



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 30 July 2021

“The faster the car, the further the headlights must go.” -Gaston Berger

Message from the Headmaster

For all who were glued to television sets, or who followed the various social media platforms during the winter break, the amount of pain, suffering, disruption and damage, caused by the pandemic, has wreaked havoc across society. Although this cannot be understated, ignored or denied, on other fronts, the pandemic has acted as a catalyst for rapid, sweeping change. Riding alongside this pandemic has also been a plethora of disruptions and lawlessness. We are now currently living in an environment we did not plan for nor truly expected to experience in our lifetime. We can no longer define ourselves by where we've been or what we've achieved previously, as it has become imperative that we are able to adapt and re-invent our systems whilst continuously moving forward. Out of all the negativity, the human spirit at Graeme College has given us a reason to be positive and to believe that, if we all stand together, great things can happen.

Over the course of the holidays the school was informed that two of our boys - Abongile Ngandi and Liselihle Maphekula - have been selected for the SA U18 High-Performance rugby training squad. The announcement led to the mobilisation of many staff members to ensure that no stone was left unturned in ensuring that these young men make the final squad that departs to tour Georgia at the end of July.



After the announcement, the boys were summoned to the boarding house to isolate (pre-requisite from SA Rugby). This meant that Mr Pretorius had to enlist our hostel matron, Mrs Manning, who cancelled her holiday activities to look after the boys to ensure that they were well fed. Mr Rennie and Mr van der Meulen ensured that the boys attended all the virtual training seminars. These staff members ensured that the boys trained on the field and in the gymnasium and also that they attended various training sessions in East London. Mr Xonxa was tasked with ensuring that the boys have valid ID books and Passports (another pre-requisite from SA Rugby). This was easier said than done because one of our young men needed a parent signature from a parent residing in Cape Town.

With time running out, Mr Xonxa walked into my office at 16h00 and volunteered to immediately jump into a car and drive to Cape Town to get the necessary documents signed and processed before 10h00 the following morning. At 10h00 the following day Mr Xonxa informed me that he had managed to get the papers signed and had submitted the necessary documents. After 21 hours of driving, Mr Xonxa returned exhausted the following evening, saying that he was not going to let an administrative pre-requisite prevent a young man from achieving his dream.

One can only admire and praise the lengths that this young educator, (Mr Xonxa) went to in ensuring that this young and talented Graeme College rugby player gets on a plane to Georgia. Since then, both boys from Graeme College have been confirmed as part of the traveling squad. This is incredible, when you consider that there are only three travelling boys from the Eastern Cape in the final squad.

On the cricketing front, the following young men are included in various squads in preparation for national duty too. Aphiwe Myanda is still part of a squad preparing for an SA U19 tour to the West Indies in preparation for the World Cup next year. A final team has not been chosen yet, so we are holding thumbs for him. His opening bowling partner, Onisizo Ntinga, has recently been invited to attend a national U16 camp next month as well. In the meantime, our staff are working furiously in the background to get these players ready.



The above certainly is proof that, with hard work, determination and a committed staff, the Graeme College boys can achieve anything!

Mr Kevin Watson
Headmaster

SATURDAY SCHOOL FOR GRADE 12s

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic that the country finds itself in, the school year has been changed by the Department of Education. What this means is that the Grade 12s have effectively lost three weeks of school. While this does not sound a lot, all syllabi need to be completed before the Grade 12s start their Preliminary Examinations on 30 August. Because of this and because of the disrupted year that the Grade 12s had last year it has become apparent that there will need to be a number of extra classes held on Saturday mornings to make sure that not only are syllabi adequately completed but also that the Grade 12s have the chance to do some revision before they write their examinations. We are very aware that these young men need to do well in their Preliminary Examinations in order to qualify for tertiary education. We need to make this possible for them and the only way for the completion of all work to be a reality is to introduce compulsory Saturday school. Essential year work will be covered in these slots. This is examinable work and so attendance at these sessions is vital. The programme is as follows:

