

GRAEME COLLEGE



Founded: 1873

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Graeme College's Vision Statement
"To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential."

NEWSLETTER – Friday 21 April 2017

"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."
~ "The Little Prince", A de Saint-Exupery

I trust everybody enjoyed quality time with their families over the school holiday. This term has started with a bang (which is typical of Term 2); there were hockey matches against Port Alfred this week, the steelband is performing at the Rhodes University's Graduation Garden Party this weekend and, of course, we have a full rugby fixture against Gill College on Saturday.

Next week's sporting fixtures are a little crazy because of the long weekend. The hockey teams head to East London on Monday afternoon (depart at 12h00) and the rugby teams will also miss school on Wednesday, due to Cambridge High School being unavailable to play on Thursday. That long weekend has the U14A, U15A, U16A and 1st teams competing at the Grey Festival, while the 1st XI hockey side is at the Kingswood Festival. As I said, typical start to Term 2.

Mr Watson and I have been lucky enough to attend a short-course on leadership at Rhodes University; in fact, Mr Watson completed the course last year. We have taken some very thought-provoking concepts from the content covered and I thought I would take this opportunity to share some with our parent body. The concept of the "Culture" of a school came up strongly. One of the lines that kept being raised was that '*Culture eats Strategy for Breakfast*' (Peter Drucker) – meaning, getting the culture right among staff and learners is far more important than anything we can do with regards to strategic planning. With regards to that culture, it is mentioned that staff are responsible to parents, but the parent body, along with teachers and learners, are all accountable to developing a strong and positive school culture.

A school culture, which we would like to instil, is derived from our Mission and Vision statements, but also goes to the core of each person involved in the school. A pride in the College, along with a focus on our core values, should always be our driving point. Areas which are an ongoing concern are punctuality, academic ethos, classroom behaviour, truancy, personal neatness and self-belief. These factors corrode our school culture on a daily basis, and need to be addressed as being of the utmost importance, both within the family environment and within the school environment. The school management, along with teachers, is currently looking at ways to continually improve discipline within the school, but we obviously need the full support of our community to continue developing a strong culture within the school.

I am looking forward to an exciting term ahead. It is always amazing how a winter sports' term pulls a school together.

Mr Gregg van Molendorff

END OF TERM 2

Please be reminded that Term 2 will end slightly early due to the National Arts' Festival. The new closing date for Term 2 is Monday 26 June. Please note that Reports will only be ready for collection on Thursday 29 June.

ACADEMIC

REPORT FEEDBACK MEETING (Gr 4 – 12)

There will be a meeting on Monday 24 April from 17h30 for all parents wanting further feedback about their sons' individual subject performances from the first term. Grade 8 to 12 teachers will be in the School Hall and will be available (in five minute slots) up until 19h00.

EASTERN CAPE SCHOOLS' FESTIVAL FOR GRADE 11s – Wednesday 10 & Thursday 11 May

The Eastern Cape English Festival for Grade 11s will take place on 10 and 11 May 2017 at the 1820 Settlers' Monument. Interested Grade 11s will be exposed to different aspects of the arts: plays, music and the performing arts. They will also attend

lectures and workshops on various aspects of the arts. Also included in the fee is tea, lunch and supper for the first day and tea and lunch for the second day. This is an educational opportunity that is not to be missed. Further queries can be directed to Miss Kenyon who will be accompanying the Grade 11s attending this Festival.

CULTURAL

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL BLOOD SERVICE

The Graemian Community are encouraged to support the next SANBS blood drive at the school on Wednesday 26 April 2017.

STEELBAND

The Steelband performed at the Bathurst Show at the end of last term and at a wedding during the school holidays. The band will be performing at the Rhodes University's Graduation Garden Party on Saturday.

SPORT

CONGRATULATIONS

St Stithian's College Sports' Festival

Congratulations to the Graeme College 1st XV who won two of their three matches at the Festival. The results were as follows:
 vs St Stithian's College lost 17 – 19 vs St. David's Marist won 24 – 3 vs Pretoria Technical HS won 38 – 0

The senior squash team also participated in this Sports' Festival. Unfortunately Stefan Botha (GC #1) was unable to participate due to a wrist injury. The team won two of their six fixtures (against St Stithian's College B and Northcliff HS) and special mention must be made of Garwin Dampies who won five of his six matches.

