



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 13 May 2022

“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.” - Vincent Van Gogh
&
“While it may seem small, the ripple effects of small things is extraordinary.” - Matt Bevin

Message from the Headmaster

Banner photo: Teacher Mrs Greyling captured this beautiful picture of sunset over the autumnal trees on campus, on her way to tennis.

What an amazing day the FNB Classic Clash against St Andrew’s College turned out to be! The courage displayed by Graemians on the day was a revelation and the teams that came from behind to win learnt lessons that will remain with them forever. As a whole, the day was a huge success and we thank everyone who played a part in it. The relationship between the two schools is incredible, and that was very clear to see throughout the rugby games during the course of the day. Every game was incredibly close - but not once was there an altercation on the field. It is one of the oldest derby fixtures in the country - and with that comes immense pride and respect between the schools. We are blessed to have a community so loyal to their school and what we stand for.

Over the last 2 years the rugby coaches have set up a number of measurable criteria in the game and these weekly stats are displayed on the notice board for the boys and teams to analyse. Training systems are then adapted to improve on weaknesses and reinforce positive gains. By scrutinizing the many facets of the game, coaches are now seeing an overall improvement and development of our young players.

Similarly, in order to develop our academic performance, we need to start analysing classroom performance and behaviour too. There are so many small things that can be improved upon: all geared at developing a better end product. Aspects such as: punctuality, homework, handing in of assignments, test performance, following through on promises, commitment and work ethic are just a few of the issues that might be examined in this analysis. Often the Graemians forget that they will not be measured on their sporting ability alone. There are important values that are learnt at school which help one succeed in the wider world.

We need our boys to realize that their school opportunities can only be capitalized on if all these small issues are addressed.

Kevin Watson

Academics

Mathematics Support

Mrs Boynton has kindly offered to give Mathematics support classes after school on Mondays to Thursdays from 13h45 - 14h45 in her classroom. Boys will be given an opportunity to do their Mathematics homework with guidance from a teacher. Any boy from Grade 9 - 12 who got less than 60% for Mathematics at the end of Term 1 is encouraged to attend these sessions.

Please note: Grade 6 extra Maths is every Thursday 13:30-14:15

Grade 7 extra maths is every Tuesday 13:30-14:15

COVID resurgence in schools

We ask parents to be sensitive, cautious but not to panic in the current space. It seems that because of a lack of sensitivity from visitors to our campus - some of our staff were exposed to covid and have been booked off as a result. As usual - please do not send your son to school if he is showing the usual symptoms. What does complicate it - is the fact there are the seasonal flu issues that are concurrent in this space. Hence the request for patience and not panic with regards to the current situation. As always - the school will monitor this very closely.



Rhodes University Enrichment Programme

On Wednesday, 11 May Dr Boudina McConnachie presented the second part of her programme on music and copyright law. In this session, she focussed specifically on the South African music scene and some of the interesting cases that have come to light. It was a truly wonderful presentation and was thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended it. The next course to be presented will come out of a different university faculty, so watch the newsletter for more details.

End of Term Assessment Schedule

The Grade 8 - 12s will write formal assessments. These will take either the form of a test or examination series. The timetable for these assessments is included with this newsletter. Please pay very careful attention to the starting time for each assessment. For Grade 10, 11 and 12 the exams sometimes have different starting times.



- Steelband rehearsal times:

Monday: 14h00 - 14h30 Beginner Steelband (Grade 8)

14h30 - 15h00 Intermediate Steelband (Grade 9)

Tuesday: 13h30 - 14h15 Senior A Steelband

14h15 - 15h00 Senior B Steelband (Grade 10)

Friday: 14h00 - 15h00 Senior A Steelband

- Choir

Junior choir: Tuesdays 13:30-14:30

Senior Choir: Thursdays 13:00-14:30

- New marimba times:

Marimba A:

Mondays at 14h00-15h00

Marimba B:

Tuesdays at 13h30-14h15

Marimba C:

at 13h30 - 14h15

New practise points earned this week:

Ben Shaw 3

Gabriel Corrêa 3

Yolani Jimmy 2

Junaid Douglas 2

Bongi Toto 3

Morgan Prevec 2



Celebrity Music Birthdays



MAY

13

Ritchie Valens (1941)

