



Graeme College

To strive for excellence by developing all to their full potential

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

11 January 2019

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Use what you can." ~ Arthur Asbe

Welcome back to the start of the 2019 new year!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful break over the festive season. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year. I welcome and value the positive energy and dedication to excellence in education from the Graeme College Community and we as a staff look forward to working with you and your boys. There will be many opportunities for involvement, growth, and learning across the College this year. This is a very exciting time of year for most students and I wish you all a great year ahead.

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome the following teaching staff and we wish them all the best as they make their mark at Graeme College. Mr Bongolwethu Draai (Geography and isiXosa), Miss Chelsea Coetzer (Music), Mrs Nicole Hobson (Commerce Department and Mathematical Literacy) and Odwa Xonxa (Junior school Intern). Teaching is very unique in that teachers and learners have the opportunity to start afresh every year. It is an opportunity to correct / redirect and change strategies.

Christopher Reeve said: *"Once you choose hope anything's possible"*. The simple question which follows from this is: Are you ready to prepare the way? While I realise that cultivating positive attitudes and orientations, guided by the idea of the common good, is a complex process, I firmly believe that this can be achieved by involving a long-term commitment from all relevant stakeholders. We can ignite and foster a positive and hopeful vision of education at Graeme College by doing the very best we can with the talents we have and the opportunities at our disposal. I would like to wish everyone all of the best for 2019.

Mr Kevin Watson
Headmaster



2018 MATRIC RESULTS

Well done to the class of 2018 for improvement in Bachelor passes (72%) and the number of subject “A” symbols.

Top achievers

Tashin Patrick (seven A symbols - top achiever in our district)

Daniel-Keagan Hockly (six A symbols)

Tadiwa Mafuma (five A symbols)

CONGRATULATIONS

The following boys were involved in provincial sporting tournaments and activities during the December holiday:

Fishing

Liam Taljaard Junior Bass Angling International tournament (Zimbabwe)

Cricket

Mihlali Kobese EP U17 rural team

Viwe Gana EP U17 team and National U17 rural team

Murray Tyson EP U13A team

Ethan Beyleveld EP U13B team

Lakhanya Sam EP U17

Mark Amm EP U19

Bavuyise Manyakanyaka EP U19

Siphesihle Madlongolwana EP U19 (also selected for Warriors Cubs Franchise team)

Swimming

Joshua Pamphilon Swam national qualifying times at A league gala in December

Music

Bayanda Mthetho Has been asked to play the organ at the Cathedral in Grahamstown

MONITORS AND RCL INDUCTION 2019

The above ceremony will take place in the School Hall at 12h30 on Friday 18 January 2019.

ADMISSIONS FOR 2020

Please note that the closing date for the submission of 2020 applications is **Tuesday 30 April 2019**.

FINANCE

Initial Payment of School Fees

Please note that, according to the Fees and Other Charges agreed to by parents at the SGB meeting held in October 2018 all parents were requested to have brought their 2018 accounts up to date by the end of 2018. The initial payment of R2000 (two thousand rand) for 2019 was to be made on or before the first day of school (existing parents) or when the learner was accepted (new parents).

Full, up-front settlement of 2019 School Fees before 28 February 2019 will entitle parents to a 5% discount. Monthly fee payments (for school, boarding or aftercare) are to be submitted to the Bursar per written request in January of each academic year. The monthly payments must be made in ten [10] equal monthly instalments from 1 February to 1 November 2019.



ACADEMIC NEWS

2019 got off to a good start when we heard that Tashin Patrick had been named as the top student in the Grahamstown district. Tashin obtained seven "A" symbols in the 2018 matric examinations. Similarly, Daniel-Keagan Hockly and Tadiwa Mafuma obtained "A" aggregates and set the tone for 2019. The rest of the Grade 12 class did very well and there were a record number of Bachelor passes and subject "A" symbols.

