



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 13 August 2021

“You can’t use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.” - Maya Angelou

Message from the Headmaster

Dream Project - Becoming a Reality

At the end of last year, our staff developed a bold plan when brainstorming an outrageous plan to celebrate the 150 year landmark of Graeme College in 2023. The idea of an indoor sports venue was created because of a number of reasons. Initially the idea started as a hopeful dream, considering if we ever went ahead it obviously needed to be funded by donations and obviously not from any school funds. The thinking behind the project was that the school hall was becoming overused, and it was very much the home of cultural events and practices. Sport has been encroaching on those events, especially during periods of inclement weather, and the idea of a separate venue was created. One that could possibly house a new school gym, change rooms and a multipurpose playing surface. It was also a project which we saw as being a worthy landmark project, with far reaching implications. Not only would it be an incredible way to celebrate the 150 year milestone, but it would be a vehicle of moving Graeme College into the next 150 years with confidence and a sense of destiny. It is a building which everybody in our community could be incredibly proud of, and will be used extensively by all Graemians.

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The estimated cost made the project seem very unlikely and a distant dream until the Kavod Trust stepped in with a donation which covered virtually the entire cost. The Trust's Administrator Barbara Proudfoot came and visited the school to meet with us, get an idea of the 'heart' of the school and hear about our plans. Barbara then gave very positive feedback to the chief trustee Victoria Freudenheim.

Very happily for us, they both were really impressed with what the school was about and stood for - as well as our vision for the future. They showed great faith in our plans but also strongly believed in what we have done and doing at Graeme College. The Kavod Trust has a motto of "Supporting South Africans with Guts and Promise" and that just seemed to gel perfectly with Graeme College's motto "Courage and Toil" (loosely translated from Virtute et Opera). Our 'virtue and industry' has been the backbone of what we do every day, and the new exciting relationship with the Kavod Trust is one that we are so extremely proud to be part of. We look forward to hosting Victoria and Barbara when the centre is opened officially on Founders' Day in 2023.

We will have a new venue to house physical education classes, but also be the home of the Pre School events along with a whole range of extra-mural events in the afternoons. Plans and sketches are a work in progress as we finalise the details and balance the budget allocated. The building will be erected on Somerset Field in front of Grant House, with the rugby field shifting very slightly backwards towards the Graemian Centre. It does mean that the athletics track changes shape as well, but extensive research has been put into confirming the final position, with a wide range of options being extensively debated. Not only does this create excitement around the future of sport at Graeme College, but it also frees up time and place in the hall for all our cultural events.



This is an audacious development, and one that our community will be incredibly proud to be part of.

Kevin Watson
Headmaster

Covid Protocol Update

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Covid-19 Protocol Updates

In an attempt to further improve communication with parents - we will create class Whatsapp Groups. Most Junior School classes have had these up and running, but we are now starting groups for all Senior School classes now too. Obviously they are not 'compulsory' to be part of - and parents are free to exit the groups. Likewise, the staff will edit the group settings to only allow the administrators of the group to post messages. We are just trying to create an additional channel to pass on information.

One of the reasons for this, is that some parents have received poor information regarding Covid cases at Graeme College. We have four boys in the Grade 8/ 9 phase that have indeed tested positive this week, but they have not been at school since Friday last week. There are also a few boys in the boarding house that have been in isolation since Friday last week, but we have not received their test results back yet. Those are the only boys that we know of in the entire school. As per the Covid regulations a number of parents have also opted to have their children isolate for periods, when they have shown symptoms. Likewise, we are also very happy when any parents have opted to have their child at home, as a precautionary measure. On that note, we again appeal to parents to follow these guidelines; please do not send your child to school if he is showing any symptoms. The learners then need to isolate properly. Just this weekend, we have heard of social gatherings between learners, despite the fact that they have been in isolation. They should not be in public, and they should not be attending social gatherings. Actions and decisions like this, bring the whole school process into jeopardy.

Graeme College is in constant communication with the Department of Health with regards to Covid matters. Graeme College continues to follow the prescribed protocols and we always adhere to the departmental regulations and guidelines. We have always been in very close contact with the Department of Health, with regards to any learner that does test positive from when the pandemic started.