Stevie Wonder (1950)

14

Claudio Monteverdi (1567)

Shalati Joseph Khosa (1936)

16

Liberace (1919)

Janet Jackson (1966)

17

Erik Satie (1866)

Enya (1961)

18

Nadia Nakai (1980)

19

Grace Jones (1948)

Sam Smith (1992)

20

Joe Cocker (1944)

Cher (1946)

Busta Rhymes (1972)



SAC/ DSG Music Festival

The Music Department will be participating in the SAC/ DSG Music Festival from Monday 16 May to Thursday 19 May. The programme is as follows:

- Monday 16 May 08h00 - Solo performances at David.Wynne Music School, St Andrews College
- 16h30 - Choir performances at Centenary Hall, St Andrews College
- Tuesday 17 May 19h00 - Ensemble performances at Centenary Hall, St Andrews College
- Wednesday 18 May 19h00 - Ensemble performances at Centenary Hall, St Andrews College
- Thursday 19 May 19h00 Gala Concert at Centenary Hall, St Andrews College

Junior School



Left: Graemian spirit- Giles Griffin picked up a substantial amount of money on the playground and handed it in. These are the acts that make Graeme College such a special place!

Right: Tshepo Molefe and Michael Nyandoro, both in Grade 7, are our Graemians of the Week. They have been nominated for being consistently courteous, giving of their best and having a great work ethic. Well done boys, keep it up, we are proud of you!



Below: Sithuthu Madondile and Kevin Bodie joined Mr Pretorius and Mr Swift on a visit today to their alma mater, Yellowwoods. The boys did a fantastic job in sharing their experiences at Graeme College having transitioned from Yellowwoods. Our group had a lovely morning in the company of the passionate principal, Mrs Julie Sparks. It was wonderful to visit such a vibrant school community. We wish Mrs Sparks and her staff all the best for the remainder of the year. Well done to Sithuthu and Kevin for being such outstanding ambassadors for their school.



Grade 4

"It always seems impossible until it's done" and "Be the change you want to see in the world"- these are two very famous quotes from two great leaders. The Grade four boys have been learning about what it is to be a leader and the difference between a leader and an exceptional leader. We learnt the characteristics of great leaders and who better to learn from than two very well know leaders; Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi. The boys could not believe some of the things these amazing men gave up in their lives to see change in their own country. Madiba and Gandhi are true role models of what it takes to not just be a leader but a great one and to be remembered.

Who Was Mahatma?
Let me tell you!

Full Name: Mahandas Karamchand Gandhi
Famous For: helping a great leader

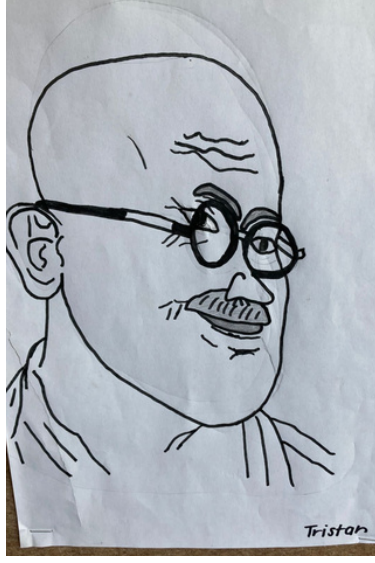
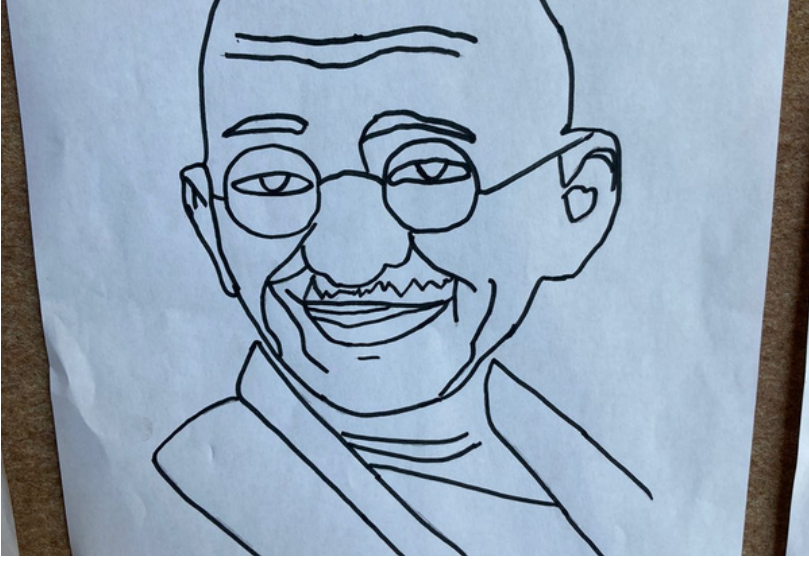
Childhood
Place of Birth: Porbandar
Birth Date: 2 October 1869