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME	CLASS (WHERE APPLICABLE)	VENUE
31 July 2021	Mathematical Literacy	08h30 – 09h45	12LF	Room 37
	English		12MW	Room 34
	English	10h00 – 11h15	12LF	Room 34
	Mathematical Literacy/ Mathematics		12MW	Room 37 Room 6
7 August 2021	Geography	08h30 – 10h30		Room 11
	Computer Applications Technology (CAT)			Computer Lab
	Music			Music Room
14 August 2021	Physical Science	08h30 – 10h30		Room 7
	Business Studies	08h30 – 10h30		Room 32
21 August 2021	Life Sciences	08h30 – 10h30		Hall

GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

The Grade 12s are due to start writing their preliminary examinations at the end of August. The draft timetable is as follows:

GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE 2021 (Draft)

DATE	09H00	14H00
Thursday 26 August	CAT Paper 1 Practical 3 hours	
Monday 30 August	Accounting Paper 1 2 hours	
Tuesday 31 August	Geography Paper 1 3 hours (Theory)	IsiXhosa FAL Paper 3 3 hours
Wednesday 1 September	History Paper 1 3 hours	English Home Language Paper 3 3 hours
Thursday 2 September	Geography Paper 2 3 hours	Afrikaans FAL Paper 3 3 hours
Friday 3 September	Life Sciences Paper 1 2 ½ hours	
Monday 6 September	<u>Final</u> Life Orientation Exam 2 hours	
Tuesday 7 September	Life Sciences Paper 2 2 ½ hours	Visual Art/Design Paper 1 3 hours (To be confirmed)
Wednesday 8 September	Afrikaans FAL Paper 2 2 hours	
Thursday 9 September	Accounting Paper 2 2 hours	IsiXhosa FAL Paper 1 2 ½ hours
Friday 10 September	Mathematics Paper 1/ Maths Lit Paper 1 3 hours	English Home Language Paper 1 2 hours
Monday 13 September	Mathematics Paper 2/ Maths Lit Paper 2 3 hours	CAT Paper 2 Theory 3 hours
Tuesday 14 September	History Paper 2 3 hours	Afrikaans FAL Paper 1 2 hours
Wednesday 15 September	Business Studies Paper 1 2 hours	
Thursday 16 September	IsiXhosa FAL Paper 2 2 hours	
Friday 17 September	Physical Sciences Paper 1 3 hours (Physics)	
Monday 20 September	Physical Sciences Paper 2 3 hours (Chemistry)	
Tuesday 21 September	Music Paper 1 3 hours (Theory)	Music Paper 2 1 ½ hours (Comprehension)
Wednesday 22 September	English Home Language Paper 2 2 ½ hours	
Thursday 23 September	Business Studies Paper 2 2 hours	
Friday 24 September		
Monday 27 September	Art Practical** (08h00 – 16h00)	
Tuesday 28 September	Art Practical** (08h00 – 16h00)	
Wednesday 29 September	Art Practical** (08h00 – 16h00)	
Saturday 16 October	Art Practical** (08h00 – 17h00)	

** These four days are compulsory for all Visual Art and Design Students. Please make sure that you take a packed lunch with you for those days. In addition, you need to arrange two additional mornings with your practical teacher on a day where you have no exam scheduled.

Campus

Good progress is being made on the entrance to the Foundation phase. This all as a result of a generous donation in memory of Albert and Ernest Whitfield (matriculated 1946).



Grant House

Gorgeous murals have been created on the Junior Boy's walls in the hostel by multitalented artist and illustrator Sanelisiwe Singaphi, who recently also created murals for the National Arts Festival. They add so much brightness and emphasis to the corridors at Grant House.



Grade 4s

Thank you so much to all the junior school boys for bringing bread bags every day.