As mentioned previously, the morning checklist, after temperature recordings, is a crucial step in keeping our community safe. Part of that checklist is also the sensitivity and awareness of our learners to identify if they are ever at risk. For instance, the obvious example of being in close contact with somebody that has tested positive, requires an immediate self-quarantine of 7 to 14 days, in order to check for developing symptoms.

We are so grateful for the support and understanding of our learners and our community members. Please make sure that the teachers are always aware of any learner or family member who does attend such an event, or if somebody has come into contact with the virus. Failure to get this right, compromises the whole school and our ability to remain open.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Watson
Headmaster

GRADE 12 LIFE SCIENCE TEST

There will be a compulsory Life Science test for the Grade 12s on Friday 20 August 2021. With the trial examinations coming up, this test will give the Grade 12s a chance to make sure that they are well-prepared for those examinations. The test will start at 14h00.

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
14 August 2021	Physical Science	08h30 – 10h30		Room 7
	Business Studies	08h30 – 10h30		Room 32
21 August 2021	Life Sciences	08h30 – 10h30		Hall

Grade 8 and 9 Test Schedule:

Please note that other tests and assignments will be allocated by subject teachers during the term. This list merely gives an opportunity for standardised tests to be written. Grade 8s and 9s will write tests every Tuesday (Days 2 and 7). These test results will comprise part of the SBA result.

Please note there has been a change on the timetable below:

DATE	GRADE 8 TEST	GRADE 9 TEST
17 August 2021 (Day 7)	EMS Test	History Test
24 August 2021 (Day 2)	Geography Test	EMS Test
31 August 2021 (Day 7)	History Test	Geography Test
7 September 2021 (Day 2)	Mathematics Test	Mathematics Test
14 September 2021 (Day 7)	Natural Science Test	Natural Science Test
21 September 2021 (Day 2)	Term 4 Exam Original English Writing	Term 4 Exam Original English Writing
28 September 2021 (Day 7)	Term 4 Exam Original Afrikaans/isiXhosa Writing	Term 4 Exam Original Afrikaans/isiXhosa Writing

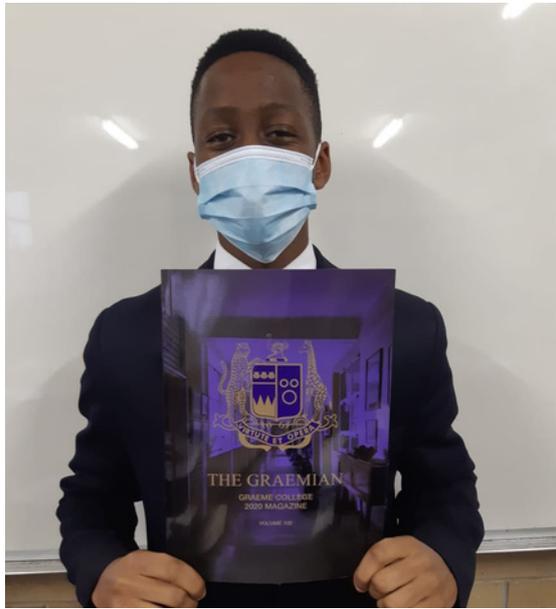
GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

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.



The 2020 Graeme College School magazine is now available at Reception at R150 a copy. It is the reflection of the year Covid-19 became part of the world, the GC community and your son's school life. We would like to encourage you to buy it and keep it as a reminder of quite an exceptional year.

My School Card

Did you know that your MySchool card gives you a super discount to Worksheet Cloud? Signing up to WorksheetCloud will give you instant access to hundreds of printable school worksheets, but if you're a MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet supporter, a percentage of your subscription fee will be given back to Graeme College at absolutely no cost to you. Plus you'll also receive a 50% discount on your WorksheetCloud sign up fee! Cardholders also receive a R100 discount on the WorksheetCloud subscription fee when entering your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card number during sign up. Head on over to WorksheetCloud and help your child with the Term 3 tests. They'll get access to thousands of study notes, practice questions and practice exams.