HOCKEY

Results: vs Port Alfred High School – Wednesday 19 April

GC 1st vs PAHS won 4 – 1 GC 2nd vs PAHS lost 2 – 3

Fixture: vs Cambridge High School – Monday 24 April

15h00 GC 2nd vs CHS 3rd CHS Astro 16h00 GC 1st vs CHS 1st CHS Astro

Fixture: Kingswood Hockey Festival (1st team) – Thursday 27 – Sunday 30 April

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i> | <i>Sunday</i> (Webster Field, SAC/DSG) |
| 09h40 vs Merrifield City Lords, KC | 11h20 vs Glenwood House City Lords, KC | 11h20 vs Glenwood House |
| 17h00 vs Hudson Park City Lords, KC | 16h50 vs Cambridge HS Webster Field (SAC/DSG) | |

SENIOR RUGBY

Result: Wednesday 19 April 2017

GC 3rd XV vs Mary Waters 1st XV lost 0 – 7

Fixture: vs Gill College – Saturday 22 April

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Somerset Field</i> |
|-------------|---|
| 08h45 | GC U14A vs Gill U14A |
| 09h45 | GC U15A vs Gill U15A |
| 10h45 | GC U16A vs Gill U16A |
| 11h45 | GC 2 nd XV vs Gill 2 nd XV |
| 13h00 | GC 1 st XV vs. Gill 1 st XV |

Fixture: vs Cambridge HS – Wednesday 26 April (East London)

| <i>Time</i> | <i>TB Scott</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Webber</i> | <i>CHS1 Field</i> |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 10h00 | U15A | 09h45 | U16B | 4 th XV |
| 11h00 | U16A | 11h00 | 3 rd XV | U14A |
| 12h15 | 2 nd XV | 12h15 | U15B | U14B |
| 13h30 | 1 st XV | | | |

JUNIOR RUGBY

Fixture: vs Gill College – Saturday 22 April

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Marais A</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Marais B</i> |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 09h00 | GC U11A vs Gill U11A | 09h00 | GC U9A vs Gill U9A |
| 10h00 | GC U13B vs Gill U13B | 10h00 | GC U11B vs Gill U11B |
| 11h00 | GC U13A vs Gill U13A | | |

SQUASH

Winter League Fixtures

| Monday | | Tuesday | | Wednesday | | Thursday | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 24 April | GCJ vs VGHS2 | | | 26 April | GC4 vs MAWAS | 27 April | GC1 vs RH ST GC2 vs KEN2 |
| | | 2 May | GC3 vs PA3 | 3 May | GC4 vs SAC4 | 4 May | GC1 vs RATS |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|---|
| | | | | | | | GC2 vs PA2 |
| 8 May | GCJ vs VGHS3 | 9 May | GC3 vs RH5 | 10 May | GC4 vs SAC5 | 11 May | GC1 vs KEN1 GC2 vs KC2 |
| 15 May | GCJ vs PA J | 16 May | GC3 vs KEN3 | 17 May | GC4 vs KC5 | 18 May | GC1 vs KC1 GC2 vs WILL |
| 22 May | GCJ vs DSGJ | 23 May | GC3 vs RH4 | | | 25 May | GC1 vs PA1 GC2 vs SAC2 |
| 29 May | GCJ vs SAC6 | 30 May | GC3 vs WYV3 | 31 May | GC4 vs DSG1 | 1 June | GC1 vs SAC1 GC2 vs RHOD GC3 vs PAH1 |
| 5 June | GCJ vs KCJ1 | 6 June | GC3 vs FB1 | | | | |

EVENTS

GRANT HOUSE BURGER EVENING – Friday 5 May 2017

Grant House will be hosting another Burger Evening as part of their fundraising initiative. This will be held on Friday 5 May from 17h30 at the Graemian Centre. Delicious burgers and chips will be on sale for R60. The winning Grant House raffle ticket will also be drawn on this occasion, with the first prize being a one night stay at Amakhala Game Lodge (with two complimentary game drives). Tickets for this raffle will still be on sale early in the evening.

GENERAL

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING SHOP

The Second-hand Clothing Shop is open on the following days and times (excluding Public and School Holidays):

Monday: 13h00 – 13h30

Wednesday: 13h00 – 14h00

All enquiries with regards to the Shop will be dealt with by Mrs Siebritz (046-622 7227).

Yours sincerely

**K WATSON
HEADMASTER**