The Grade 4MG boys were in charge of adding new bags to our total. They thoroughly enjoyed seeing the total increase and we had a quick addition sum every morning.

They have collected a fantastic figure of 1254 bags!

The Collect-A-Bag campaign is the brainchild of Albany Bread and its inception was aimed at encouraging communities to collect the plastic bags from Albany Superior loaves, in order to decrease the level of pollution and dumping.



Grade 5s

Well done to the grade 5 boys who achieved very well in term 2. They were rewarded with a Leopard certificate.



Grade 6s

Congratulations to the Grade 6 AR and DS boys who received their Leopard certificates too.



Grade 7s

Leopard Certificates are awarded each term to boys for behaviour, manners and academics. It is a noteworthy achievement to be given this award. It requires consistent endeavor over a full term.

Picture 1- Grade 7 OX (left to right):

Leroy Adriaan, Olo Jaca, Blayden Connolly, Hamish Haakonsen, Larson McKaiser, Andrew Muir, Rhys Wiblin, Lilo Booii, Crispin Lackay, Liam Bodill, Lwakhe Nxozzi, Ahlumile Maqungu.



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

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

Grade 7s

Picture 2- Grade 7 AS (left to right):

Ethan Mostert, Erin Stevens, Cian Keulder, Athi Manyati, Iviwe Mshubeki, Jayden Brits, Cairis Appollis, Rikus Pieterse, Schalk Pieterse, Heinrich Boucher.



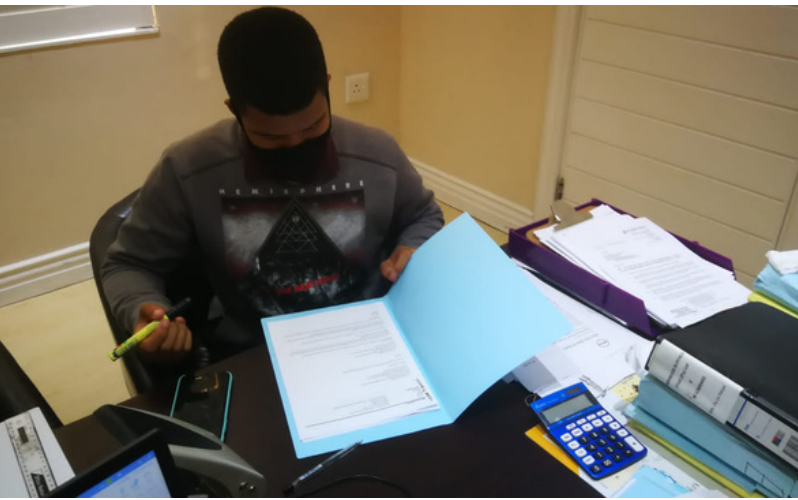
Grade 10s & Grade 11s

Pictures below show the Grade 10 life science class exploring a dissected impala heart, as they are learning about the circulatory system. The Grade 11 life science boys are studying breathing and respiration at the moment so they investigated the lungs from the same animal. Dr Gush kindly organised the specimens and we all benefited immensely from being able to have such an in depth look at real tissues.



Grade 12

During the school holidays our matric learner, Giovanni Daniels, did some vacation work at De Jager & Lordan under Mr Leo Vaccaro. Giovanni is an aspiring law student and left a wonderful impression on Mr Vaccaro who had the following to say: "During the July break, Giovanni Daniels did a brief internship at De Jager & Lordan Inc. with the hopes of gaining insight into the legal profession. Giovanni assisted our professional staff in the litigation and commercial departments, and was expected to assist drafting legal documents, attend court, and listened in during consultation with clients and / or counsel. Giovanni displayed a genuine interest in all aspects of the law and the role of an attorney as a whole. Having been expected to work long hours in the office, he certainly impressed everyone at the firm with his work ethic and showed resilience under pressure. Above all, the firm found Giovanni to be exceptionally well-mannered and kind. Whether he finds himself studying law or otherwise, it is clear that Giovanni will make a success out of his future endeavours." We are very proud of Giovanni and expected no less from a Graemian!