Click here to learn more:

<https://www.worksheetcloud.com/myschool/>



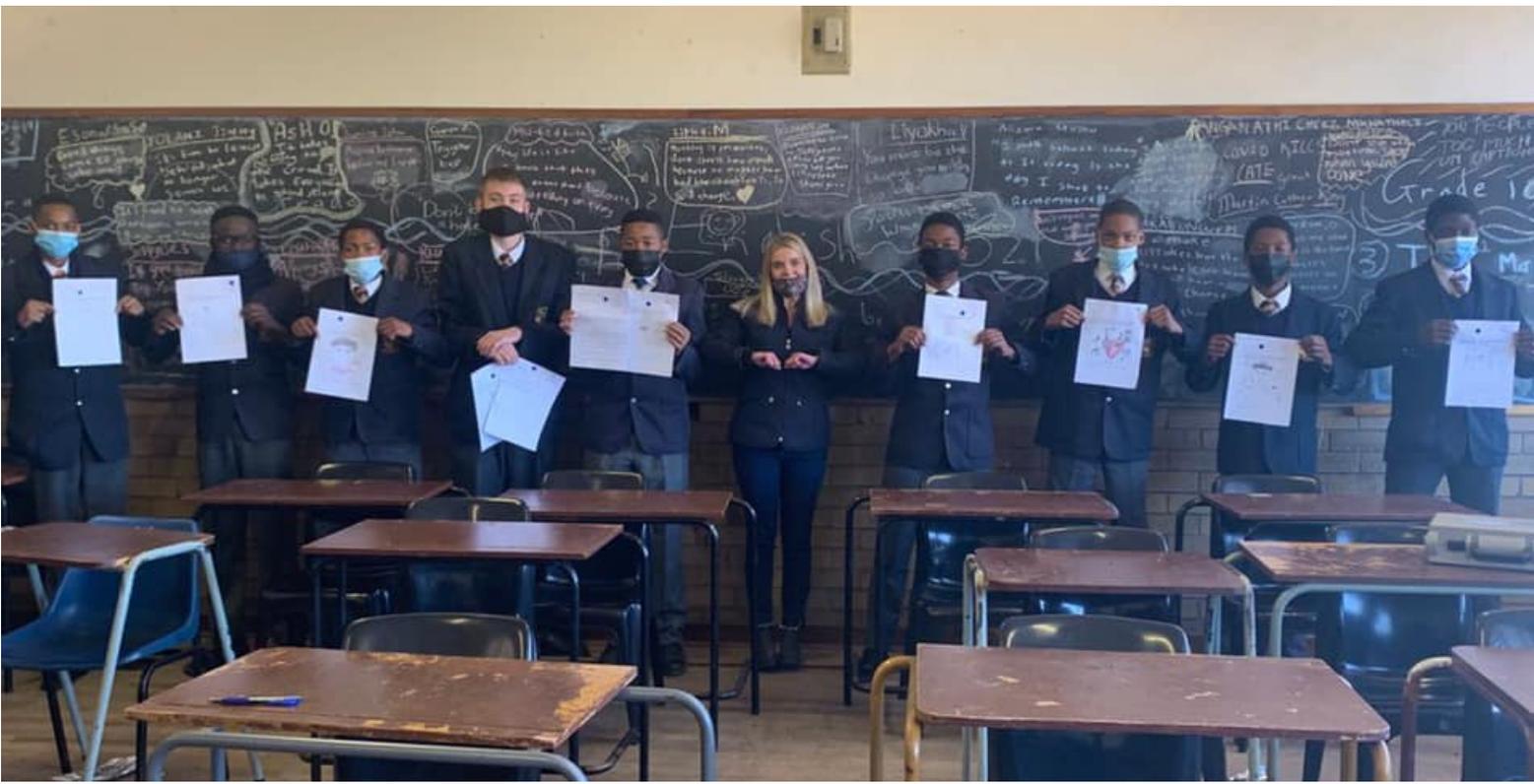
WorksheetCloud
Online & Printable School Worksheets

You might also find these other posts helpful: (click on the theme)