GRADE MEETINGS

The first term academic programme has already started. Your sons ought to be bringing home homework and they need to be encouraged to have a good work ethic right from the start of the year. To enhance your son's academic experience and to facilitate communication with your son's teachers, a series of grade meetings will be presented to the high school boys (in the school hall) in the course of the next two weeks. These are scheduled as follows:

Grade 8 and 9

Tuesday 22 January at 17h30

Grade 10 and 11

Thursday 24 January at 17h30

Grade 12

Monday 28 January at 17h30

These meetings are compulsory for the boys and we would like to encourage all parents to attend.

ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

The assessment programme for the term will be available early next week. It will be given to all boys and emailed to parents. Hard copies will be available at the various meetings. We would like all boys to achieve their full potential across all spheres of school life this year.

CULTURAL NEWS

MUSIC

Changes to the extramural Music programme

The changes made are to facilitate staff, boys and venue availability. Please accept our apologies for the confusion and inconvenience:

Gr 7 Marimba	Mondays	14.00 - 15.00
Gr 6 Marimba	Fridays	14.00 - 15.00
Leopards Voice	Wednesdays	13.30 - 14.30 and Thursdays 13.30- 14.15
Senior Choir (Gr 7 - 12)	Thursdays	14.15 - 15.00 (the Tuesday rehearsal remains 14.00 - 15.00)

Marimbas

The music extra mural programme will commence in full from 14 January 2019. The Grade 6 and 7 marimba groups are at capacity. New boys may only be taken under special circumstances.

Boys who wish to join the Grade 4 and 5 Marimba groups need to give their names in early next week.

Choirs

Junior

Boys in grades 4, 5 and 6, who wish to join the Junior Choir, should meet at the music centre at 14.00 on Monday 14 January 2019.

Senior

Boys who have not yet put their names down for the Senior Choir need to put their names on the list on the Music Centre door.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band details are still to be confirmed.

Cricket

SENIOR CRICKET

Saturday 12 January 2019 vs Muir College

The First XI and U15A teams play in Uitenhage at 09h30. Buses leave from Grant House at 07h00.
The Second XI and U14A teams play on Somerset and Marais Fields at 09h30.

JUNIOR CRICKET

Saturday 19 January 2019

Please note that there is an error in the Term Diary. On Saturday 19 January 2019 the junior cricket fixture will be against GREY JUNIOR SCHOOL (and not Lorraine Primary).

Squash

Senior and junior squash trials will take place next week. Times to be advised.

Tennis

JUNIORTENNIS

Trials were held yesterday and your son will be given a letter as to which group and time he should attend tennis practices. Practices start on Tuesday 15 January 2019.



GENERAL NEWS

TRAFFIC CONTROL

For easy movement of traffic, please adhere to the following:

- Only Foundation Phase boys (Grade 1, 2 & 3) may be dropped or collected from the front of the school. This must take place at the “circle” and not in front of the main entrance to the school building.
- Between the times of 07h15 and 07h45, please use the main school gate as an entry ONLY and please exit via the Grant House (boarding establishment) gate i.e. one way.
- Boys in Grades 4 to 12 must be dropped off and collected at the Graemian Centre car park or at the Selborne or swimming pool gates i.e. at the back of the school.

Please adhere to a speed limit of **20km/hour** on the school roads and be a responsible road user.

2018 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

The 2018 School Magazine will be available by 1 March 2019.

FOUNDATION PHASE (GRADE 1, 2 AND 3)

All parents are urged to attend their sons' class meeting at 17h00 on Monday 14 January 2019. Teachers will be informing parents of homework policies, routines, etc.

MYSCHOOL MYVILLAGE MYPLANET

We wish to encourage more parents to join the MySchool programme. In the past parents have had to fetch and complete and return a form to enable them to get their blue MySchool cards, but it has just become so much easier! Parents, and grandparents, aunts and uncles may now download the MySchool app on their smartphones to join. Just remember to use your card at the local partners – Foto First, Wallace Pharmacy, Engen, Café Delizzia and, of course, Woolworths. Did you remember that Loot is a national partner, as is Flight Centre (it's never too early to book for your winter holiday away).

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING SHOP

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

Monday: 13h00 – 14h00

Wednesday: 13h00 – 14h00

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

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GIVING

DOWNLOAD THE
FREE MYSCHOOL APP



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at our partner outlets

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