



# Graeme College

*To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential*



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 3 September 2021

“You can cut all the flowers but you cannot keep Spring from coming.” — Pablo Neruda

### Message from the Headmaster

The 1st of September in the Southern Hemisphere is considered to be the dawn of a new season, that of spring. This is the season of growth, rejuvenation, renewal, warmth and longer days. Springtime is often used as an opportunity to dust ourselves off and freshen up, as well as a seasonal reference point to start anew with anything we've attempted but left behind. Spring also gives us yet another opportunity to plant a new seed of intention and patiently wait for what might grow from our renewed efforts.

Spring also equates to optimism and an opportunity to embrace the new life that surrounds us at this time of year. The start of spring can also be used as motivation to ensure that we give deserved attention to the things that are most important to us.

Talking of optimism, very few things in this world can inspire as much as sports can. Watching the Tokyo Paralympics does so much more than that. The Paralympics, more than any other sporting event, has the potential not just to excite, but to inspire; to show us all, not just the individual commitment, ambition and talent of the athletes themselves, but to challenge our perceptions of disability and of what is possible.

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

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That inspiration is much needed. The health and wellbeing benefits of playing sport, and being active, are central to an extensive extramural programme.

Kevin Watson  
Headmaster

Below: Very aptly, the Grade 00 class celebrated the beginning of spring this week by making special hand print flower cards for their parents. They also received a special card from their teacher.



## Academic

### ENGLISH OLYMPIAD 2022

The call for entries for the 2022 English Olympiad is now open. Any boy currently in Grades 8 - 11 may enter. The theme for next year is "A brave new world" and the anthology comprises different genres of writing. The cost of the competition is R100 which needs to be paid to Ms Stamper by 28 September 2021. Included in this cost is the anthology. Any other queries can be directed to Miss Kenyon.

### ACADEMIC PORTFOLIO INITIATIVE

The Grade 12s in the academic portfolio launched a new initiative this term. This followed on the back of their "buddy" learning system which has been in place since the first term. Their new initiative involves peer teaching and learning. They have been meeting on Friday afternoons to study and learn from each other. This is a skill we would very much like to encourage. Should any other grade wish to start a similar system, they will be accommodated. It is an initiative that we would like to see spread and grow.

## 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 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.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GRADE 8 TEST</b>	<b>GRADE 9 TEST</b>
<b>7 September 2021</b> <b>(Day 2)</b>	<b>Mathematics Test</b>	<b>Mathematics Test</b>
<b>14 September 2021</b> <b>(Day 7)</b>	<b>Natural Science Test</b>	<b>Natural Science Test</b>
<b>21 September 2021</b> <b>(Day 2)</b>	<b>Term 4 Exam Original English Writing</b>	<b>Term 4 Exam Original English Writing</b>
<b>28 September 2021</b> <b>(Day 7)</b>	<b>Term 4 Exam Original Afrikaans/isiXhosa Writing</b>	<b>Term 4 Exam Original Afrikaans/isiXhosa Writing</b>

## GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

The Grade 12s commenced with their preliminary examinations this week. It was a very busy week where two examinations were written on both days. We continue to encourage these young men to really give these exams their all as they will help them prepare for their final examinations. Please be aware of the screening procedure that goes with Grade 12 examinations. Screening is done about 45 minutes before the examination is due to start. This allows time for all the other Covid procedures and gives the Grade 12s reading time. We wish all the Grade 12s every success for the remainder of their examinations. The timetable is as follows:

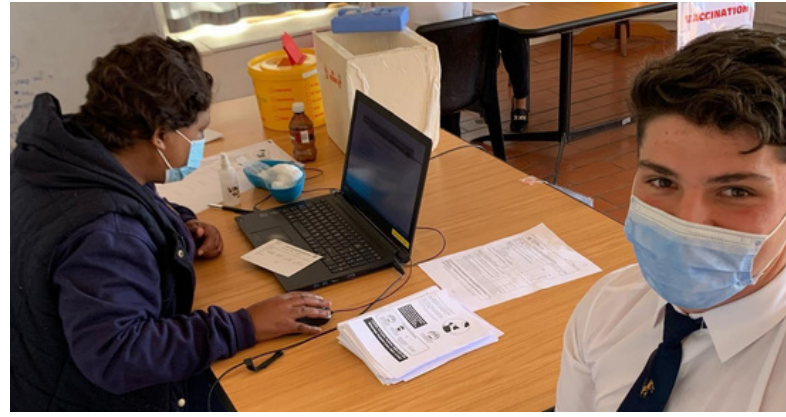
### GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE 2021 (Draft)

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)	
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 news

Graeme College, via the Health Department, rolled out the learner vaccines for 18 year olds this week. Many 18 year old learners in Makhanda came to Graeme College for their vaccination this week at the Graemian Centre.



## A new roller for Junor Field

Mike Webber (OG 1990) donated 2 pitch rollers and spent in excess of R12000 in the process. Lofty Timm (OG 1977) worked on the one roller for a total of 30 hrs (at approximately R650 per hour/ R19 500 in total labour costs). They both didn't charge the school, and made an amazing donation to our cricket programme; specifically towards the cricket on Junor Field. We only had to pay for the parts used in the process. Yet again, it is an example of our community and Old Graemians supporting us all the way! Thank you gentlemen for your incredible, unwavering support. And thank you to Wayne Wiblin (OG 1986), for orchestrating the events that brought this all together. On a similar note JP Holder (OG 1998), was seen scarifying the various pitches across the campus this week again.



# Grade 1s



Left: Grade 1s are pictured celebrating winning the soup kitchen competition. They were taught about the importance of helping others without expecting anything in return. Mrs Nel organized a voting booth for the boys to choose between pizza and cupcakes. The vote resulted in chocolate Lindt cupcakes winning! It is so heart warming to see young children learning the importance of giving and the process of democracy.

Below: We are very proud of Grade 1 volunteer Patrick Bosman-Wisch who helped the high school boys pack the Jars of Hope. He never stopped working once. A true Son of the Leopard!



## Grade 6 Monitors



In Term 4, Grade 6 boys are invited to participate in the Grade 7 Leadership Programme. To qualify, boys have to submit a task linked to understanding leadership and management. Boys then serve a term as monitors in Term 1 or Term 2. Based on this a group of boys is then chosen to serve as monitors in Term 3 and 4. Boys not selected as monitors are invited to serve as monitor assistants to continue to be part of the programme. The boys serve in a variety of positions that assist the school to function better.

The monitors and monitor assistants are, from left to right: Lwakhe Nxosi, Jovan Radovic, Athi Manyati, Rhys Wiblin, Luke Doyle, Andrew Muir, Liam Bodill, Jayden Brits, Olo Jaca, Crispin Lackay, Rikus Pieterse, Larson McKaiser, Blayden Connolly, Heinrich Bouwer, Leroy Adriaan, Iviwe Mshubeki, Hein Myburgh, Akho Tonjeni (absent).

## Grade 7s

Well done to all our Grade 7 boys for an exceptional and successful 2021 Entrepreneur's Day! More pictures at end pages of the newsletter. Thank you to Mr Xonxa for putting this massive event together. The whole school loved the experience, which took an incredible amount of planning and preparation.