Community Projects & Fundraising



Community Outreach Project Term 3: Soup Kitchen!

The Community Outreach Portfolio have decided to make "Jars of Hope" and to host a Soup Kitchen for one day this term.

The committee are in need of:

- 200gram glass coffee bottles with lids (please wash!)
- Rice
- Lentils
- Split Peas
- Soup Mix
- Stock (chicken/beef/mutton)
- Cup of Soup packets of soup.

All are dry ingredients that will be placed in the glass bottle to make one meal.

As per usual, the class that donates the most will be rewarded for their efforts and generosity!

Let's make a big effort to fill hungry tummies!

Please make all contributions for the attention of Miss White.

- 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.

- Senior School Cross Country

On Thursday 29 July the annual senior Inter-House Cross Country event was held. The first athlete to complete the roughly 6km course was Loyiso Nyoka (Open) from Hutton in a time of 24m 55s, followed by Cee-Jay Porthen (Open) also from Hutton in 24m 58s. This is the third time Loyiso has won the overall event. The results for the event are as follows:

- Open: Loyiso Nyoka (Hutton) – 24m 54s
- U16: Licebo Ngwentle (Hutton) – 25m 33s
- U15: Buhle Bikitsha (Hutton) – 29m 03s
- U14: Esinako Sandi (Vernal) – 27m 25s

Congratulations to Hutton House who won the event with 117 points, followed by Wiles (112), Vernal (99) and Neilson (85). Close to 200 athletes completed the course. This is the highest number of participants in the last seven years. Well done to everyone who participated and thank you to all the staff, marshals and time-keepers for their assistance.



- Mountain Biking



Pictured is the first MTB Club ride of the term. The 'Leopards Epic' - a 3-day ride from Makhanda to Cannon Rocks - takes place toward the end of Term 3. Join us on a Friday to get fit for the Epic. It promises to be a great adventure.

Music

Even throughout the holidays our music boys were busy! Bayanda Mthetho and Xolisa Foley performed in the Kwantu Choir for the National Arts Festival.

"Students of Rhodes University Chamber Choir combine forces with the KWANTU Community Choir to bring you a collaborative concert of Hope, Healing and Restoration.

The programme selected is centred around themes of light, comfort, peace and glory, speaking directly to the pain, loss and grief which the past year has brought onto people. It includes works by Jake Runestad, Paweł Łukaszewski, Moses Hoga, Msaki, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Buhlebendalo, among others."

Tickets are R30. You can still buy tickets and watch the online performance until the 31 August:

<https://nationalartsfestival.co.za/show/let-my-love-be-heard/>

Pictures below from National Arts Festival webpage.

TICKET PRICE: R30.00

GENRE: Music

DURATION (MINUTES): 50mins

AGES: All ages

RELEASE DATE: July 15, 2021 13:01 - August 31, 2021 23:59

LANGUAGE: English



Pre-Primary-Grade 00

The Grade 00 class are so thrilled to be back to school this week and have throughout the week spent time learning all about their farm theme through a variety of hands-on experiences. Many preschoolers have little or no connection to a farm and are so drawn to animals and farm life. Farm animals are always a huge hit with young children and a great way to capture their interest. Sensory play is a fantastic way to dive deeper into a preschool theme to solidify learning and pictured below are children enjoying their sensory table as well as plenty of craft activities.



Pre-Primary-Grade R

The Grade R boys have really enjoyed their first week back at school after the holidays. They have really gotten back into the swing of things and were happy to be back with their friends and doing fun activities in the classroom. Their theme this week is winter. Winter is a preschool theme that offers activities with snow, ice and more. When it is sometimes just too cold to actually go outside and play in it- what do we do? You guessed it: Bring the snow and ice inside!



School events



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.

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