Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents

This is the last newsletter for this semester and on behalf of all the staff I would like to thank parents for your wonderful support of the school and your child/ren over the past twenty weeks. We hope you will come along to Twilight Sports Night tomorrow from 3.50pm to 6pm on the oval. Food and drinks will be on sale.

Remember that Friday 21 June is a pupil free day as the staff work on the next four year Strategic Plan. Thank you to all the parents who completed the survey and sent that back into us. If you have not done this and wish to have your voice heard please ask the office for another copy of the survey.

School Reports will be sent home with students on Thursday. All subjects taught have a grade—ABCDE and an effort comment. The grades indicate where the student is working at for that subject. We are confident that our grades line up with other schools around Australia and in accordance with the Australian Curriculum. Therefore if your child receives a “C” at Gray School we are confident they would receive the same grade at another school.

Some parents showed concern that their child was receiving a “D” or an “E” for reading on their last report. Parents commented that their child could read well. However, it is not the actual reading that was an issue but the ability of the child to retell what they have read in the correct order and to answer questions correctly about what they have read. Many students can read the text at their level but the comprehension is not at the level it needs to be and therefore they receive a “D” or “E” on their report. Parents can assist their child to improve their comprehension by asking lots of questions about the text—what happened in the story, who were the main characters in the story, where/when did the story take place, why do you think that happened in the story, - lots of What, When, Why, Where, Who, How questions!

Have a wonderful four week holiday with your children—school starts on Tuesday 23rd July —Sue Beynon, Principal and Sharon Chin, AP

**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Twilight Sports - Thurs 20th June  
( 3.50pm - 6.00pm )
Pupil free day - Friday 21st June  
School Photos –Tues 20th August

**TERM DATES**

Term 3  
Tues 23rd July—Fri 27th September  
Students resume Tues 23rd July  
Public Holiday (Show Day)- Fri 26th July

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.”

Every Child, Every Day – improving student enrolment, attendance and participation is everybody’s responsibility and everyone’s business.
FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR STUDENTS
Reminder
All students are eligible for free check ups and treatment.
Where: Moulden Primary School
When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Contact: Jo– 89323494

THE GRAY—DROP IN CHILD HEALTH CLINIC WILL BE CLOSED OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

LOST PROPERTY
We have a collection of jumpers, water bottles, hats, school bags and left over items from school camp. If you have misplaced something please come in and check our Lost Property basket as any items not claimed by the end of term will be donated to the Red Cross.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS - 31/5/13
GIANT MERIT AWARD
Conner Kogler
MAXI MERIT AWARDS
| T/F | Rebecca Bachmann | T/F | Joshua Ross |
| T/B | Deejay Taylor | T/B | Kamini Singh |
| T/B | Ricky Nikolaev | 4/M | Daniel Ross x 2 |
| 4/M | Jason Baird | 4/M | Hayley Musgrave |

EARLY YEARS STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
AWARDS
| TB | Zachary Black | Kamini Singh |
| TF | Brendan Lee | Chloe Martin |
| T/1B | Lucas Birch – Baird | Ani Garg |
| 1/2L | Geoffery Porter | Janelle Jong |
| 1/2S | Dakota Krygger | Matthew Richards |
| 2J | Vanessa Jong | Patrick Tidalgo |

PRIMARY STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
AWARDS
| 3W | Kobi Williams | Nicky Nguyen |
| 3/4B | Skye Nguyen | Rhys O’Gallagher |
| 4M | Jack Gath | Reahana Wilson |
| 5R | Ethan Varney | Kobi McMillian |
| 5/6G | Rylie McDonald | Misilas Roberts |
| 5/6S | Archer Turner | Jade Miller |

On Sale Sports Twilight Night

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausage Sandwich</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steak Sandwich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fried Rice</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Drinks</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Wrist Bands</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Face Painting</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Tomorrow is the Twilight Sport Carnival. It is being held at the Gray School Oval (the soccer oval beside the school) and will run from 3:50pm-6pm. Please ensure that your child arrives on time so that they do not miss out on their race. Once you arrive, students are to sit under their sport house marquee.

For students to participate, they must be wearing closed in shoes and a hat. As water is not easily accessible, it is important that your child bring a water bottle.

