# Graeme College



2023- In celebration of 150 years of excellence



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 4October 2024

"Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." - Vince Lombardi

## Message from the Deputy Headmaster

Above: Fun Fair 2024- an aerial perspective! Thank you Keagan Berriman for the photos.

Every year we state that there are two major components to our Family Fun Fair...

- 1 An important fundraising event.
- 2 A major event to bring our community together for a day of incredible fun.

The quote above is so powerful, and to add.. its what makes a school work! We are always so thankful to our parent community along with our teaching staff, admin staff and ground staff. Likewise, so much thanks must go to the support we receive from local businesses. It's a major event, where people put so much time and effort in the preparation - never mind the endless hours of graft and hard work on the day itself. There were so many people working from 11am to 6.30pm! Non stop!!!! It is absolutely incredible. We have continuous conversations about whether the event should be hosted bi-annually or annually, and I was stunned when after a 7 hour shift, parents are still adamant to do it every year. That's says so much about the people in our community. We are the community school, and we are so grateful and proud to get all the support that we do.

This newsletter message is just another rave about our community. We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible support. Your contributions have made a significant impact on our school community, and we are truly thankful for your generosity and involvement. Every donation, big or small, plays a vital role in making the day special. Thanks to your support, we can provide new resources, improve facilities, and create opportunities for our children to thrive. Your commitment not only enriches our programs but also fosters a strong sense of community that is essential to our school's success.

We believe in the power of gratitude, and we want you to know how much we appreciate your efforts and recognise the strong bonds within our community. Thank you once again for standing by us and for believing in our school.

#VirtuteEtOpera
G van Molendorff

# Governing Body 2025 Budget Meeting



# Graeme College

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10 September 2024

#### GRAEME COLLEGE

#### NOTICE OF GOVERNING BODY 2025 BUDGET MEETING

Dear Parents

You are cordially invited to attend the above meeting on Tuesday 29 October 2024.

#### Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Apologies
- Headmaster's report
- 4. Annual Report
- 5. Presentation of 2025 Budget & Resolutions
- Mr K Watson
  - Mr K Watson
  - Mr C Mc Connachie
  - Mr C Mc Connachie

6. General

The following details will be communicated to parents within 14 school days to the budget meeting.

- 1. Format and Time of Budget Meeting;
- Minutes of the 2024 budget meeting;
- Schedule of current and proposed school fees for 2025;
- Notification that the budget will be available for inspection;
- An explanation that a resolution will be proposed at the meeting, to be approved by the majority of the parents present and voting, to approve the budget and proposed school fees and that this decision will be binding on all parents;
- Draft Budget available for inspection.

Your support of the school is valued and has a direct impact on your son's approach to his schooling.

K M WATSON HEADMASTER Dear Parents and Guardians,
Please find below a letter from Mr. Watson
regarding an important upcoming event. You
are cordially invited to attend the 2025
Budget Meeting on Tuesday, 29 October
2024. A printed copy of the notice was
handed to each learner on 10 September
2024.

We look forward to your participation as we discuss important matters regarding our school's budget and future plans.

## Science

Congratulations to Daniel Czeredrecki-Schmidt who was selected to compete in the national round of the Eskom Science Expo in Johannesburg last week. Danny scooped up many awards in the previous regional round for his project which looked at the efficacy of cornstarch bioplastic aggregates as temporary pothole patches and was invited to present his project at the national level where he received a silver award in the Environmental Sciences category. Incredible!



# Family Fun Fair

































Templeton Drive, Grahamstown

PO Box 281, Grahamstown, 6140

## Grade 5s

Well done to our Grade 5 boys for achieving a Leopard Certificate for their outstanding hard work during Term 3! Your dedication and effort truly shine through. Keep up the fantastic work! We are proud of you! 👏



# Photo Day



# GC Photo Day

- · Senior photo day is on Tuesday, 8th October
- Juniors' on Wednesday, 9th October

Senior photo day is on Tuesday, 8th October and Junior photo day is on Wednesday, 9th October. Learners must ensure that they pack the correct uniform/sporting gear. Learners have until Monday, 7th October to pay for individual and sibling photos at R150 per package. The price and date for ordering group photos (e.g. class, sport etc) will be communicated at a later date. At this stage we are only accepting payments for individual and sibling photos.

