



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 26 November 2021

"Only when we have become nonviolent towards all life will we have learned to live well with others." - Cesar Chavez

Message from the Deputy Headmaster

It is so easy to get frustrated with the roaming animals in our small town. From rubbish bags, to traffic issues to garden 'invasions'... we often misdirect our anger/ frustration towards them. That is often more about a control issue with regards to municipal governance, and sadly we take it out on the animals. It is often a battle keeping stray animals out of the Graeme College campus too. I did pause though and had a smile driving past the school, watching a group of donkeys strolling past. Then, a day later I saw a story on my social media feed of a donkey sanctuary called 'Rest Ur Ass' in Johannesburg.

The story was about a donkey named Grace, and the extent to what people did to help her recently. On 25 September this year, the sanctuary received a call about an abandoned young donkey, which was pregnant and seemed to have a fractured leg. She was in Mpumalanga, about 250 km away from the sanctuary. The distance didn't stop the staff at the sanctuary, and the next morning they drove to go pick her up. They put her in a makeshift sling in a horsebox to keep the weight off her leg. X Rays confirmed a clean break, and the normal protocol would have then been to euthanize her. They wanted to give the young donkey a chance, and requested help from the Equine Clinic at Onderstepoort. Although not usually done, they opted to put 2 plates and 18 pins in her leg, during a 7 hour surgery. Sadly all the trauma meant that she had a miscarriage. Grace was at the clinic for 4 weeks.

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The five year old donkey was discharged on 23 October 2021 into the care of the sanctuary, with a six week rest period. The Tshanwe Metro police even helped Grace to get to the sanctuary; she had a police escort to avoid the stopping and starting of the vehicle. It is expected that Grace will now have a long life ahead of her.

So of course, when I read this, I thought about our donkeys roaming the streets of Makhanda. And even more so, it made me think of The Donkey's Cross...

“Bring me the colt of a donkey”, was the Master's request.

A young donkey was brought to Jesus to carry Him into Jerusalem.

A week later Jesus was ordered crucified.

The little donkey so loved the Lord that he wanted to help Him carry the cross. But alas, he was pushed away.

The sad little donkey waited to say goodbye until nearly all had left. As he turned to leave, the shadow of the cross fell upon his back and shoulders. And there it remained, a tribute to the loyalty and love of the humblest of God's creatures.

I hope our community can share the same love for our donkeys as displayed in the story about Grace. Maybe we can just start with patience, empathy and care. I hope our community always looks after their welfare as well. The love that our animals have for us is so incredible; hopefully we don't neglect them when they need us most. And hence, the powerful story of a community helping Grace. As Cesar Chavez suggested - if we can't treat animals with respect, how could we ever then treat each other with respect.



Click on this link clip below, and decide for yourself if the donkey is laughing at the dog...

[Laughing Donkey?](#)

Gregg van Molendorff
Deputy Headmaster

Academics

REPORT COLLECTION

Thursday 9 December 2021 (Junior School) & Friday 10 December (Senior School) (TBC)

Any queries regarding outstanding school fee accounts must be cleared with Mrs Bradfield in the Finance Office before the report collection deadline. Please also note that NO reports will be posted.

Parents and Guardians please ensure that your boys return all outstanding textbooks, library books and equipment to the relevant staff member.

LEARNERS LEAVING GRAEME COLLEGE AT THE END OF 2021

A final reminder that, should your child be leaving our school at the end of this year, we need written notification as soon as possible, if you have not already done so, in order that the necessary Transfer Card can be timeously prepared and included with the school report. Please specify which school your child will be attending in 2022.

Music



The Grade 12's practical marks are in! We had a very talented group of music students this year and their results show it. Please note these are all of our music subject matric boys. No one has been left out, everyone did extremely well!

Giovanni Daniels - 76%

Xolisa Foley - 82%

Lubabalo Mkhathali - 75%

Bayanda Mthetho - 88%

Loyiso Nyoka - 87%

We are incredibly proud of these results. The matrics have been working hard with Ms Coetzer and Mr Appollis to achieve these amazing results. The bar has been set for next years matrics!

Below: Congratulations to Jesse McConnachie on passing the Gr 1 Saxophone examination at Kingswood College last week! Jesse only started with saxophone lessons earlier this year, which makes his 73% achievement in this exam even more commendable. Well done, Jesse! You make us proud!



The MUSIC
is all around us.
All we have to do
is LISTEN.

Quote of the week

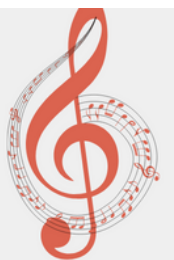
Chosen by Mr Appollis

0.00

4.52



Celebrity Music Birthdays



November:

26th

Tina Turner (1939)

DJ Khaled (1975)

Natasha Bedingfield (1981)

Kat DeLuna (1987)

Rita Ora (1990)

28th:

Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632)

Chamillionaire (1979)

Trey Songs (1984)

30th:

Billy Idol (1955)

27th:

Jimi Hendrix (1972)

Johann Stammsitz (1750)

Twista (1973)

The Game (1979)



Final assembly

On Thursday the school had a final assembly and it also marked the occasion to say farewell to Mr Riddin. Everyone wished 'goodbye' with heavy hearts. The boys also participated in a special war cry for Mr Riddin. If school spirit is the heart of a school, then the pupils at Graeme are its beating rhythm!