Your child’s classroom teacher will write your child’s current age on their hand in their house colour. Please ensure that this is not rubbed off. We also encourage your child to wear their house colours.

Kulamingi – Blue
Guth Guth – Red
Yuengi – Green
Bilingida – Yellow

The School Council will have food and drink for sale.

This is a thoroughly enjoyable event, and it would be wonderful if you could attend to support your child and their team.

We look forward to seeing you there!

SPORT HOUSE BADGES
Preschool will be selling sport house badges for $2 each. They can be purchased at recess, lunch & after school from the Preschool or front office.

SPORT HOUSE WRISTBANDS

Face Painting

Lost Property Basket

Lost Item

Found Item
A Visit from Pre-School

On Thursday 6th June Pre-school came to visit our class 5/6 Stewart and Sugar our pet rabbit. Pre-school looked after Sugar while we were at camp.

Thursday morning we all sat in a circle and Sugar ran around. After that we read our Pre-school buddies a story.

All the students in Pre-school enjoyed listening to our stories and playing with Sugar.

Buddy Book

5/6 Stewart got an opportunity to make cool buddy books for our buddy class Transition Fawcett. Everyone made their own creative book based on buddy interests. They love it a lot! We even got to read it to them, it was great fun and I hope we can do it again.

By Sarah Momtaz & Chaquira Jones 5/6 Stewart
Mrs Casey’s & Barb’s Preschool Class Visit to The Territory Wild Life Park

We patted the snake

In the nocturnal house

Waiting for the train

In the aquarium

In the playground
Gray Students attend V8 Super Cars

3/4 Classes end of semester excursion to the Water Park
More than reading and writing

Parent easy guide 52

Parenting SA

Most parents know that reading and writing is so important for children. How words help us to understand our world and make the most of opportunities is much more than reading and writing. This is called literacy.

The word literacy often makes people think of school and many parents expect that literacy will be taught to their children once they start school. Children do not wait until they start school to develop literacy skills. From birth, babies and children are learning all the time.

Literacy is a part of everyone’s daily life. The experiences that are given to children influence their knowledge and understanding of their world. Children need opportunities to practise the skills they know and are able to do in order to become confident learners. In everyday activities and in your relationship with your children, you have a wonderful opportunity to help them develop literacy skills.

What is literacy?

Literacy was once seen as reading and writing. Now literacy is seen as much more: it is language we use in:
> speaking and listening
> reading and watching
> drawing and writing.

Literacy development begins in the family and continues in families and communities as well as in children’s services and schools.

How do you know your children are developing literacy skills?

You might see them:
> talking to family members and people, talking in conversations, listening to others and replying, and answering the phone
> carrying out instructions – from simple “Please put your cup on the table!” to more difficult instructions such as “Please put your box away and go to the bathroom and brush your teeth”
> being able to talk about themselves and their own actions, e.g. “He’s a good boy today” or “I’m eating a banana”

Speaking and listening

Families provide examples

Families teach by their own use of language:
> laughing
> explaining and instructing
> asking and answering questions
> talking about what has happened
> learning to listen to other people’s ways of saying things
> singing songs and rhymes, saying rhymes and chanting:
> problem solving, e.g. “You want the car to go to sport and I need to visit a friend, how can we work this out?”
> listening out loud: e.g. “I am ready to go work, now have I forgotten anything. Oh yes, I must put the dog out.”

Families provide experiences

Encourage children to listen to sounds and words:
> sing songs and say rhymes with babies and young children
> imitate sounds they hear, e.g. cocks crowing, motors roaring, dogs barking
> listen together to stories, books and tapes
> share jokes and rhymes
> listen to the wind in the trees, the waves of the sea, birds and animals
> whisper or use a different voice
> help them to work out what sound they hear at the beginning of a word.

Teach children about:
> numbers for things, people, actions, numbers, shape, size, time
> words for getting along with others – “Sorry, can I join in?”
> polite titles – Mr., Mrs., Miss., Ms., Aunt.

Talk about:
> what has happened – the past
> what is happening right now – the present
> what will happen – the future
> people – what sort of job do they do, where they live in the family or community, what is their relationship to your child.

Helping parents be their best

Page 2

Play word games:
> “What does the cow say?”... “Moo”
> “Why did the chicken cross the road?”
> “Knock, knock.” “Who’s there?”