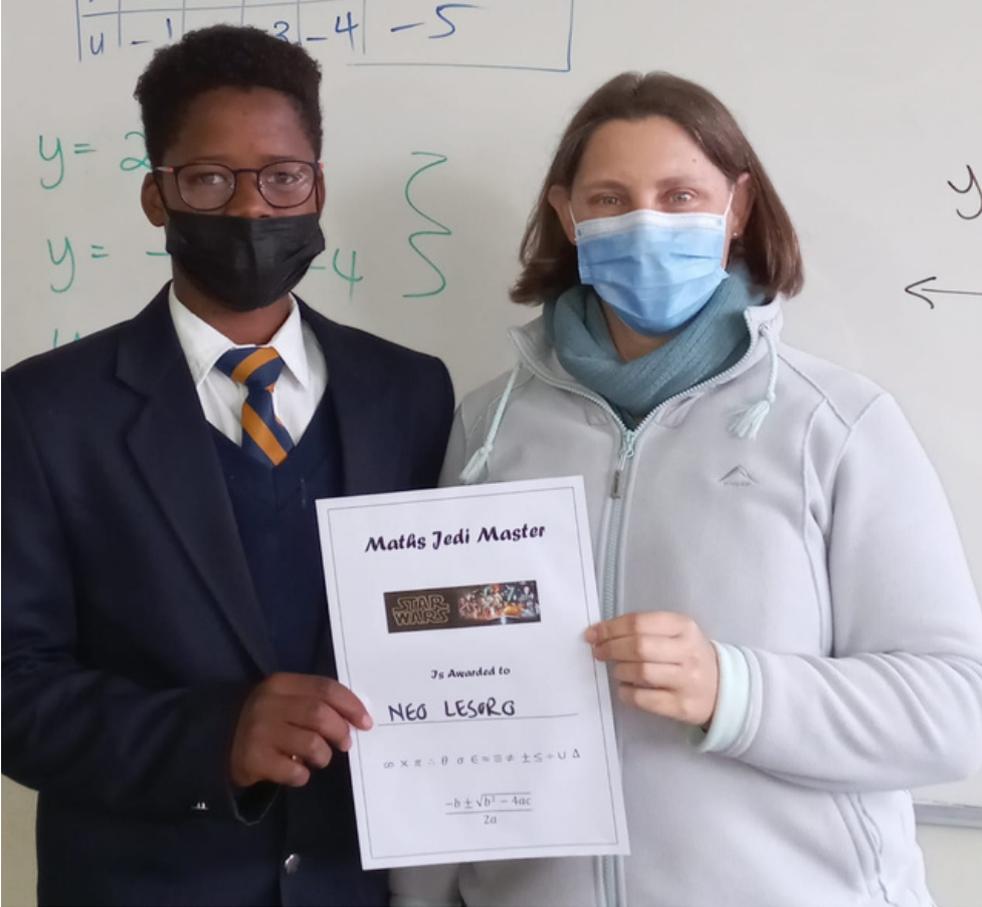
- My English / Xhosa / Zulu child is failing Afrikaans. What can I do to help?
- Introducing WorksheetCloud Study Notes
- Why is Reading Important?



Grade 9s



From gerunds to poetry! The ardent Grade 9s are doing a stellar job learning new terminology and interpreting poetry. Well done to Olwethu Mhlope and Makabongwe Mancam for achieving wonderful results for their language test!



Above: Neo Lesoro of 9SA wins the Maths Jedi Master award this week. He is awarded the certificate for working ahead in the syllabus, asking questions and volunteering answers to questions in class. He has shown a remarkable improvement in his attitude towards the subject. Well done, Neo!

Community Projects & Fundraising

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.



Health Heart and Home



Fill a coffee jar with the following ingredients... It can feed 4 people.



Share a Jar of Hope

1/2 cup rice

1/2 cup soup mix

1/2 cup lentils

1 unwrapped stock cube

1 pkt soup powder

Instructions. Boil 2 and 1/2 litres of water and add the jar contents. Keep stirring and enjoy.



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.

Thank you for the generous donations received thus far. It is very much appreciated. The Graeme boys are enjoying competing against each other for such an important cause.