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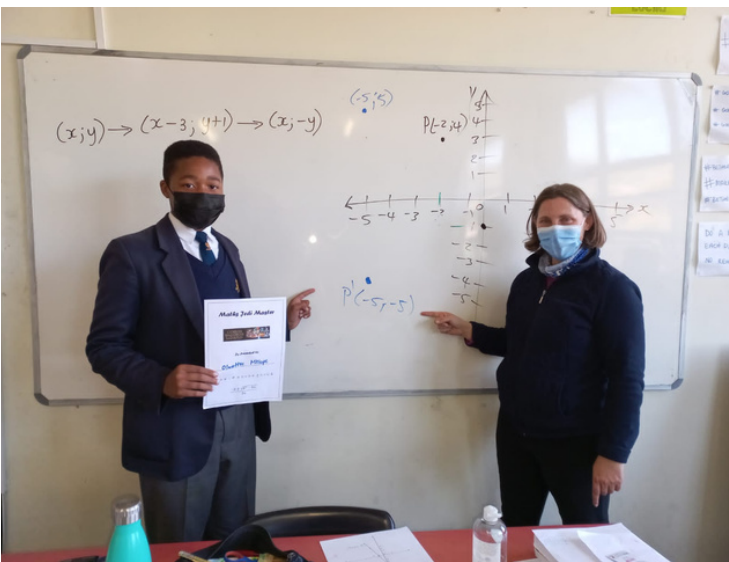
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“Eskom Expo for Young Scientists is an exposition, or science fair, where students have a chance to show others their projects about their own scientific investigations. At the annual prestigious Eskom Expo for Young Scientists International Science 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.”

Scientific knowledge helps us to explain the world around us by understanding how and why things work and predicting what might happen if things change. While many think of science as lab-coated people mixing chemicals in a laboratory, scientists, the people who DO science, are in reality so much more diverse and interesting. And some of the most inquisitive and adventurous scientists are children, due to their inherent curiosity about the world surrounding them. Science is not only knowledge and information, but is also a process of exploring and figuring out - a method called scientific inquiry. One of our young Graemian learners, Ali Mehdi Rizvi, recently undertook an excellent and self motivated journey into scientific inquiry by investigating the role of light sources in plant germination and growth. Ali planned, conducted and analysed experiments to study the effect of sunlight or LED lights on the growth of various plant species and reported his findings as an entry into the Eskom Expo for Young Scientists. His hard work and blossoming scientific skills were rewarded with a well deserved gold medal. Congratulations Ali!

# Grade 9s



Olwethu Mhlope of 9SA wins the Maths Jedi Master award for correctly combining transformational geometry rules. He applied the rules logically and analytically without assistance from his teacher.



# Grade 10s

Landscape painting, also known as landscape art, is the depiction of natural scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, and forests, especially where the main subject is a wide view—with its elements arranged into a coherent composition. Through landscape painting the boys are learning to make connections between their personal experiences and landscapes. Thinking about places they know and "freeze framing" that image in their mind and then creatively expressing that image is what the Grade 10 boys are currently learning in their Art class this week.



Below: Onosizo Ntinga and Aphiwe Mnyanda from Grade 10 are currently at the CSA u17 National Cricket Camp. The whole school, but most especially their grade 10 class, wish them all the success!



# Grade 11s

While learning about the complex process of excretion through the kidneys in Life Science, the Grade 11 boys had an opportunity to dissect and analyse the structure of the mammalian kidney. After a little initial hesitation, the boys became inquisitive and enthusiastic as they started to discover as much as they can from the kidney. It was a great introduction for the students to the kidney and its functions through hands-on dissection and it is the best way for them to study in detail the internal features and physiology of the kidney.



# Community Projects & Fundraising

Our Topes (tubes of hope) have arrived at the office! Please buy your topes at the admin office in the foyer. In September each year, Graeme College commemorates and celebrates Sunflower Day – an opportunity to raise much-needed funds and awareness for life-threatening blood cancers and disorders such as leukaemia, sickle cell disease and aplastic anaemia, among others. It falls on Friday the 17th this year.

The campaign is centred on the sale of a multipurpose accessory called a Tube of Hope (TOPE). All funds raised goes towards helping patients in need of a life-saving blood stem cell (bone marrow) transplant and to grow the patient support programme to help patients who cannot afford the cost of transplant.

Cost remains one of the biggest barriers to transplantation in South Africa. To raise funds the TOPES at just R30 each. A TOPE is an affordable, multipurpose article of clothing that can be worn as a headband, mask, scarf, cap or arm-band. It is used in a wide variety of sports and outdoor activities (and can be an emergency mask when you have left yours at home!) and is available in six eye-catching colours.

