



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 17 September 2021

“It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves.” - Edmund Hillary

Message from the Deputy Headmaster

For obvious reasons, I have thought back to the Australian cricket side, dealing with personal trauma after a devastating accident rocked the cricket world. On 25 November 2014, Phil Hughes was struck by a bouncer on the neck, during a first class game in Sydney. The incident caused a vertebral artery dissection and led to a subarachnoid haemorrhage. Hughes underwent surgery, and was placed into an induced coma. Sadly, he never regained consciousness, and died on 27 November.

The left handed opening batsman, made his Test debut in 2009 at the age of 20. He scored his first Test century in March 2009, in his second Test match for Australia. In the second innings of the same match he scored 160, becoming the youngest cricketer in history to score centuries in both innings of a Test match.

In the wake of the incident, his friends struggled to deal with trauma and shock of the sudden event. Obviously, much closer to home, we have had to deal with a different kind of shock over the last two weeks too. This was the statement released by the school:

Rugby Injury Incident - September 2021

"On Monday last week shock waves rippled through the Graeme College family as they were rocked by devastating and unimaginable news.

During a rugby match on Saturday 5 September, a 1st XV player had developed very serious complications as a result of a rugby injury. In a courageous attempt to prevent a try by the opposition, the player had dislocated his knee. The dislocated joint popped back into place but the player was still obviously in significant pain. He was taken to Greenacres Hospital in Gqeberha that day, where x-rays were taken. He was discharged after no fractures were revealed on the x-rays.

It later came to light that, although there was no fracture, there was significant damage to the main artery during the dislocation. This damage had gone undetected upon his first visit to the hospital. On Monday he was rushed back to the hospital, where it was discovered that damage to muscle tissue in his leg was evident. Sadly, the medical staff advised the family of the agonising news that amputation was the only solution.

Upon hearing this news on Tuesday morning, the Graeme College staff were in absolute shock. A number of staff accompanied the family back to Gqeberha on Tuesday morning, thereafter meeting with the 1st XV squad after school, to discuss the details of what had transpired.

A week after the injury, with the family firmly holding onto every ounce of hope, the player underwent the operation (amputation) this past Sunday.

No words of comfort seem enough but our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family, as he recovers from the emotional and physical trauma of this life-changing situation. In support of their team mate, our 1st XV opted not to play the scheduled match against Pearson High School on Saturday."

When discussing the details of the event with our 1st XV rugby side, the intensity of the situation was overwhelming. These young men were immensely affected by the news, and there were obvious similarities with the Australian team working through the even dramatic news about Phil Hughes. It feels impossible right now, but we need to somehow get to the space where we are thankful that the news wasn't even worse. We look forward to welcoming Simnikiwe back, after his recovery. He has always been a massively influential leader at Graeme College, and on his return, he will continue to be an incredible role model. Our thoughts and prayers are obviously with the Bosman family, as they start the recovery process. People can easily underestimate the bonds that are created between the brothers of a sports team. These young men are all hurting; the empathy that they have shown is incredibly powerful. It is another reminder of how special this school is, but is also a reminder of how much education occurs within an extra-mural environment. You could argue that you learn far more (about life, people, society and relationships) in a boarding house, sports field or arts group, than you could ever in a classroom.

Two separate fundraisers have been launched since the incident; please support these if you are able to:

- Just Giving - Crowdfunding
- Old Graemian Trust

Phil Hughes was on 63 not out, when the horrible accident occurred; and the score in so many ways has been a moment on honouring and remembering the star. In a similar way, the Graeme College 1st XV number 12 jersey, will hold a special aura in the future.

G van Molendorff
Deputy Headmaster

GRADE 12 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

The Grade 12s continue with their preliminary examinations this week. 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

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	Accounting Paper 1 2 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.**

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.

DATE	GRADE 8 TEST	GRADE 9 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

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 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.

Debating

Eastern Cape Debating Trials:

This past weekend our Junior and Senior teams took part in the Eastern Cape Provincial Debating Competition, in hopes of being selected as provincial representatives. Graeme College proudly produced two teams for the competition, a senior team comprising of Braam Du toit, Alizwa Gushu and John Hanton and a junior team of Noah Tabensky, Alex Oosthuizen, Lesedi Mothibe, Roman Prevec and Ali Rizvi.

The competition took place over three days and required large amounts of effort from everyone involved.

Graeme College is proud to congratulate Alex Oosthuizen, Noah Tabenski and Roman Prevec, who all were selected to represent the Eastern Cape provincial team.

A special thanks goes to Richard Gowar for his time and effort preparing the debaters and assisting them during the competition.



Grade 9s

It's all about current, voltage and resistance!

Mr Xoki, our Natural Science student teacher visiting from Rhodes University, assisted the Grade 9s as they embarked on a journey of applying the theory related to electrical circuits to practical examples in the laboratory this week.