Key Life Events
became an lawyer
and started the non-violent protest
to get equal rights

Lessons We Can Learn
to never give up
and to be a role model

Major Accomplishments
the international leader
because he was the first
of Mahatma Gandhi

Quote:
Be the change you want to see in the world



Who Was Madiba?
Let me tell you!

Full Name: Nelson Mandela
Famous For: fighting for freedom

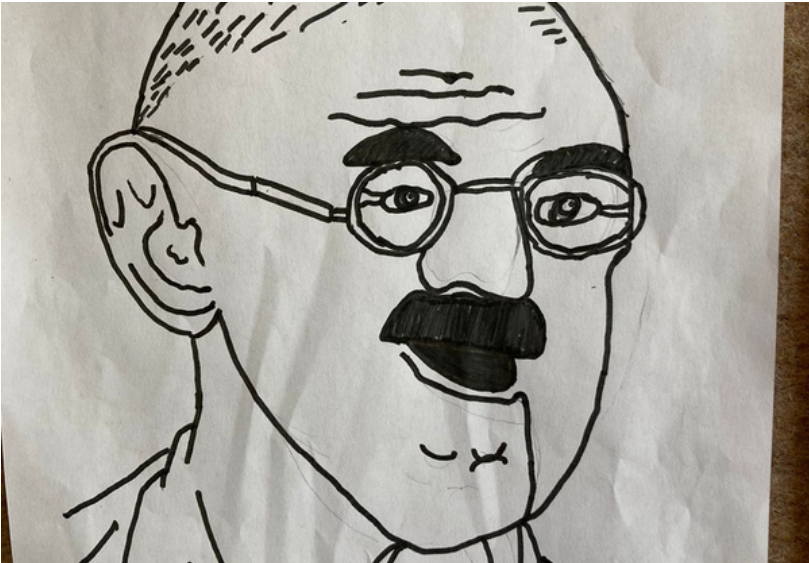
Childhood
Place of Birth: Mvego
Birth Date: 18 July 1918

Key Life Events
became a lawyer
leader of A.P.C.
became president of South Africa

Lessons We Can Learn
Never give up
Don't lose hope
Nothing is impossible

Major Accomplishments
He won Nobel peace prize
became leader of the ANC
he became the president of south africa in 1994

Quote:
It always seems impossible until it's done



Who Was Mandela?
Let me tell you!

Full Name: Nelson Mandela
Famous For: becoming a leader

Childhood
Place of Birth: Quthub in Natal
Birth Date: 18 July 1918

Key Life Events
He was a good leader
and he always seems impossible until it's done

Lessons We Can Learn
help others
good person

Major Accomplishments
Becoming president and leader

Quote:
It always seems impossible until it's done

Who Was Madiba?
Let me tell you!

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Famous For: fighting for freedom

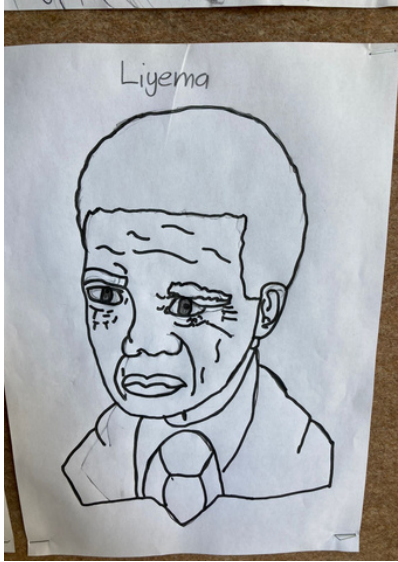
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Grade 5

The Grade 5s made family trees (UMITHI WOSAPHO) for Isixhosa this term. These above boys got 75% and above. Well done boys on your concerted effort.