The TOPE offers practical functionality and also gives wearers the opportunity to show their support for this important cause. The design is inspired by people taking action to bring hope to patients in need of a stem cell transplant.

As per usual, Graeme College will participate in the national competition. Last time Graeme College came second in South Africa! We are still so very proud to have won that award. We are very much aware of the effects of cancer in our community of Makhanda. Let's support our families and friends! Buy your topes at the school please to help us in our endeavour to once again achieve great heights for a worthwhile cause.

Additionally, we would love you and your family to take a photo wearing the topes, with your son in their school uniform. We would love to add these to the newsletter every week. Below are the photos we have received this week.



# Community Projects & Fundraising

"Behind the scenes of our projects many a tear is shed by the boys and their teachers who witness generosity beyond comprehension"- Ms White, Community and Fundraising Co-ordinator.

The Community Outreach Portfolio had the privilege to volunteer at a local soup kitchen run by Mrs Di Oosthuizen, a parent of Graeme College. The incredible donations received at school from the Graeme College community, helped us to make 622 Jars of Hope!

These were handed out to the visitors of the soup kitchen. The remainder will be used for the next 2 or 3 soup kitchens. It was a humbling experience for the boys. We are incredibly proud of the Graeme boys as they gave up two Saturdays, without complaint, to help put together the Jars of Hope. Ms White would like to personally thank the Grade 9 and Grade 11 volunteers who offered on their own to volunteer yesterday. The kindness and patience they showed towards the visitors to the kitchen was very special. We all know that economic times are difficult, thus in light of this we would like to thank the the Graeme College community (parents and staff) for supporting each and every community project that the school gets involved in. Please know that it is very much appreciated.

We also thank Mr Germiston Mali, our dedicated driver, for always taking us to where we need to go. He is our cornerstone and our biggest fan on all our projects.



- Senior Tennis- Inter-House Results

Hutton beat Vernal by 9 games

Wiles beat Neilson by 37 games

Hutton beat Neilson by 32 games

Final Results - 2021 Inter-House

- 1st Vernal
- 2nd Wiles
- 3rd Hutton
- 4th Neilson
- Well done to the Vernal boys for winning the Shield four times in a row

- Rugby

Please see below the links for the rugby matches this weekend.

\* St Andrews First Team -<https://youtu.be/l85p28ENGN0>

\* St Andrews 2nd Team- <https://youtu.be/w1U-gDJet9U>

\* Grey u16 a- <https://youtu.be/4BkvLjUBoGo>

- Cricket

PLEASE SHARE AND SUPPORT OUR LATEST CRICKET FUNDRAISING PROJECT.

This is a link to Jumpstarter - where we have created a page to raise funds through donations.

<https://bit.ly/GC-Cricket>

JOKER POKER IS BACK!

1st XI Cricket Fundraiser - THE COVID (REMOTELY ORGANISED) VERSION...

All funds received go towards the 1st XI cricket tour costs in 2021.

To summarise, 52 playing cards plus a joker are shuffled and pinned face down on a board. Each week or fortnight, a raffle is held where supporters pay for the opportunity to possibly be the lucky winner who selects a single card from the board. The objective is to select the joker from the playing cards that are pinned faced down, and thereby win the grand prize. Part of the excitement and fun of Joker Poker is that after each unsuccessful card selection the prize jackpots and technically the odds improve with each draw as well. The prize will be carried over to the next draw if the Joker is not turned. Tickets are R10 per draw entry and you are allowed as many entries as you like in each draw. Your ticket will get you into the draws which will be organised by the parent group. The prize is a percentage of all ticket sales and a 5000 litre Eco water tank donated by Eco Tanks and Bucu, which is valued at R7000. That is an incredible prize which will generate a lot of interest in Grahamstown.