# Grade 4s

Our Grade 4 boys had a great morning yesterday creating colourful posters to showcase their stalls. It was a great way for them to express their creativity and teamwork, while preparing for the family fun fair. It did indeed attract visitors to their stalls! Well done Grade 4s.



















## Community Engagement

We here at Graeme are so proud of our recent work this term to help our community. We would like to thank you for being a part of our projects that we undertake. Our mission for community engagement is a 24/7 undertaking! We need your help to continue our work. Past campaigns have enabled us to really be impactful to those who need. If you have anything to donate, from household goods to clothing, please consider sending it to school for Ms White's attention- she will know the correct people to give everything to. Any, and all support, is greatly appreciated. We're excited to get to work! Thank you for being a part of our community and our story.

Below: Community Outreach Portfolio volunteers for St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Leon Mwepu, Cairis Appollis, William van Aarde and Ethan Mostert volunteered their holiday time to help the church to prepare for their fete on Saturday morning.

The boys worked hard and made a big impact. Volunteering our time is the greatest gift that we can give to others. We are proud of you.













**GRAEME COLLEGE Venue: LIBRARY** Date: 09 OCTOBER 2024 Times: 09h30 - 14h30

Join us for a Blood Drive!

Date: 9 October 2024

Time: 09h30-14h30

**Location: School Library** 

Help save lives by donating blood! Every donation can make a difference for those in need. Whether you're a first-time donor or a seasoned pro, your contribution matters.

Spread the word and bring a friend! Together, we can make a positive impact in our community.

Thank you for your support!

듣 Annual Book Fair Announcement! 듣

We're excited to remind you that our Annual Book Fair will take place on 17th and 18th October in the school library at Graeme College! This is a fantastic opportunity to promote literacy and foster a love for reading in our children.

Parents are warmly invited to explore the selections alongside their kids, making it a wonderful family experience. Let's encourage our young readers and help them discover new favourites!

We look forward to seeing everyone there! Happy reading!







Rotary Club of Grahamstown, with Graeme Community

Lace up your takkies and be part of an event that transcends the finish line! Join us in the fight against polio by participating in our FIRST EVER End Polio One Mile Run!

> DISTANCE (1,6KM-1 MILE) **REGISTER FROM 4PM AT THE GRAEMIAN CENTRE**

COST: LEARNERS @ R20 ADULTS @ R30

Food supplied by the Foundation Phase Library to aid in their upgrades to the library.

> Burgers @ R40 Pancakes @ R10 Pub & Tuckshop available **Exciting prizes available!**



17H00 Somerset Field, **Graeme College** 



Join us for a fun and meaningful day as we run to raise awareness and funds to help eradicate polio. A mile is just 1.6 km—easy peasy!

Let's aim for a bumper turnout and show our support for this important cause. All proceeds will go towards the **End Polio initiative.** 

We can't wait to see you there! 🧎

All welcome! Please share with fellow mountain lovers!



# For the Lagve of the Mountain

# Open Meeting Monday 7 October 2024 - Graemian Centre 18h00

A year ago, the Rotary Club of Grahamstown Sunset launched this initiative to ask all individuals, organisations and interested Mountain Drive lovers to join together to promote, preserve and celebrate the Mountain Drive. It is time to report back and check in on how we are 'loving the mountain'.

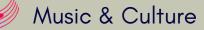
We would like to elect a small committee to assist us in driving this initiative into the future, as well as asking for assistance with preparations for the 2024 Oldenburgia Trailrun (2 Nov).

To all the bikers, walkers, runners, plant lovers, trail clearers, photographers, birders, animal lovers, snare hunters, tree poppers - and anyone else who treasurers the Mountain Drive please join us to hear the latest and add your ideas to the

'For the L ve of the Mountain' initiative.

This meeting will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Grahamstown Sunset and will be about an hour long. For more info, WhatsApp 082 772 0407.