Below are the soup kitchen points tally for Friday, 13 August:

Grade 00: 146	7OX: 85
Grade R: 187	8MP: 0
Grade 1: 210	8JVM: 85
Grade 2: 76	9SA: 164
Grade 3: 123	9NH: 68
4MG: 142	10LN: 10
4VDM: 26	10VT: 302
5JB: 22	11FS: 57
5LM: 143	11PDL: 25
6AR: 80	12MW: 32
6DS: 90	12LF: 0
7AS: 5	

- 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 Squash

Well done to Hutton House who won their first Inter-House squash tournament. Hutton had a total of 495 points, Wiles 418, Vernal 360 and Neilson 304 points.

- Senior Tennis

Monday 16 August Inter-House - Nielson vs Vernal at 14:30

Wednesday 18 August - Wiles vs Vernal at 14:30

- Athletics

Interhouse Athletics for 2021 took place on Wednesday 11 August. The boys wore their coloured vests according to the house they compete in. The field looked as if it was painted red, blue, black and yellow. With the hype and excitement from the start of the morning – we just knew it was going to be a special day. A moment to remember of the day was when Keathan Edwards broke the U12 100m record. He ran his heart out and this just made us all realise how much we have missed seeing these boys dominate and excel during these events. Lots of fun was had as well, with the U5s and U6s running their first ever track race, the U7's and U8's running their first ever shuttle relay and the teachers running against the U10's in a fun teachers relay.

The following boys have achieved a medal for being the Most Outstanding Athlete in their age group:

U7 Thomas Mann

U8 Jayden Smith

U9 Lunje Manyati

U10 Iminathi Mali

U11 Connor Holder

U12 Keathan Edwards

U13 Erin Stevens

It was so fantastic to see all boys compete in various events. Athletics is really a sport in which all boys can compete in some event on the day and score points for their houses.

Boys who placed in the top 3 for each event scored many points for their houses and the house that came first for Athletics Day 2021 was Hutton, followed by Wiles then Neilson then Vernal.

What a day, what athletes and what an incredible staff Graeme College has to make a thrilling day like this happen!

Photos below show what an exciting day it really was!

Sports



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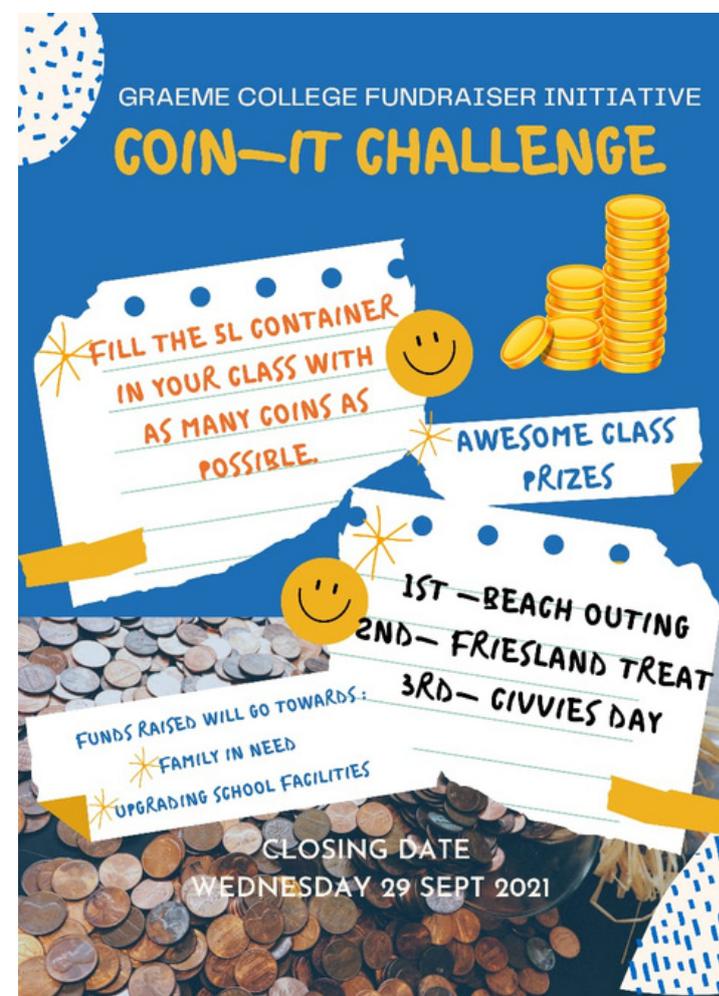
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Pre-Primary - Grade 00 & Grade R