Tickets can be bought at the Graemian Centre, School Reception and via the Karri App.



# Pre-Primary

Teddy Bears Picnic 2021 at Pre-Primary:

Guess who has finished hibernating? The teddies (of course!) have been waking up from their long winter nap and in celebration they had a picnic with their owners today. The Pre-school was alive with the joy of having many teddies, of all shapes, sizes, ages and cuteness to share the day with their very excited owners. The weather was perfect for the children and teachers who gathered on Somerset Field, for a picnic snack with their teddies this morning. The children played games and enjoyed the morning thoroughly! This is a favourite annual event for the children.





# Entrepreneur's Day

"The way that we educate our children, will fundamentally influence the world we leave behind for our grandchildren and generations to come." (ANONYMOUS)

The Grade 7s held their very successful Entrepreneur's Day today on Friday, 3 September. There was great excitement as the day dawned and the stalls were set up- nothing could dampen the spirits of the Grade 7s who were eager to make money. There was a wonderful variety of sweets, cakes, toys, games and raffles and even some live animals to feed/pet. Many Grade 7s walked away with impressive profits, already planning how they were going to spend their money. Many of the boys had their first taste of running a small business: working out unit costs, drawing up a business plan, conducting surveys, designing adverts and flyers and many more skills which will stand them in good stead in the future. Well done to all the teachers who assisted them and the children who supported them by buying at the stalls, but mostly to the class of 2021 for a most successful Entrepreneur's Day!





# Entrepreneur's Day



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# Grant House

Last night the hostel boys were taken on a journey of a very different kind. As September is Cancer Awareness month, Miss Morgan White kindly offered to come and speak to the boys about her cancer experience. Miss White shared her story, along with photographs, starting when she found out she had breast cancer to the victorious ringing of the bell after completing the chemotherapy sessions and signing her name on the sunflower wall at the end of her gruelling radiation treatment.

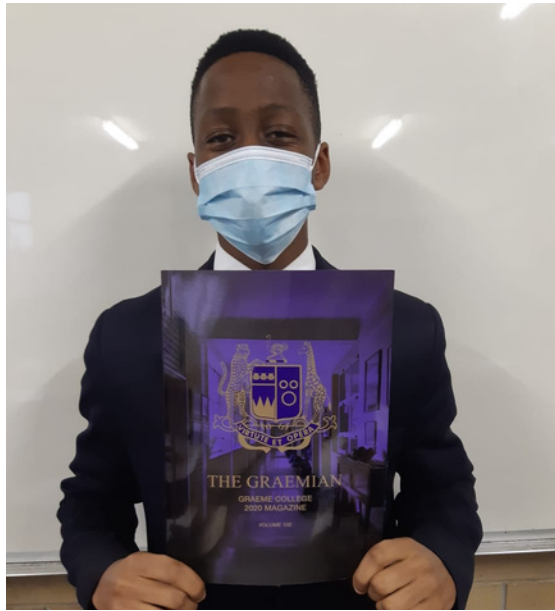
During her talk, Miss White showed the boys photographs of what was happening to her body during her treatment. They were shocked, to say the least.

After hearing how expensive cancer research, treatment and the equipment used for treatment is. they were encouraged to buy Topes (tubes of hope) contributing towards helping patients in need of a life-saving blood stem cell (bone marrow) and assisting those who cannot afford the cost of transplant.

A big shout-out to Miss White for sharing her story, making us all aware of the harsh realities of what cancer and the treatment does to one's body. Once again the boys were reminded never to give up, that even something as dreadful as cancer can be overcome.

This morning at break time some of the boys had already bought their Topes in support of Sunflower Day 2021 and ready to participate in the activities planned for 17 September!





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?



# 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



U13 cricket teams present our  
tour 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:

17 September 2021  
Graemian Centre

### TAKE-AWAY PRE-ORDERS

For pre-orders you can email your  
order to  
[marketing@graemecollege.co.za](mailto:marketing@graemecollege.co.za)

# 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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