Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

This week is national Science Week and we have the older students going into other classes to teach a Science experiment every afternoon. On Friday is our big Science Day where we invite parents to come into the school from 10.30am to watch the Science activities. Students will be rotating around a range of activities with their buddy. At noon we will watch the great parachute egg drop where the Year 5/6 students have to drop their parachute from the play equipment out the back near the demountable, without cracking the egg that is attached to the parachute. Great fun so come and join us.

On Thursday we have the pleasure of having Desmond Abbott revisit his primary school. Des is an ex student of Gray Primary School and of course in recent years he has been an Olympic Hockey player for Australia. Des will talk with our Year 3-6 students about his journey and will run some hockey clinics with the Year 5/6 students. The ABC will be filming a documentary of Des’s visit back to his old primary school. Students who do not have photo permission will not be part of this documentary. If your child has photo permission but you do not want them to be filmed please sign the letter that went home and ensure the school gets this by Thursday 15th August.

Recently we have had to contact a couple of parents regarding their sick children and have found that we do not have an updated phone number on our data system. If your address or phone number has changed in the past couple of months please ring the school office on 89321700 to advise of your new contact details. Much appreciated.

Also a big thank you to all the parents who volunteered at last weeks Year 6 Graduation fundraiser BBQ at Coolalinga and Lia Finocciaro MLA for donating the sausages.

Sue Beynon, Principal and Sharon Chin, AP

Black shorts are now part of Gray School’s compulsory uniform. Please ensure that your student/s comply with our uniform policy, per the Parent Handbook (below).

“School Uniform is mandatory for all NT schools. Uniforms support self-esteem, promote school team spirit and are designed for economy and convenience. Uniform items are sold at the Front Office. When representing the school, and on excursions, uniforms must be worn. If this presents difficulties, they can be borrowed from the school for the day under special circumstances. The uniform consists of a royal blue polo knit and crew neck shirt and black skirt or shorts. Covered shoes must be worn.”

Gray Primary School
22 Victoria Drive, Gray
Phone 89321700 Fax: 89321007
Email: admin.graysch@ntschools.net
www.grayprimary.nt.edu.au

Every Child, Every Day - improving student enrolment, attendance and participation is everybody’s responsibility and everyone’s business.
EARLY YEARS STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
AWARDS

TB  Ricky Prance  Marshall Miller
T/1B  Akhil Garg  Dylan Martin
1/2L  Lane Kenefake  Nash Nalzaro
1/2S  Richard Baird  Akayla Higgins
2J  Blaine Ormsby  Vanessa Jong

PRIMARY STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
AWARDS

3/4B  Zissa Taylor  Taylah Ahmat
4M  Letoya McCoy  Rose Maree Goninon
5R  Denzel Nona  Ruby Sailor
5/6G  Rylie McDonald  Sayera Abir
5/6S  Josiah Rose  Jordan Ormsby

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Gray Primary School has been approached by ‘Outside School Care NT’ to provide after school and holiday care options for our students with the program being based at Gray School.

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from our families for your child/ren to register for this service.

The commencement of this service will be dependent upon suitable numbers to run the program.

For more information about the Gray School ‘Outside School Care NT’ service visit our website at http://www.grayprimary.nt.edu.au or contact the front office via email at admin.graysch@ntschoools.net or phone 08 8932 1700.

Please register your expression by Friday 16th August direct with the school.

BOOK FAIR IS COMING - WEEK 5
‘READING ACROSS THE UNIVERSE’

The countdown for 2013 Book Fair has started.

Be prepared for the amazing space reading adventure with Gray Primary School’s Library Book Fair.

Costume ideas for the Friday Dress Up Day – spaceman/astronauts, aliens, Star Wars characters, Star Trek characters, Jetsons characters, rockets, planets or come along as your favourite book character.

2......1......!

When: Tuesday 20th August  2013
Where: Gray Primary School

Photo order envelopes need to be returned to the school with the correct money by WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST

NO LATE PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE

Sibling photo order envelopes can be collected from the front office.
Our Number This Week
6 7 2 4 8 6 2 1 9 3 5 6 4 7 5

Mrs Casey’s preschool class have been learning their numbers and how to write their name. They have been working very well in preparing for Transition next year.

Inpex transport impacts on schools

Ichthys Project –related truck and bus movements will be increasing along the Arnhem and Stuart highways, Tiger Brennan Drive, and at the Howard Springs intersection and Palmerston.

Rock for the gas export pipeline will be moved by road trains from the Mt Bundy quarry to East Arm Wharf, travelling along the Arnhem and Stuart highways. The vehicles will operate from Monday to Saturday, performing about 18 round trips each day for approximately 73 weeks. The vehicles will move through the communities of Humpty Doo, Coolalinga and Palmerston.

After the opening of the first stage of the Howard Springs Accommodation Village on Howards Springs Road, about 24 buses will be deployed to transport workers to-and-from Blaydin Point. The buses will largely skirt Palmerston. Bus routes have been chosen to avoid schools where possible. Schedules have been developed to minimise the impact of buses at school drop-off and pick-up times.

Parents are encouraged to visit the Ichthys Project website www.ichthysproject.com and subscribe to the regular e-newsletter to get updates on the project.
Gray Primary School (Family Centre Building)

Good Beginnings Australia is a National charity, building better outcomes for children in vulnerable communities through a range of early intervention programs for families.