NOTICE THE CONSTANT THEME/ TREND THROUGHOUT THIS NEWSLETTER?! OUR MAKHANDA AND GRAEME **COLLEGE COMMUNITY IS ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE!!!!** 



### MARIMBA BAND REHEARSALS

Monday: 14h00 - 14h45 Grade 6 and Grade 7 Group Wednesday: 13h30 - 14h15 Grade 4 and Grade 5 Group

#### STEELBAND REHEARSALS

Monday: 14h00 - 14h30 Beginner Steelband 14h30 - 15h00 Intermediate Steelband Tuesday: 13h30 - 14h15 Senior A Steelband

14h15 - 15h00 Senior B Steelband

Friday: 14h00 - 15h00 Senior A Steelband

### **CHOIR REHEARSALS**

Tuesday: 13h30 - 14h15 Junior Choir Wednesday: 13h30 - 14h30 Senior Choir Thursday: 13h30 - 14h30 Senior Choir

Below: The Junior Choir sang in the Junior Assembly this week and sang the song "I am the Earth". They performed with such pride in front of the audience and it's always rewarding to see the enthusiasm of our young performers. This is their composed photo and their fun one...





# Thank you

Have we mentioned we have the best parents before? Having such dedicated support from the moms makes a huge difference for the boys. Their energy and encouragement definitely lifted the team's spirits at the Knysna Cricket Festival festival that our u13 boys attended. > A big shoutout to all the parents for cheering them on!



## Foundation Phase Library

🌻 Spring Cleaning Donation Request 🌻

As we embrace the spirit of spring cleaning, our Foundation Phase Library is looking for the following when decluttering. We kindly request the following donations from our Graeme College Family:

- 1. Lego for our Lego wall project.
- 2. Art Supplies: Any leftover art materials, like crayons, coloured pencils, or craft paper, will help spark creativity in our young learners.

Thank you for your continued support in making our library a vibrant space for our students!

# WE ARE BUILDING A LEGO WALL!

Lego walls have so many benefits including encouraging creativity, learning to reason and learning to solve problems.

The Foundation Phase Library is please requesting any donations of old Lego & Lego base plates, so this stunning new wall can be created for our junior school boys to enjoy.

Please send to school for the attention of Mrs Tidbury. Thank you!

Our Junior School Foundation Phase Library is getting a makeover! A makerspace/creative corner will be made for our creative, budding artists! We are therefore please requesting for anyone to donate cardboard, tape, glue, pens, stationery, googly eyes, pipecleaners - anything arts and crafty that we can use to get our craft on! Thank you Graeme College Family!

# Rugby

Graeme College's U15 7s team recently participated in the prestigious Champions of Champions 7s Tournament, hosted at Grey College in Bloemfontein. The team faced tough competition in a challenging pool, made even more difficult by the horrendous weather conditions, including icy cold temperatures, gale-force winds and rain.

Despite narrow losses in their first two games, mainly due to unforced errors and not playing to their full potential, the boys showed resilience. Their final match on the first day saw an improvement, with the team playing better rugby and securing a win as the weather worsened.

On day two, Graeme College maintained their momentum, winning all their remaining games and ultimately taking home the Bowl Trophy, finishing 5th overall. The tournament provided an excellent learning experience for the team, allowing them to compete against some of the top schools in the country.

- v Northwood 15 26
- v Noordheuwel 22 28
- v Sentraal 19 7
- v Bloem Invitation 48 5
- v Kempton Park (Bowl Final) 21 10









# Rugby

















## Cricket

Below: These are our Graeme boys who attended the U13 EP Cricket trials. Full of smiles!



Junior results from the u13 Knysna Cricket Festival:

U13a Vs Stellenbosch u13a Graeme 46 all out Stellenbosch 47-3 **Daniel Hanlon 3-11** Graeme lost by 7 wickets.

Graeme 132-6 in 20 overs **Daniel Coetsee 25** Hermanus 68 all out **Bukho Yolani 3-6** Odwa Ndlaz 2-3 Jordan du Plessis 2-6 **Ethan Crous 2-12** 

U13A vs Hermanus u13a



## Cricket

### **Cape Schools' Cricket Festival results:**

Day 1: Graeme College vs Wynberg boys (50 overs)

Graeme College 197/9 after 50 overs

Kits McConnachie 41 not out

**Corbin Tidbury 39 not not** 

Wynberg boys 201/5

Ajay Jeggels 2/58 in 9 overs

Graeme College lost by 5 wickets.

Graeme College vs Grey PE Day 2 of the Cape Schools' Cricket Festival: What a magnificent game and testament

to our grit as a young team!