Wet cell batteries were constructed using galvanized nails, copper wire and vinegar. The current produced was strong enough to make a buzzer sound. Multi-meters were used to determine the conductivity levels of various everyday objects. They also created electromagnets, made of wire wrapped tightly around a nail and connected to a battery, which picked up several pins at a time. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their practical.





Maths Jedi Master certificates were awarded to Grade 10VT Mathematics learners for their first ever test on Analytical Geometry: Sesona Ngwentle (92%), Mustaqeem Al-quadri (97%) and Sithuzele Madondile (98%). Outstanding work from committed mathematicians!



Music

Personality of the Week:

Hlumelo Sifanele:

Hlumelo joined the Graeme College family earlier this term and is in Grade 5LM. He thoroughly enjoys music classes and participates confidently. He is always enthusiastic and eager to bring interesting news about his musical experiences. This past week, he brought his own music file to school and enjoyed sharing and relating what he has learnt at his previous school with what we are doing in class music here. Thank you Hlumelo for sharing your enthusiasm for learning with us!

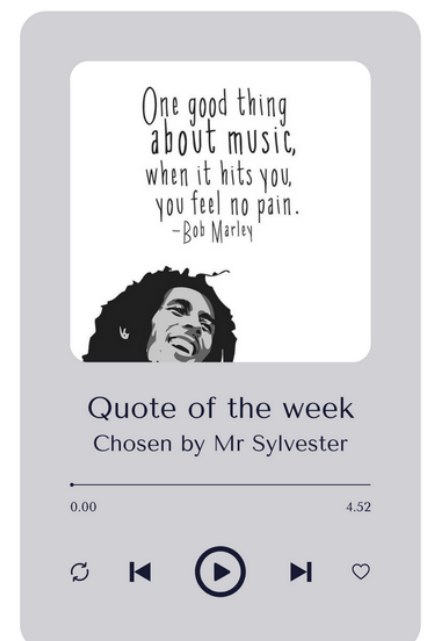


Practice Points:

Practice points are awarded each week to those music students who work hard and practise diligently. Because diligence has a direct correlation to progress, we decided to reward the boys' deserving efforts. The top three practice point scores will receive delicious prizes at the end of the year!

Top scores currently:

- Yolani Jimmy: 15
- Ben Shaw: 13
- Liyo Somnyama: 9





Graeme College Eisteddfod 2021

The music department is very excited to invite our learners to participate in a virtual eisteddfod this year. Learners are urged to get their creativity flowing and to entertain us with their talents! Categories for entries are music, art, prepared speech, poetry and dance. Learners can enter by completing the entry form as per the links below. Registration to enter close on 1 October - the last day of term.

JUNIOR SCHOOL: <https://forms.gle/cvTmAn7Sph2g77ub6>

SENIOR SCHOOL: <https://forms.gle/C8nT8UawHqknxLBQ6>

These links are for registration only. Please don't send videos or final entries yet: instructions on how and where to upload or hand in your entries will be posted in the newsletter next week.

All entries will be adjudicated by objective adjudicators from the broader Makhanda community who are experts in the respective entry categories. The adjudicators will provide each participant with comments and achievement certificates in bronze, silver, gold and double gold categories.

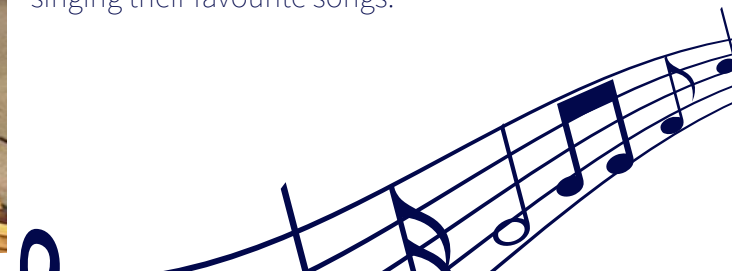
By entering, boys will be supporting their houses and the music department! They will support their houses in that each entry will earn 1 house point, while certificate awards will earn house points as follows: bronze - 2 points; silver - 5 points; gold - 7 points; double gold - 10 points. Which house will win the GC 2021 Eisteddfod? Boys will also support the music department's fundraising goals. An entry fee of R5 is payable at the school bursar and will serve as a fundraising event towards upgrades in the music department. We are saving up to increase the number of instruments so that instrumental musicianship can be included in the class music curriculum. We are also saving up towards sound-proofing our teaching and practise rooms, as well as for the general beautifying of our spaces.

We are so excited to receive your entries!

The Music Department Team



The Grade 00 boys had a chance to play on the xylophones and metallophones this week. They learnt how to hold the mallets and where to play on the instrument to create good resonance. They loved keeping to the beat on the instruments whilst singing their favourite songs.



Community Projects & Fundraising

Sunflower Day 2021:

This year it was decided that a bigger focus on cancer awareness is necessary for the school body. To achieve our goal of creating cancer awareness, boys were encouraged to buy topes to donate much needed funds to the Sunflower Fund.