On Wednesday the Pre-primary children also participated in the Junior Athletics Day. For them it is an introduction to athletics and an introduction to sports they might play later in their school careers. Even watching the 'big boys' was very exciting for them. Through a structured, yet fun format, the boys were also practicing for their own Athletics Day to be held on 27 August. These skills they learn can then be used in a wide range of sports, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. On Wednesday they had their first formal running race, which is an excellent way to get them associating sports with fun! The boys with older siblings loved seeing their brothers at school and some had photos with them- too precious!



School Events



GRAEME COLLEGE FUNDRAISER INITIATIVE
COIN-IT CHALLENGE

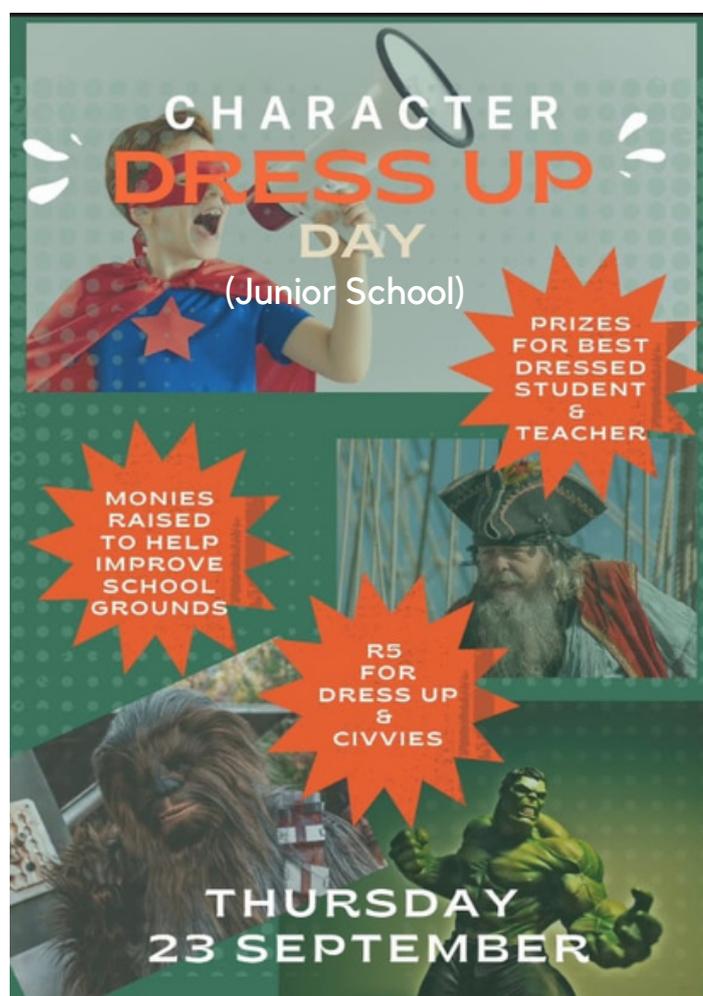
**FILL THE 5L CONTAINER
IN YOUR CLASS WITH
AS MANY COINS AS
POSSIBLE.**

**AWESOME CLASS
PRIZES**

**1ST - BEACH OUTING
2ND - FRIESLAND TREAT
3RD - CIVVIES DAY**

FUNDS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS:
* FAMILY IN NEED
* UPGRADING SCHOOL FACILITIES

CLOSING DATE
WEDNESDAY 29 SEPT 2021



**CHARACTER
DRESS UP
DAY**
(Junior School)

PRIZES FOR BEST
DRESSED
STUDENT
&
TEACHER

MONIES RAISED
TO HELP
IMPROVE
SCHOOL
GROUNDS

R5
FOR
DRESS UP
&
CIVVIES

**THURSDAY
23 SEPTEMBER**

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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