



Founded: 1873

Templeton Drive
P O Box 281
Grahamstown
6140

Telephone 046 – 6227227
Fax 046 – 6227491

Graeme College's Vision Statement

"To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential."

NEWSLETTER – Friday 4 August 2017

"Character may be manifested in the great moments, but it is made in the small ones." ~ Phillips Brooks

During the week, I was sent an interesting article written by Neil Rollings during the week and I thought our community would enjoy reading an extract from it. In many South African schools, winning seems to have become more important than participation. Furthermore, sport seems to have become more important to schools than it is to the children playing the games.

"Does School Sport Exist for the Benefit of Schools, Sport – or Children?"

"... There has emerged a tension between the educational purpose of a school, and its business purpose. Sport has become a central battleground. It is a simplistic philosophy that equates victories in games between teams of children with educational superiority and commercial advantage. However, it is one which is surprisingly commonplace amongst headteachers - who might reasonably be expected to take a more enlightened view. When school reputation is embroiled in winning matches, the pupils exist for the benefit of the school – surely a juxtaposition of purpose.

The inexhaustible drive for high performance has unwittingly positioned education as a feeder for professional sport. Any consideration of the statistics involved in the likelihood of school athletes succeeding on the elite stage would quickly dispense with this as a rationale for a sports programme. Schools do not exist to supply athletes into the professional game. The purpose of "Sports' Scholarships" is equally confused. Improving life chances through meritocracy is the essence of the charitable foundation of schools. However, these programmes often deteriorate into an unseemly scrap for the services of the early maturers...

...Many so-called "scholarships" are little more than fee discounting in the transfer market. Often they do little to develop the holders as performers or as people. At its worst, schools purchase the services of emerging athletes, exploit them for competitive success, and care little whether they continue to enjoy active lives into adulthood.

The confusion of success criteria reflects the uncertainty of whom school sport is supposed to benefit. The logical, intellectual answer is that schools should exist to benefit their pupils. In the context of sports, this would surely be to inspire all children to take part in enjoyable, health promoting physical activities, to have experience of culturally significant games and a chance to experience striving for success, and the making of memories, in the company of friends. And to lead healthy, active lifestyles after schools. If these were the stated success criteria, the culture of school sport might look considerably different."

Interesting read indeed, and it's always good to question our ourselves with regards to the way we play sport at schools. I like to think that at Graeme we have a good understanding of what Rollings is getting at, but it is always good to read these articles and use them as discussion points.

Gregg van Mollendorff

DOGS ON THE GRAEME COLLEGE CAMPUS

Graeme College has recently acquired a number of guinea fowl chicks. They have now acclimatised to the campus and have been released from their cage. For their safety, Graeme College reiterates that the campus is not a dog park and we request that the community no longer uses the main campus as an exercise yard for their pets.

TERM DIARY ITEMS

Parents are reminded that the extra-mural programme included in the Term Diary may be updated during the term. Please check the Weekly Newsletter for any updates or corrections to this programme. Parents are also reminded that the Term Calendar is available for viewing on our website <<http://www.graemecollege.co.za/page63.html>>.

To add the Public Calendar to your own Google Calendar at home, just click on the + (subscribe) icon, at the bottom of the calendar on the webpage listed above.

STRATEGIC PLANNING INFORMATION SHARING SESSION – Tuesday 29 August

Parents are hereby notified of the Information Sharing Session which will be held at 17h30 in the School Hall on Tuesday 29 August. This meeting will allow feedback and discussion with regards to the Governing Body's "Five-Year Plan" for the School.

ACADEMIC

GRADE 6 & 7 MATHEMATICS QUIZ (Department of Education)

Congratulations to Jack Botha (Gr 7) and Mark Porter (Gr 6) who each placed second in the above Maths Quiz held for learners from all the schools in the Sarah Baartman Region.

GRADE 11 LEADERSHIP CAMP

The Grade 11s are expected to attend a Leadership Camp at Assegai Trails from Friday 25 August (departing at 14h30) to Sunday 27 August (returning around lunchtime). Please ensure that the payment for this camp is received timeously.

CULTURAL

ALTERATIONS TO THE EXTRA-MURAL PROGRAMME

The following information replaces the extra-mural programme for the Choirs and Jazz, Marimba and Steel bands as listed in this term's Term Diary. If you have any queries, please contact the person in charge of the event.

Choir (Mrs Glover)

Monday	Junior	Hall	14h00 – 14h45	Tuesday	Junior	Hall	14h00 – 14h30
					Senior	Hall	14h00 – 15h00
Wednesday	Leopard's Voice	Music Centre	14h30 – 15h15	Thursday	Senior	Music Centre	14h00 – 15h00
Friday	Foundation Phase	Music Centre	12h40 – 13h10				

Jazz Band (Mr Prince)

Monday	Wind	Music Centre	14h00 – 14h45	Tuesday	Rhythm	Music Centre	14h15 – 15h00
Wednesday	All	Music Centre	13h30 – 14h30				

Marimba (Mrs Rogers)

Tuesday	Gr 4	Marimba Rm	14h00 – 14h30	Wednesday	Gr 5	Marimba Rm	14h00 – 14h30
Thursday	Gr 6	Marimba Rm	14h00 – 14h30	Friday	Gr 7	Marimba Rm	14h00 – 15h00

Steelband (Mr Appollis)

