trick is not only to think clearly about the end goal, but to also consider the different steps to get there and the likely and potential obstacles along the way.

Next week will be an ideal opportunity for our learners to evaluate their commitment and belief in their pursuit of academic excellence as they prepare for the mid-year assessments.

If you can identify your targets with crystal clarity, you will be amazed at how often you will hit the mark.

Kevin Watson
Headmaster

Please note event cancellation:

Regrettably, due to the government's imposed restrictions of large gatherings and the continuation of the current public health climate surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we yet again need to postpone our burger night. We are very apologetic if this has caused any inconvenience. We hope to reschedule to August and will keep everyone updated on the new date.

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.

Grade 9 Natural Science Assessment:

The Grade 9s will need to write the results of their experiments from this week up in the form of an assessment over the course of this 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.



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"



School Events



Monies raised to go towards helping an under-privileged learner in need.



R5
 Socks & civvies

FRIDAY
 2nd of July

PRIZES!!!
 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners
 PLUS
 Most CRAZeE socks in each grade
 ALSO
 Most CREATIVE CRAZeE sock teacher!

CRAZEE
SOCK
DAY

CIVVIES MAY BE WORN, BUT ONLY IF ENTRY FEE HAS BEEN PAID

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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+5 - 13h30-14h30

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.

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 on s.kilian@graemecollege.co.za.

- Junior School Cross Country

The Junior School Cross Country Finals will take place on Somerset Field on Monday 14 June 2021. Timings will be as follows:

14:15 - u10 's
14:30 - u11 's
15:00 - u12 's
15:30 - u13 's

Please remember that correct dress is essential. Boys are allowed to come to school in their tracksuits. Cross country is compulsory for all boys from u10 to u13.

Cross Country

Warm and sunny winter days call for exercise outside! The Junior School boys were hard at work this week practicing for inter-house cross-country.



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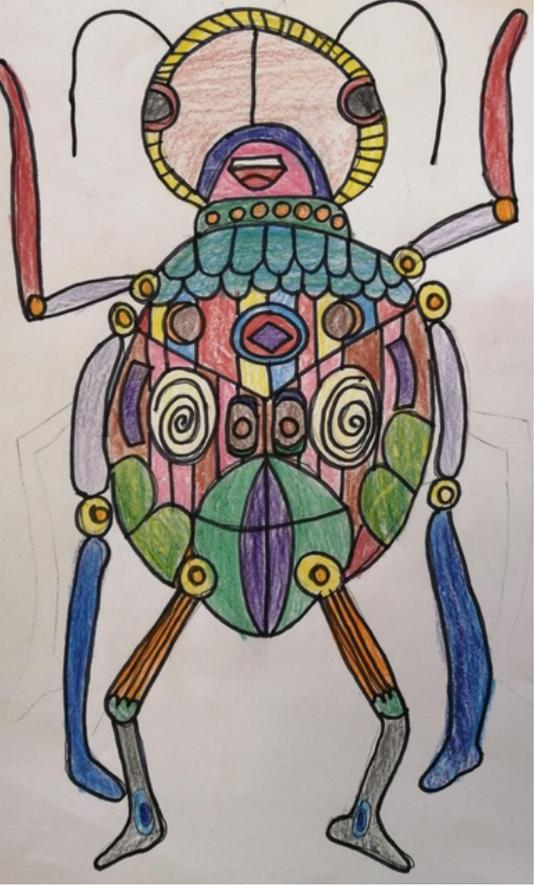
Round-the-Mountain relay

On Tuesday boys participated in the annual Round-the-Mountain relay. 16 teams of 6 boys fought it out to see who would be Kings of the Mountain. The X-country team won, followed closely by the Leopards, who were hot on their heels. However, they could not break the record set in the year 2000!



Grade 4s

Inspiration can be found everywhere. Nature can definitely get your inspiration fluids flowing and this week the Grade 4 boys in their Art class were looking at the animal kingdom to draw some inspiration from. Not the full animal kingdom, just a specified part: colourful insects. They had to design their own original insect, add patterns and make the insects fun and colourful. Look at some of these fantastic creative bugs!