These programs include: **Play2 Learn, Family Support, Community Connections and Toy Library**

**Play2Learn**

**Monday:** 9am – 11am Moulden Primary School (OSHC Building)
Play2Learn Birth—4yrs (Please bring a piece of fruit to share)

**Tuesday:** 9am—11am Gray Primary School (Good Beginnings Demountable)
Play2Learn Birth—4yrs (Please bring a piece of fruit to share)

**Wednesday:** 9am —11am Gray Primary School (Good Beginnings Demountable)
Baby Play2Learn which is run in conjunction with Maternal Health Nurse, who will answer any questions you may have in regards to your Childs health and development Birth—12 months
(Morning tea provided)

**Toy Library**

**Thursday:** 9am – 11am
The Toy Library aims to provide a service to families and children in the Palmerston area, by providing a mobile and outreach support service/s. Parents will be able to borrow toys from a mobile toy library that operates from at least 2 locations, including but not limited to, parks and the Gray Op Shop with the flexibility to adapt locations depending on the needs of families.

**Friday:** 9am – 11am (Dream Time Kids) Indigenous
Play2Learn Birth—4yrs Gray Primary School
Good Beginnings Demountable. (Morning tea provided)

All Good Beginnings programs are provided free of charge

For more information please contact the office on 08-89327022 Mobile 0417200170

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**Change in School Dental Clinic Number**

The Northern Territory Oral Health Services has introduced a single contact phone number that will offer parents a greater choice of location and time when booking dental appointments. When you/ if you have received a reminder letter to arrange an appointment, please inform reception staff if you have other children that may need a check-up.

For any dental enquiries, to arrange an appointment or for dental emergencies, phone our

**New number on 8922 6466**

OHSNT continues to provide free dental services to all eligible children in the NT between the ages of 0-18 years old.

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**BIll Problems?**

If you are feeling overwhelmed by bills and having trouble paying for your child’s education costs...

**WE CAN HELP**

The SaverPlus program offers you $500 free to buy an iPad once you have saved $500 on a savings plan.

Call Peter on 08 8985 0077

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**EXPLORE, DISCOVER, ENJOY.**

**OPEN DAY**

**SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 10am to 2pm CASUARINA CAMPUS**

cdue.edu.au/openday

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**ANGlicareNT**

**SaverPlus**
Healthy Lunchbox Tips

Put the SNAZZ back into the simple sandwich!

Some of the following ideas can help make sandwiches more exciting!

- Triple deckers - use three slices of bread and two fillings.
- Cut pita bread in half to make pockets and add fillings.
- Use whole wheat sandwich-size crackers instead of bread.

Or try one of the following filling ideas

- Chicken, avocado and lettuce
- Apple and cream cheese
- Egg and lettuce

PALMERSTON COMMUNITY GARDEN

Expressions of interest Calling all green thumbs!

We need you to join the foundation working group for Palmerston’s 1st community garden. Based at Confalonieri Park in Gray, ground has broken on the garden and now its up to our working group to start sowing the seeds. To get involved contact Healthy Palmerston.

Phone: 8935 9929
email: palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au

If your looking to get out and active, we have some great news for the Palmerston parents.

Group fitness sessions for just $5 a class

Mums and Bubs Booty Camp
Tuesday 8.30am-9.30am
Salvation Army Hall, cnr Temple Terrace & Woodroffe Ave

Pilates and Prams
Fridays 8.30am-9.30am
Salvation Army Hall, cnr Temple Terrace & Woodroffe Ave

Contact: 8935 9929/Palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
Www.palmerston.nt.gov.au
Ask WHAT when kids act up

"Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive. There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT’?

WHY.............?
Why on earth did you do that?
Most of us have said this to our kids at some stage.
They hurt a sibling and we say, ‘Why?’
They argue and fight at the meal table and we say, ‘Why?’
They deliberately come home from an outing later than agreed and we say, ‘Why?’
This is a natural reaction. But often kids can’t articulate why they have done the wrong thing. Boys, in particular, will usually reply, ‘I dunno.’ They know something isn’t right, but articulating it is another matter.

Besides, asking Why is pointless.
Even if they give you a reason for their poor behaviour (‘cos she hit me first’, ‘I’m not hungry anyway’, ‘I was late because I lost track of time’) where do you go from there?

Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive.

There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT’?

Okay, your first reaction to misbehaviour may be ‘What the.....’ but hold that thought in. Better to ask questions such as:

- WHAT were you thinking when you hurt your sister?
- WHAT were you doing when you decided to stay out late?
- WHAT was happening when you argued with your friend?
- WHAT should you have done when you didn’t want to eat and decided to annoy your sister?
- WHAT will you do next time when you feel like acting like that?
- WHAT do you think your brother meant when he said that you were......?
- WHAT will you do now to make it up to your brother?

These types of questions are reflective and restorative. They require children to reflect on their thinking, their behaviour and the situation at hand. This opens up conversations that lead to learning.

Effective discipline helps children learn better ways of behaving. Some of the questions lead children to the important aspect of repairing or restoring relationships they may have damaged through their behaviour and so take some responsibility for the way they acted. Taking responsibility and making amends is another vital aspect of discipline.

Importantly, asking what? when kids’ misbehaviour impacts on others leads them further down the road from self interest to social interest, where they consider the well-being of others. It’s also in line with the types of questions teachers are asking your children when their behaviour adversely affects others.