**Graeme College vs Grey High school** 

**Declaration/2 innings** 

1st innings Graeme College 88 All out

**Qhama Ngoma 33** 

Grey High school 108 All out

**Ajay Jeggels** 

**Murray Tyson** 

2nd innings Graeme College 94/5

**Kits McConnachie 31** 

Luphelo Mdyesha 38

**Grey High school 72/4** 

Andrew Muir 4/26

Graeme College lost by 1 wicket.

### Day 3: Graeme College 1st XI vs Queens College 1st XI

Queens College 186 All out in 56 overs

Murray Tyson 5/50 in 13 overs

Jordan Damons 2/17 in 7 overs

Luphelo Mdyesha 2/43 in 19 overs

Graeme College 276/7 in 58 overs

**Murray Tyson 81** 

Luphelo Mdyesha 70

**Kits McConnachie 46** 

Graeme College won by 3 wickets

### Day 4 - Cape Schools in Queenstown

Graeme College 1st XI vs SACS 1st XI - (50 overs reduced to 35 overs)

Graeme College 1st XI

226/4 in 35 overs

**Corbin Tidbury 83** 

**Enrique Strydom 45** 

**Murray Tyson 48 not out** 

Andrew Muir 28 not out

SACS 1st XI

# Cricket

227/9 in 34.4 Ethan Bokbaard 2-39 in 7 overs Andrew Muir 2-56 in 7 overs Graeme College lost by 1 wicket.

















## **Tennis**

Congratulations to Josh Potts for winning the u11 singles championship for 2024. Runner up for 2024 is Gustav





Congratulations to Jayden Smith and Amzo Gongqobe for winning the u11 doubles championship for 2024. Runners up for 2024 are Gustav Jordaan and Josh Potts.





# Congrats!



Congratulations to De Wet Van Deventer from Grade 8, on achieving a hole-in-one on the 11th Par 3 at the Belmont Golf Course. What a memorable moment that we are sure you will treasure forever; a hole-in-one is such an exciting moment in golf.

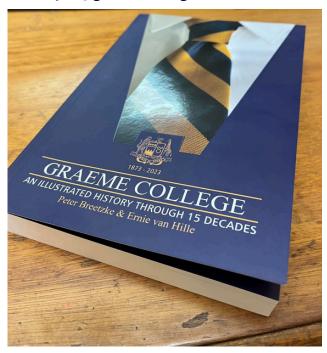


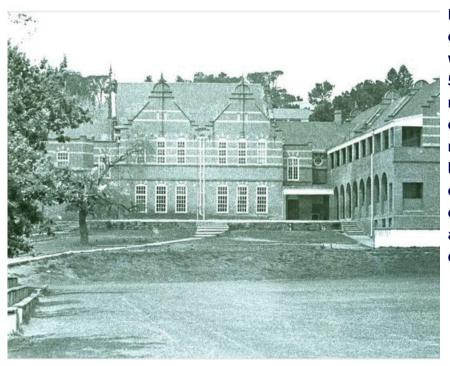
Above: A couple of Old Graemians were named in the linyati Cricket team for this weekend. #SoProud!

## 150 year book

Journey through more than 150 years in our Graeme College history. Our book is still available to buy and will be treasured by everyone who buys it- we promise!

The book is available to all alumni or anyone interested in the history of our special school. This book is a culmination of years of work by Peter Breetzke & Ernie van Hille. Order Information: Contact Ms Busi Stamper: b.stamper@graemecollege.co.za





Next year 2025 Graeme College will be 152 years old. More importantly, the new Graeme College, where it is now, started in 1975 -which will be 50 years ago. It follows that it will be a special milestone. The 1975 matric class will be celebrating their 50th class reunion (the first matric class). The reunion will add an extra layer of nostalgia and excitement to the celebrations. There will be plenty of opportunities for everyone to come together and reflect on the school's rich history. More dates to follow.

## Save the Date



One of the highlights of the school's rugby calendar is Rugby Day. Traditionally this one-day festival is held on the final Saturday of the first term. From humble beginnings in 1998 when 4 schools participated, it has grown into the most prestigious day of rugby in the Eastern Cape featuring no less than 16 schools and over 1200 players. Rugby Day is an opportunity for the whole **Graeme Family and** community to come together and a chance for players to enjoy the special camaraderie and fellowship that is evident in a sporting contest when played in the right spirit. Save the Date in your diary!