We educated the boys on what the different colours of cancer ribbons stand for. Which cancers they represent. Next we asked the boys to make signs for who they would be walking for to encourage mindfulness of why we support Sunflower Day. We encouraged the boys to go home to discuss their signs with their parents, grandparents and guardians. This gave the boys valuable insight into their own families and friendship circles.

The day started off with a man-made ribbon on Somerset Field. The purpose of the ribbon is to show Graeme College's support of all cancers and to show our commitment and support to our community.

Thereafter the school split up into various locations to do the big walk for (against) cancer. It was truly a heartwarming sight to see young men of Graeme College participate so willingly and with so much pride.

Grade 00 to Grade 11 participated in today's events. That is amazing when we think that we are creating cancer awareness from 4 year olds to 17 year olds.

Our previous record of topes sold was 850 topes. That is incredible! That translates into R24 000 to the Sunflower Fund for treatment and research. Well done specifically to the Grade R class won the tope competition with the purchasing of 54 topes.

Ms White (Organiser of Sunflower Day) would like to thank the following people for helping to make Sunflower Day such a huge success:

Mr Mike Wisch who operated the drone to capture footage of the man-made ribbon.

Mr Clint Berriman who laid out the outline of the ribbon on Somerset Field.

Ms Busi Stamper and Mrs Mary Siebritz who sold the topes at the office.

The staff of Graeme College who helped on the day.

The Graeme College family who support our campaigns.

Mr Kevin Watson who allows us to continue with our community outreach campaigns.

Our art teacher who made the banner: Ms Candice Janse Van Rensburg.

Mr Sean Killian for organising the topes.

One thing remains clear at Graeme College: our school, time after time shows its commitment and care to the community. Our parents and learners give when they have very little to give. We appreciate it more than you know.

Congratulations to all!

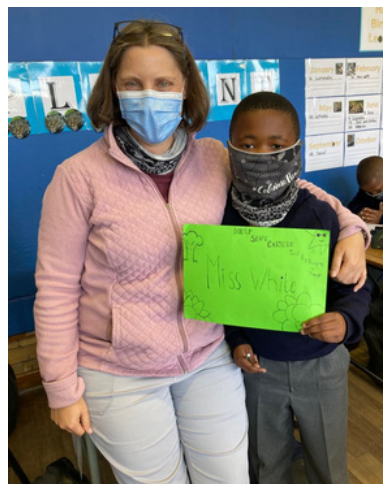
Community Projects & Fundraising



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

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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

- 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 Buco, 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. Draws for the Joker will be made on the following dates:

- Wed 29 September (16h30)
- Fri 15 October (16h30)
- Fri 29 October (16h30)

*All draws will be held at the Graemian Centre. This gives you several opportunities to win the grand prize. Social Media videos of draws will be held - you dont need to be present; you will be contacted telephonically.



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Sports

- Rugby

Graeme College hosted Bedford Country School in two friendly matches of rugby yesterday.

It was a very enjoyable experience for all the boys involved and both the Graeme sides did exceptionally well winning both games comfortably! The sun came out for the matches, just in time too. Pictured are the U9 and U12 teams.



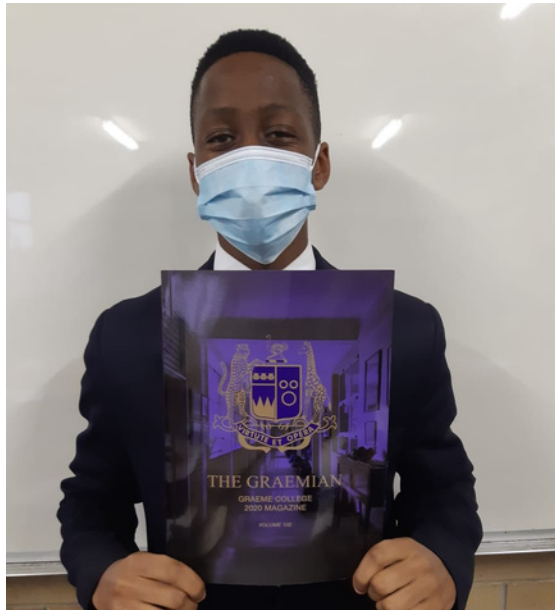
Below is one of staff members, Mr Fischer who went straight from a UNISA exam to the side of the field to teach rugby. That's commitment!



Pre-Primary

A little sea of navy was seen on Somerset Field as the Leopard Cubs took to walking on the field today in support of DKMS, non-profit organisation that fights blood diseases like Leukaemia through the recruitment of stem cell donors. The boys each wore their own colourful tope and also had a sign on their uniforms, in support of family members or friends who are/have been affected by cancer. They also joined the junior and high school boys in creating the human ribbon. We are so proud of our little pre-primary boys for making such a big effort to buy topes and for wanting to support this special cause. We are also very proud of the Grade R boys who have won the class competition for buying the most topes.





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

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

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

CLOSING DATE
WEDNESDAY 29 SEPT 2021



**CHARACTER
DRESS UP
DAY**

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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