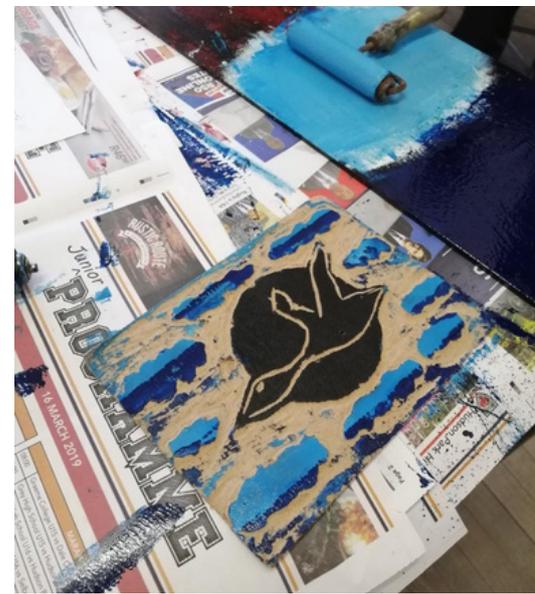
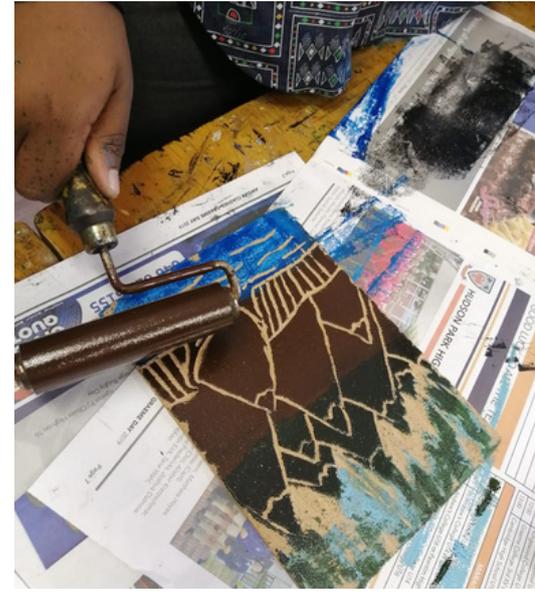
Grade 7s

Grade 7 English Dialogue Orals this week saw some fantastic work from the boys.



Grade 9s

The Grade 9s were so productive in art class this week. They learnt about printmaking this term and learnt a new art technique called woodblock carving and printing. This involves carving an image out of wood and rolling ink onto it to print onto paper. We completed this task this week, by doing the final stage, which is printing onto paper with ink. The boys enjoyed working with ink and getting messy in class this week.



Pre-Primary

Who would've thought that a relatively small piece of fabric would make such a big impact? Well, the King of France actually. And countless noblemen, soldiers, founders, and CEOs after him. Ties have a long history and next year the Grade Rs will be wearing ties when they go to Grade 1! But for now, the Pre-Primary boys had a fun day wearing colourful and crazy ties, borrowed from their dads or male family members. We had so much fun today experimenting wearing something new!





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 **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 poor communities.
- No one to prevent humans from abusing animals.
- No one to rescue abused animals.

SPCA drive: One week to go! The competition is fierce and so close!

Top 3 positions so far are:

- Grade 00 on 136 points
- Grade 10VT on 114 points
- Grade 5JB on 100 points

Thank you for all the generous donations received thus far.

Graeme College doing what we do best: Community Outreach! 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.

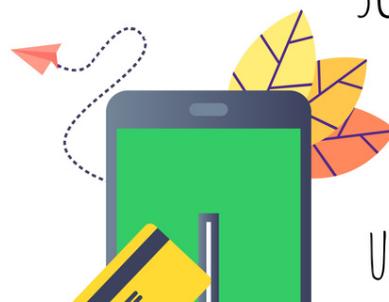
The school's database is linked to the Karri system - hence the notification that you received.

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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