Last year he was playing for Graeme College 1st XV... now he is a Currie Cup champion!

## Puzzle for the week

Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

R Т X Q In theme with the book sale pending, a library word search for this week

**BIOGRAPHY** HISTORICAL

**CHILDRENS HORROR** ROMANCE COMEDY **LEGEND** SATIRE DRAMA **MEMOIR** SUSPENSE **EPIC MYSTERY THRILLER** 

## Teen App

globe.

We are delighted to announce that Graeme College has purchased a full membership of the VIVE TEEN WELLNESS application, which will enable ALL our learners to have full access to the app. It is something that we have thoroughly investigated, and feel that this is a massive step in the right direction for the wellbeing of our all learners. We are excited that every learner will have safe space to learn more about mental wellness, and reach out for help if needed, in a number of ways.

VIVE TEEN WELLNESS is an Artificial Intelligence enabled digital platform and smartphone application that was built in South Africa. The first version was launched earlier in 2023, with several schools presently using the full suite of functionality. The schools and learners that have been using the platform in recent months have provided us with very valuable feedback that assisted us in planning the next phase of the roll-out. During 2022 VIVE TEENS has been selected as a winner in the UpLink - World Economic Forum (WEF) Youth Mental Health Challenge where it has competed with over 120 other mental health companies from across the

The platform is expected to launch internationally early in 2024, and as part of that process we are awarding South African schools the opportunity to gain from a locally built application and support the mental wellness of our children.

The Graeme College subscription starts from 1 September 2023, but we would like our learners to download the application in the meantime, and familiarise themselves with it by referring to the various videos and guides.

Here is a link to the video to understand what Vive is all about: https://fb.watch/mcK3MzNNrn/



**Browse uplifting** stories

## **Vive Teens** Your always-there personal wellness companion



## Discover content that is Al-curated for you



## Plaques for Indoor Sports Centre

Our commemorative plagues allow you to celebrate and appreciate the memories of your loved ones, honour someone special or distinguish your family.

Our granite plaques are enduring and timeless. They are a fitting tribute on our beautiful new Indoor Sports Centre and a valuable contribution to our school.

ADD YOUR NAME INTO THE HISTORY OF THE GRAEME COLLEGE CAMPUS FOREVER:

We are selling plaques to add to the new indoor centre... where you can add your name or family name into the history of the building. The idea is to sell 150 plaques only.

Email your request to marketing@graemecollege.co.za - we will send you more information re payment etc. The plagues will be R5000 each and will be 270mm x 130mm. They are Rustenburg Granite - black/grey. Lettering is 15mm in height. All funds raised will go into the extra building costs as well as equipping the facility with sports and gym equipment.



special/loved ones or your family through our commemorative plagues? Our plagues at the new Indoor Sports Centre will be the mainstay for putting the finishing touch on a beautiful and historical great buildings at our school, thereby adding your name to the history of Graeme forever. Our commemorative plaques are a dignified and formal means of honouring someone truly special/or your family.





Our commemorative plaques allow you to celebrate and appreciate the memories of your loved ones, honour someone special or distinguish your family. Our granite plaques are enduring and timeless. They are a fitting tribute on our beautiful new Indoor Sports Centre and a valuable contribution to our school.





## 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 to get permission. Thank you for your cooperation.

## 2nd Hand Clothing Shop

The Second Hand Clothing Shop: PLEASE NOTE DAYS HAVE CHANGED.

Time: Mondays and Wednesdays, between 13h00 and 14h00.

Please report to Reception for enquiries or contact Jerri via e-mail (info@graemecollege.co.za).

## Google Calendar

Please click on the link below to be directed to the school Google Calendar. The link helps you subscribe to the school calendar which you can add to your phone, tablet or computer. Just click on the 'plus sign' at the bottom right hand corner of the calendar.

Click here for a link: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r?cid=public.calendar@graemecollege.co.za

## Stay connected

Do you follow Graeme College on the following platforms?

#### **Instagram:**

@graemecollege

@graemeboys

### **Awsum App**

https://www.awsum.co.za/download-the-awsum-app-for-schools

### Facebook:

#### **Graeme College**

If you aren't on the GC Community WhatsApp group - you can join by following the QR Code below or communicate with your Class Register Teacher or Mentor Teacher.