Grade 7

The Grade 7 IsiXhosa class visited the Albany Museum to learn about the isiXhosa nation and kingdom. June is known as the month “eyeSilimela” which will mark the month of planting and New Year in the Xhosa calendar. The class had chosen IsiXhosa as a first additional language for the first time at the start of year.



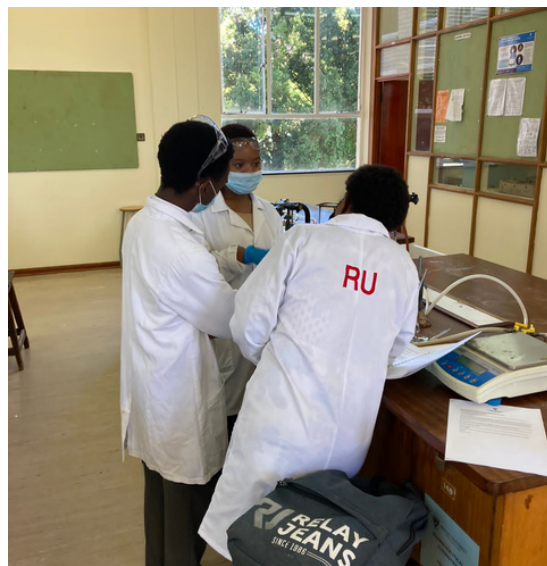
Grade 9

The Grade 9s have been doing an experiment on seeing what conditions cause rusting to occur. This is part of learning about how metals and oxygen react to form metal oxides. The experiment involved placing nails made of iron in different conditions and monitoring how much, if any, rust developed. Term 2 is all about chemistry for the Grade 9s in Natural Science.



Science

The physical science boys were invited to participate in a second year organic chemistry practical at Rhodes yesterday afternoon. They were able to experience working in a proper science lab (with lab coats, gloves and safety goggles!) and synthesised their own dyes using a coupling reaction, under the supervision of the second year chemistry students. The dyes that they made were then used to make colourful tie-dye T-shirts. It was a great opportunity to see chemistry in action and get a taste for what science at university is all about. We are very grateful to the chemistry department at the university for inviting us along and including us in this academically enriching opportunity!



Debating

It's a new year and a new chance for Graeme's talented young debaters to prove themselves in this year's debating league. Graeme hosts some of the best young argumentative talent in South Africa and this year we aim to fully embrace its place amongst some of the best schools in the country. This year the debating league will take place under a different format. There will no longer be a single school hosting weekly, but rather schools will be expected to organise their own competitions. This will simplify the strain placed on hosting schools and allow for a more flexible schedule for the students involved.

The debating League got off to an excellent start as our seniors and juniors were placed against Kingswood College for their first-round opponents. Each team proved itself while standing up to the challenge, managing to sweep Kingswood and highlight Graeme College as the school to beat. Graeme would like to state how proud we are of the debaters and their achievements throughout the pandemic and positive attitude towards the sport of debating. Graeme is fortunate enough to have excellent students with a dedicated coach working together to ensure a healthy and happy atmosphere amongst the teams.