Monday	Beginners	Steelband Rm	14h00 – 15h00	Tuesday	Senior A	Steelband Rm	13h30 – 14h30
					Intermediate	Steelband Rm	14h15 – 15h00
Wednesday	Senior B	Steelband Rm	13h30 – 14h30	Thursday	Tenors	Steelband Rm	13h30 – 14h00
Friday	Senior A	Steelband Rm	14h00 – 15h00				

SPORT

ATHLETICS / CROSS COUNTRY EVENTS

Upcoming events

The following athletics and cross country events will be held during Term 3:

15 August	Senior Round-the-Mountain Relay	16 August	Junior Cross Country
22 August	Senior Round-the-Block Relay	21 August	Junior Round-the-Block Relay
12 September	Inter-House Athletics' Day	23 September	Hirsch Shield Athletics' Meeting
28 September	Quadrangular Athletics' Meeting		

JUNIOR ATHLETICS / CROSS COUNTRY

The Athletics season (including cross country and round-the-block) starts on Monday 16 August and participation from U7 to U13 is compulsory.

Practice: Monday 14 August

Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group
14h30	U7, U8 and U9	15h00	U10 and U11
15h30	U12	16h00	U13

All learners are to meet on the Somerset Field pavilion **fifteen minutes before** your allocated time.

Dress: White or GC Shorts, tackies, athletics' vest or plain t-shirt in the colour of your house (Hutton – yellow, Neilson – light blue (not turquoise), Vernal – black, Wiles – red). T-shirts MAY NOT have any writing or pictures on them.

Cross Country Finals: Wednesday 16 August

Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group
14h30	U7, U8 and U9	15h00	U10 and U11	15h30	U12	16h00	U13

All learners are to meet on the Somerset Field pavilion **fifteen minutes before** your allocated time.

Dress: As listed above

Round-the-Block Relay: Monday 21 August (Finals)

Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group	Time	Age Group
14h30	U8 and U9	15h00	U10 and U11	15h30	U12 and U13

This will be run on internal roads – Circle to Circle. There will be no teams for the U7 age groups. The teams for the U8 to U13 age groups will consist of four runners each. The teams will be based on the cross country results. All runners are to meet at the front of the school (on the lawn).

Dress: White or GC Shorts, tackies, athletics' vest or plain t-shirt in the colour of your house. T-shirts MAY NOT have any writing or pictures on them.

Practice: Wednesdays & Mondays (from 23 August to 6 September)

There will be athletics practices every Monday and Wednesday from 23 August to 6 September. Times will be confirmed.

SENIOR RUGBY

Result: vs Pearson High School – Saturday 29 July

GC U14A vs PHS U14A	lost	7 – 22	GC U14B vs PHS U14B	lost	0 – 32
GC U15A vs PHS U15A	lost	19 – 33	GC U15B vs PHS U15B	lost	10 – 48
GC U16A vs PHS U16A	lost	17 – 27	GC U16B vs PHS U16B	lost	24 – 33
GC 2 nd XV vs PHS 2 nd XV	won	29 – 3	GC 3 rd XV vs PHS 3 rd XV	won	70 – 0
GC 1 st XV vs PHS 1 st XV	won	24 – 15			

Result: vs Kingswood College – Wednesday 2 August

GC U14A vs KC U14A	lost	0 – 43	GC U14B vs KC U14B	lost	15 – 31
GC U15A vs KC U15A	won	14 – 7			
GC U16A vs KC U16A	lost	0 – 48	GC U16B vs KC U16B	drew	7 – 7
GC 2 nd XV vs KC 2 nd XV	won	20 – 14	GC 3 rd XV vs KC 3 rd XV	won	37 – 8
GC 1 st XV vs KC 1 st XV	lost	12 – 15			

Fixtures: Thursday 10 August July vs Port Alfred High School

The GC 3rd XV, U14A and U15A teams will be playing fixtures against PAHS on Thursday 10 August in Port Alfred. Transport will leave Graeme College at approximately 12h30 and should return to Grant House by 18h30.

JUNIOR RUGBY

Result: vs Herbert Hurd Primary – Saturday 29 July

GC U13A vs HHP U13A	drew	20 – 20	GC U13B vs HHP U13B	drew	12 – 12
GC U11A vs HHP U11A	won	14 – 5	GC U11B vs HHP U11B	won	20 – 7
GC U9A vs HHP U9A	won	45 – 0			

Result: vs Kingswood College – Wednesday 2 August

GC U9A vs KC U9A	won	49 – 0	GC U12 vs KC U12	won	32 – 17
GC U11A vs KC U11A	won	42 – 35	GC U11B vs KC U11B	won	29 – 5

Fixtures: Saturday 5 August July vs Grahamstown Primary (Marais A Field)

08h30	GC U9B	09h15	GC U11A	10h00	GC U13B
-------	--------	-------	---------	-------	---------

SQUASH

Report: Junior Squash Tour to Queenstown

On Thursday 27 July, ten of the top U13 squash players travelled to Queenstown on their annual tour. They played matches against Queen's College and Girls' High School. Some of the matches were closely contested, but all the matches were very entertaining to watch. The boys gained valuable experience. The results are as follows:

GCJ vs Queen's College J	lost	3 – 7	GCJ vs Girls' High School 2 nd	won	6 – 4
--------------------------	------	-------	---	-----	-------

Results: Winter League

GC3 vs SAL	lost	7 – 11	GC2 vs WYV2	won	10 – 8
------------	------	--------	-------------	-----	--------

Fixtures: Winter League

Tuesday		Thursday	
8 Aug	GC3 vs RH5	10 Aug	GC1 vs PA1 / GC2 vs RHOD
15 Aug	GC3 vs KEN3	17 Aug	GC2 vs PA2

