Dear Parents/Carers and Grandparents

I have returned from my three weeks as Principal of Moulden Park Primary School and would like to thank all the staff at Gray School for the wonderful leadership and teamwork they have shown in my absence.

Wednesday next week, 27th November, there will be a four hour strike in Palmerston schools. The strike will be from 8am to noon. I realize these strikes cause some issues for parents in trying to cater for the caring of your children. However, I do thank all of you for supporting the school and the teachers during these times.

Please take note of the day your child is going on excursion. These end of year excursions are reward excursions for students who have displayed “The Gray Way” expectations most of the time. Teachers will ring parents of students who are not attending the excursion due to ongoing unacceptable behaviour.

Our after school care program has now doubled in size. It is wonderful to go into the room after school and see the students very settled, very happy and getting along well with each other and the staff. This program operates from room 13 near the hall. If you are interested in your child attending the program you can pick up the registration forms from the office, or ring the office and they will ensure the forms are in your child’s school bag.

With the Wet Season well and truly upon us please ensure that you talk with your child about what arrangements you have in place for the stormy weather. The school has very specific guidelines that we follow—if there is lightening or heavy rain when the school bell rings at 2.30pm students remain in the classroom; if parents come to collect their child during this time they must come into the school to the classroom; office staff will not answer phones at this time; once the lightening or heavy rain has ceased students will be sent home. Thank you for working with us to ensure that your child remains safe.

Finishing strong is a great way for staff and students to complete the 2013 school year. We encourage students to continue with their excellent behaviour and attitude right through to the very last day on Thursday 12th December. School learning programs will continue until Wednesday 11th December. On the last day students clean their desks and chairs and pack up the classroom. We expect students to display “The Gray Way” expectations, to monitor their actions, be resilient, be organized, be persistent, be confident and get along with others including the staff.

“Beginners are many, strong finishers are few.”

Sue Beynon, Principal, and Sharon Chin, Assistant Principal

FREE DRESS DAY

Friday 29th November—Week 8
(Gold coin donation)
Donations are going to the NSW Bushfire Appeal.
**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

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.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shorts</th>
<th>Hats</th>
<th>Shirts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$12.50</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB~ISSUE 8**

Due Date Friday 22nd Nov. Wk 7

LAST ISSUE FOR 2013

Please ensure the student’s name and class is clearly written on the order form AND the correct money is enclosed and forms sent to the Library.

An arrangement can be made for the items to be picked up from the Library if they are intended for Christmas presents.

Once again, thank you to all students, staff and the school community for the wonderful support you have given the Book Club throughout the year.

Because of this support we have gained some amazing books which can now call Gray Primary School Library, home!

“I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library.”

~ Jorge Luis Borges ~

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**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Please treat the table below as a suggestion only; all donations will be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be given to the class teacher or left at the front office. A big thank you to those who have already donated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presch</th>
<th>Crafty items - stickers, glue, tape, colour pencils, colouring in books, simple craft activities, books, play-dough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tran</td>
<td>Christmas Items - bauble, tinsel, cellophane, Christmas paper, shiny things stocking fillers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Around the house - cleaning stuff, sponges, detergent, toilet paper, paper towel, tea towels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Packets - biscuits, rice crackers, popcorn, cereal, flour, sugar, cake mix, nuts, dried fruit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Personal care - toothpaste, soap, band-aids, dental floss, sunscreen, deodorant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Cans - baked beans, spaghetti, veggies, fruit, pet food, spreads, tuna.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Long-life items - Rice, pasta, 2 minute noodles, soup, gravy mix, casserole mix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Treats - chocolate, sweets, jellybeans, poppers, juice, chips.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Enjoy breakfast with:**

- Early Childhood Australia on Wednesday 20th November
  - Bacon, egg and cheese muffins
- FAST – Families and Schools Together on Wednesday 27th November
  - French toast with a twist
- COPAL - City of Palmerston on Wednesday 4th December
  - Fresh fruit compote with yoghurt and honey

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**Vacation Care Program**

16th – 20th Dec 2013  13th – 17th Jan 2013
6th – 10th Jan 2014  20th – 24th Jan 2104

Programs are available at the office.

* Subject to whether there are enough numbers.
On Sunday 10th November some of our families were offered the chance to go on a 30 minute FunFlight over Darwin in a small aircraft. We were also able to go for a drive in the massive green airport fire truck and climb through the brand new Police Lear Jet.

Thank You to FunFlight NT and The Smith Family for our wonderful day out!
Gray Primary School (Family Centre Building)

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

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

All Good Beginnings programs are provided free of charge.

For more information please contact the office on 08-89327022 Mobile 0417200170
No/Low Cost Play Therapy Sessions

Behavioural Change by Christmas!
Play Therapy Sessions at low or “No” cost* are available:
Session fees between $0, $40 and $80* pending on student experience.
Josephine Downs.
Senior practitioner rates are $150.00
Level 2, Suite 4,
59 Smith Street, Darwin
www.playtherapy.com.au
Phone 0411118620
Email: jodowns@playtherapy.com.au

*All students have allied health, undergraduate degrees.
And have completed Play Therapy Training and 100 pro bono hours of Play Therapy. This does not mean that all client sessions are at these rates. Initial interviews and follow up parent appointments will incur the $150 fee. At that appointment it will be assessed if the level of therapeutic support required can be undertaken by a student and therefore at no or low cost to the client/family. Details as at Oct, 2013.