Talk to babies and children about what you are doing:
> at bedtime, bath time, change time
> helping in the house, the shed, the garden
> feeding animals
> planning a trip or a party
> watching a parade or pantomime.

Show children that their learning is important:
> Speak clearly
> Listen with interest to what children have to say.
> Give them lots of time to find out what they want.
> Help them if they really get stuck.
> Take their questions seriously and help them find answers.
> Teach social rules... when and how to talk, when to listen and how to behave in certain situations.
Reading and watching

Families provide examples
Let your children see you reading and watching:
> TV guides, magazines, newspapers
> recipes, instructions, letters, labels
> signs, maps, AIM screens, traffic lights
> television, computers, movies.

Talk about what you read and watch:
> “I’m going to try this new recipe.”
> “This program is about how people live in China.”
> “I enjoyed reading that book about machines.”
> “That man in the wheelchair looks as if he is in a hurry.”
> “This diagram shows me how to work the video.”

Families provide experiences
Play looking games to help children notice details:
> “Look for the person wearing red shoes.”
> “Find the mouse in the picture.”
> “Find a word beginning with ‘y’.”
> “Find a number plate with a “three” in it.”
> “Let’s look for writing as we walk to the shops.”
> “Let’s follow the trail of footprints in the sand.”

Play:
> games which involve imagination and pretending
> board games such as Snakes and Ladders
> card games such as Snap
> matching games with real objects, shapes, pictures or words
> jigsaws and puzzles.

Point to print when you go out:
> road signs, shop windows, lists, posters, food and drink containers, letters, numbers, buses and train stops.

Questions (to help children think about what they see and read):
> Which way are we going?
> Which boards do we usually have, the kind or that?
> Can I park here?
> What happened? What will happen next?

Stories, told or read:
> at bedtime or any time.

Time:
> to share and talk about letters or cards from family and friends
> to share and talk about favourite books and stories
> to share and talk about television commercials and programs
> to order reading or watching without questions or interruptions.

Opportunities to choose:
> films, plays or TV programs from newspapers
> dinner from the takeaway menu.

Support your child’s attempts to read:
> Notice their efforts and encourage them to keep trying.

Things to use:
> Around the house you can find materials of all kinds to read, study and play with:
> old magazines, calendars, catalogues, blank forms
> boxes and packets
> old cards and wrapping paper
> books – pop-up books and lift-the-flap books, books with interesting pictures, books about children’s interests, books of nature, poetry and music, storybooks and books about facts
> technology – magnifying glasses and binoculars.

Show children that their learning is important:
> talk about the importance of your child’s name, what it means, how you chose it.
> Help children to recognize their names and the letters it contains, especially the first letter.
> Look for letters from their name in other words.
> Show you value their efforts to read and write.

Drawing and writing

Families provide examples
Let them see:
> drawing, painting, sticking, writing, filling in forms
> making and using real dough for baking
> playing puzzles
> painting, hammering and threading.

Teach by:
> helping children to solve drawing problems, e.g. “Could I make a straight line?”
> showing children how to hold pencils or use the computer
> showing children how to form letters, especially the letters in their name.

Make books (taking a scrap book or a few sheets of paper stapled together):
> about your child, about family, animals, holidays, shopping – about anything.
> using drawings, pictures, photos
> writing down what your children say.

Encourage children to draw and write and talk about their work by:
> drawing a picture about something they have seen or done
> illustrating a story
> writing their names
> making a shopping list.

Things to use:
> mud and sand, dough and clay, for squeezing, shaping and drawing in
> paper – lined and blank, old envelopes, letters and cards
> order forms from catalogues, old postcards and cards
> crayons, chalk, pens, pencils and textas
> a ruler and eraser.
> a computer
> a typewriter.

Show children that their learning is important:
> Give them time to experiment and practice.
> Notice and appreciate their achievements.
> Accept their efforts as they begin to draw and write.
> Help them when they get stuck.
> Encourage them to keep trying.
> Put their drawings on the fridge and get them to tell you about their drawings and writings.
Minecraft School Holiday Program

WHEN
Camp 1: 8 & 9 July
Camp 2: 11 & 12 July

WHERE - Rosebery Middle School

COST - $120 per person

For registration & more information go to http://minecraftcamps.net or email info@minecraftcamps.net