Final assembly

Some more scenes from Graeme College students, teachers and staff wishing Mr Riddin farewell at a special school assembly this week.



Ballroom Dancing



Ballroom Dancing results: Ballroom dancing annual grading was held on the 3rd of October 2021. Jeandre van Niekerk (Left) received Highly Commended for Beginner - Slow Rhythm, Boogie and Cha-Cha. Devon Fincham (Right) received Honours for Level 1 - Slow Waltz, Slow Rhythm, Tango, East Coast Swing, Mambo, Rumba and Cha-Cha. Ballroom and Latin-American dancing is offered as an extra-curricular activity by Francois van Eck (middle), local Dance Instructor.

Grade 4s

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! The Grade 4 boys are definitely in full Christmas spirit as they make Christmas decorations to decorate their class tree. It is all about creative decorations that bring joy and fun memories!



- Cricket

It's has been an incredible month of cricket at Graeme College. Our 1st XI put the cherry on the cake, by winning the Shaw/ Brown T20 tournament this weekend.

The Shaw/ Brown T20 tournament is a hotly contested dual between the derby schools in Makhanda. To win it, you need to find a way to beat the other two schools. What we had this weekend was a sensational display of school boy cricket from all three sides. The Graeme College 1st XI is by far the youngest and least experienced, and that is one of the most exciting elements. There are no Grade 12s in the team, which bodes so well for the new year.

Graeme played St Andrew's first on Friday, on a slow Gane Field pitch. Graeme won the toss and elected to bat, but immediately found conditions incredibly difficult. St Andrew's were superb in the powerplay and Graeme just couldn't find scoring opportunities. Liselihle Maphekula however, managed to bat through virtually the entire innings, which gave his team a small chance of victory. His innings of 59 showed incredible maturity and skill. Graeme ended on 109 all out. Chris Birrell and Joe Wostenhom picked up two wickets each for St Andrew's.

The powerplay was going to be crucial again, and the experienced Jurie Norval hurt Graeme upfront with 26 runs off 18 balls. Zack Mickelwright also batted well scoring 28 off 35. In fact, Graeme seemed dead and buried after the powerplay. The bowling attack though was simply sensational on the day. Possibly inch perfect - and they had very little choice if they wanted to compete. That meant there was always pressure on the St Andrew's batsmen. Despite some incredible bowling, it was still St Andrews' game to win. A superb period for Graeme saw Viwe Gane (2 for 16 in 4) and Christiano Jasson (2 for 16 in 4) bring some parity back to the game, which then Aphiwe Mnyanda turned completely upside down. If ever you wanted to see a national player make a difference in a match, you need not have looked any further. He picked up 3 wickets in the 17th over which gave Graeme the momentum for the first time in the match. Mnyanda ended with 3 for 18 after his 4 overs.

Morne Kohl's captaincy was sublime as he trusted his instinct. The slow nature of the pitch, put St Andrew's under severe pressure at the back of the innings. Maybe more important than the result, was the sensational conclusion for the neutral spectator to watch from the side. St Andrew's needed 9 runs going into the last over, which included a nick past the keeper for 4, and free-hit no ball. Lagon Oerson did brilliantly to keep his nerve in the final over, leaving St Andrew's 5 runs short.

The St Andrew's batsmen enjoyed the change to City Lords for their game against Kingswood next. They posted a daunting 172 for 5 in their 20 overs. Norval again doing the damage with 85 off 50 balls. Sam Frances contributed with a whirlwind 34 off 18 balls to propel SAC to an impressive score. Ben Hough and Angus Johns picked up 2 wickets each for Kingswood.

Kingswood didn't manage to find the momentum that they needed early in the innings and the loss of regular wickets meant they were going to struggle chasing down the imposing target. Johns (21) and Hough (36 not out) completed a good all round performance on the day.

St Andrew's ending up winners by 49 runs, with Matthew Pope (3 for 29), Thomas Vermaak (2 for 18) and Jurie Norval (2 for 25) being the most successful bowlers.

That meant that Graeme needed to beat Kingswood to win the tournament. Kingswood won the toss in the last match and elected to bat. Graeme couldn't find the same clinical approach in the field, although they still managed to control the momentum for the first 10 overs.

Oscar Welsh (41 off 42) was again superb as he fought back and got Kingswood to a decent score. Brad Goss had an outstanding match, and contributed a vital 21 off 22 balls. Kingswood were bowled out for 120, which should have been a below par score on City Lords... but cricket is never that easy. Christiano Jasson was incredibly tight, finishing with 2 for 16 in his four overs. Viwe Gana picked up 2 for 22 and Connor Pieterse 2 for 5 in 2 overs.

Some superb bowling and outstanding fielding, showed that Kingswood definitely weren't going to go down without a fight. The two Kingswood spinners, pulled the game back, and created pressure on the Graeme batsmen. Goss ended with 3 for 16 in his 4 overs and Welsh 1 for 15 in his 4. It required Ethan Beyleveld to almost rescue Graeme, as they needed 26 from the last 18 balls with 5 wickets in hand.