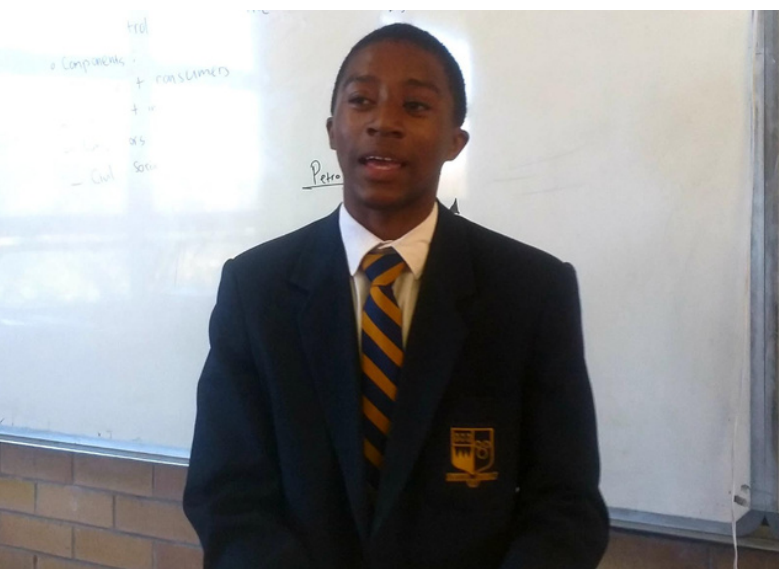
Graeme College will be facing Port Alfred High School this weekend with the aim of replicating the good results of the previous weekend. All parents and spectators are welcome to come support or cheer on the teams.

Debating coach is Mr. R. Gowar and the Management is Mr. J. Pennie.

Below: Both Senior and junior debating teams.

Below left: Anga Maci illustrates his debating talent.

Below right: Noah Tabensky during the juniors debates on Monday.



Hockey

Hockey Results:

1st XI vs SAC u16A: lost 3-0

2nd vs KC 3rd: won 2-0

u15A vs KC: u16C won 6-0

Hockey Fixtures:

Friday 20 May

u11A vs SAP (14h45) - Webster

u13B vs SAP (15h30) - Webster

u13A vs SAP (16h15) - Webster

Wednesday 18 May

Senior School matches vs Grey

Rugby

Graeme College played St Andrew's College last weekend in the FNB Classic Clash on campus. The relationship between the two schools is incredible, and that was very clear to see throughout the rugby games during the course of the day. Every game was incredibly close - but not once was there an altercation on the field. It is one of the oldest derby fixtures in the country - and with that comes immense pride and respect between the schools.

Senior School Results vs St Andrews:

U14C won 36-0

U14B won 38-5

U14A won 22-10 (pictured below)

U15B lost 27-8

U15A lost 22-18

U16B lost 19-18

U16A lost 19-18

5ths won 17-10

4ths lost 26-22

3rds lost 19-14

2nd won 19-17

1st won 11-5

Junior School Rugby results:

u13A vs Port Alfred u13A won 51-0

u13B vs St Mary's u13A won 28-0

u11A vs Port Alfred u11A won 48-0

u11B vs St Mary's u11A lost 0-10

u9A vs St Mary's u9A won 21-10



Rugby

Some stunning visuals of the U14A who won 22-10 against St Andrew's College.



Rugby

Well done to the 1st team who won 11-5. Here are a few picture shots of them in action.



Rugby

Well done to the U13A team with a 50-0 win against Port Alfred. Rugby is bringing them together, building their character, improving their fitness and strength, while learning to play one of the greatest games in the world!



Rugby

Incredible gesture ahead of the 1st XV game... St Andrew's donate R20 000 towards the Simnikiwe Bosman Trust. So special!

In this fixture a year ago, Simnikiwe's life changed after a dislocated knee eventually led to the horrible circumstances resulting in the amputation. Today he proudly stood, alongside the Head of each school - as St Andrew's donated towards his rehabilitation fund. It is just indicative of the proud relationship between the two schools.

This is one of the oldest derby fixtures in the country - and the respect between the two schools is immense.



Community Outreach Project

The community outreach boys want to do a very special drive this term. To welcome their new sister (Lilly) to Graeme College they would like to do a drive to collect items for the home that Lilly came from.

Obviously with the sensitive nature of the situation we cannot actually use the name of the home where Lilly came from for confidentiality purposes. The boys would like to call this drive "Lilly's Home".

Having been in the home they require anything baby related such as clothing, wipes, bath products, washing powder and staysoft.

There will also be a raffle to win a prize of R500 worth of dry goods. Tickets will be R5.

All items must please be made for the attention of Dr Shaw.

The class that donates the most items will receive a prize.



Calendar

Link to Graeme College Google Calendar:

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

Stay Connected

Do you follow us 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 the school should you have any queries.