Sports

Beyleveld duly delivered with a quick-fire 14 off 9 balls to swing the momentum back in Graeme's favour. It was Onosizo Ntinga though, who took a leaf out of Maphekula's book in the St Andrew's game, which was the difference between the sides in the end. The opening batsman carried his bat through the innings, scoring 38 not out off 55 balls. He hit a crucial six in the penultimate over, and then caressed a majestic cover drive for four at the start of the 20th over to seal the win by four wickets.

With that win, Graeme managed to claim the Shaw/ Brown trophy for the second time. It was an incredible weekend showcasing outstanding schoolboy cricket. The young Graeme men can be so incredibly proud of their achievement!

Summary of scores:

Graeme College vs St Andrew's College

Graeme 109 all out.

Liselihle Maphekula 59

Joe Wostenham 2 for 18

Chris Birrell 2 for 24

St Andrew's 104 all out

Zack Mickelwright 28

Jurie Norval 26

Aphiwe Mnyanda 3 for 18

Christiano Jasson 2 for 16

Viwe Gana 2 for 16

Graeme won by 5 runs.



St Andrew's College vs Kingswood College

St Andrew's 172/ 5 after 20 overs

Jurie Norval 85

Sam Frances 34

Angus Johns 2 for 30

Ben Hough 2 for 43

Kingswood 123 all out

Ben Hough 36*

Angus Johns 21

St Andrew's won by 49 runs.

Graeme College vs Kingswood College

Kingswood 120 all out

Oscar Welsh 40

Brad Goss 20

Connor Pieterse 2 for 5

Christiano Jasson 2 for 16

Viwe Gana 2 for 22

Graeme 123/6

Onosizo Ntinga 38 not out

Mihlali Kobese 19

Brad Goss 3 for 16

Oscar Welsh 1 for 16

Graeme won by 4 wickets.



Left: U11A cricket star...

The way cricket averages work - is a simple formula - runs are divided by how many times you go out. Well if you only go out once... you end with an incredible average of 594, like Connor Holder did this term. Connor scored 83 not out vs Sunridge, 85 not out vs Kingswood, 105 not out against the Alice Hub and 100 not out against Herbert Hurd.



Right: The House system is of great importance to school life. Its function is to inculcate the spirit of healthy competition among students and encourage it within school. The inter - House activities give all students the opportunity to participate in representative sport, music and other activities with the aim of raising self esteem, developing self-confidence and giving opportunities for leadership and teamwork beyond those already available within school.

Here is our Notch shield winner for the 4th term 2021 - Hutton House!

Below: The juniors finished off their season last week . These boys all achieved certificates for their performances.



Sports

U13A Fathers vs sons was enjoyed by all. Seen here is Captain Rhys Wiblin winning the toss and choosing to bat first. The boys managed to win by 1 run! So close and exhilarating! The following pictures are of some stunning scenes from the match.



Sports

More scenes below- this has all the feels. These special games show just how important these relationships can be and how special a father's bond with their son is- especially when playing sport together.



Pre-School

Our Pre-school children told the Christmas story tonight, to the delight of their parents, siblings and grandparents and friends of Graeme College, at the Framer Brown's Christmas Party. A spectacular performance was delivered by the children who narrated and sang with passion, energy and enthusiasm. The children joyfully presented their version of the traditional nativity and they all certainly evidenced that we have much talent that will sparkle and shine in the future. Thank you parents and friends for the support you always provide and for your positive and glowing comments about our performance. Thank you very much to the parents who helped with costumes, stage decor and set up! Thank you to the teachers involved who nurture and guide, bringing out all the children's unique talent. What a fun and very special time of year for our youngest children.



Term Diary

November 2021

Fri	19	Pre Primary Orientation Day (13h00) Matric Exam - Life Sciences (P1) Shaw/ Brown T20 Cricket
Sat	19-20	Shaw/ Brown T20 Cricket
Mon	22	Matric Exam - Life Sciences (P2)
Tues	23	Matric Exam - isiXhosa FAL (P2) and History (P2) Development Trust Meeting
Wed	24	Matric Exam - Accounting (P2)
Thurs	25	Matric Exam - Afrikaans FAL (P2)
Fri	26	Matric Exam - CAT (Theory) (P2) Grade R & 00 Nativity Play (17h00)
Mon	29	Matric Exam - English (P3)
Tues	30	Matric Exam - isiXhosa FAL (P3)

December 2021

Wed	1	Matric Exam - Afrikaans FAL (P3)
Thurs	2	Matric Exam - Music Theory (P1)
Mon	6	Matric Exam - Music Comprehension (P2)
Fri	9/10	Handing out of Reports (TBC)

Stay Connected

- Link to Graeme College Google Calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r?cid=public.calendar@graemecollege.co.za>

Do you follow Graeme College on the following platforms?

- Instagram:

@graemecollege

@graemeboys

- Facebook:

Graeme College

- 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/GCcovidQ>
- 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.