Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

This term is going so fast and there are many exciting events happening. Our Gray Family Centre is currently running a reading program called "Reading is as Easy as 1,2,3." This program helps parents learn how to teach their child to read. It is a fantastic program and it is not too late to join in. The program operates every Friday from 8.30am to 9.30am in the library.

Our Gray School Extravaganza (whole school performance and giving out of awards) will be held on Thursday 29th November at Palmerston Senior College gym commencing at 5.30pm. The program will commence with the Transition performance followed by their class awards. We will then work our way through the year levels up to year six. The evening will finish at 7.30pm. No food or drinks are allowed in the gym and our school will not be selling food or drinks.

Please remember to talk with your children about what they should do when there is a storm after school. Many parents try to ring our school office at the end of the school day to give messages to their children. This makes it very difficult for the office staff as often the class is not in their room and even though an announcement is made for the child to come to the office to get their message they often don’t do this. When there is lightening, thunder and heavy rain at the end of the school day the students will remain in the classroom until the storm has passed. In these cases parents who want to collect their child will need to come into the school to collect the child.

School reports will be sent home on the last day of school - Thursday 13th December. Included in with the report will be an attendance certificate, a music report for those students learning music with School of Music and a letter advising of your child's class for 2013. The school office will be closed from 17th December 2012 until 14th January 2013.

Have a wonderful week.

Sue Beynon, Principal and Sharon Chin, Assistant Principal
Parents, Grandparents & Carers

Gray Primary School Principal
Sue Beynon

Cordially invites you to our
End of Year Extravaganza & Awards Night
at
Palmerston Senior College Gym

To be held
Thursday 29th November
5:30 pm
Classes will do a performance
and receive end of year awards.

RSVP 20th November 2012
Phone: 89321700
Email: admin.graysch@nts-schools.net
Once I finished High School at Palmerston Senior College, I went to Melbourne to play football. I had personal life change by having a little boy at really young age so I had to get a job to support my family. I have been working with a company called Brierty for 2 years and loving it. I have the money to support me and my little boy. My greatest achievement, since leaving school, would have to be completing year 12. I also got employee of the month and was lucky to get Indigenous Trainee of the year in 2012. I'm playing footy still for Southern Districts!

Curtly Reid

**2012 and 2013 School Year Term Dates**

**URBAN SCHOOLS**

This year, all schools will be finishing classes a day earlier - on Thursday 13 December. This will allow teachers to return to work a day earlier to prepare for classes to start on Tuesday 29 January next year (the 28th is the Australia Day public holiday).

Therefore:

- The last day of school will be **Thursday 13 December 2012**.
- Teachers will return to school on **Friday 25 January 2013** for their usual professional development day
- Students will return to school on **Tuesday 29 January 2013**.

The earlier completion and start dates will help ensure a more settled start to 2013. These dates apply to urban schools only.

If you have any concerns or queries please speak with Sue Beynon

Further details can be found on the Department of Education website:

[www.det.nt.gov.au](http://www.det.nt.gov.au)

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**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

We are running a Christmas Hamper raffle this year. The raffle will be drawn during the last week of school. We are asking for donations of items suitable for the hampers, and hope each family will support us to make up wonderful hamper prizes. Please treat the table below as suggestions only, all donations are greatly appreciated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Crafty items – stickers, glue, tape, colour pencils, colouring in books, simple craft activities, books, play-dough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transition</td>
<td>Christmas – bauble, tinsel, cellophane, Christmas paper, shiny things stocking fillers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>Around the house – cleaning stuff, sponges, detergent, toilet paper, paper towel, tea towels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>Packets – biscuits, rice crackers, popcorn, cereal, flour, sugar, cake mix, nuts, dried fruit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>Personal care – toothpaste, soap, band-aids, dental floss, sunscreen, deodorant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>Cans - baked beans, spaghetti, veggies, fruit, pet food, spreads, tuna.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>Long-life items – Rice, pasta, 2 minute noodles, soup, gravy mix, casserole mix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six</td>
<td>Treats – chocolate, sweets, jellybeans, poppers, juice, chips.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As the old man walked the beach at dawn he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them to sea. Catching up with the youth he asked him “Why was he doing this?”

The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left until the morning sun.

“But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish” countered the other.

“How can your effort make any difference?” The young man looked at the stranded starfish in his hand and threw it to the safety of the waves. “It makes a difference to this one”, he said

By an anonymous poet.

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Parent Yarn—Learning Together

“it was fun and I enjoyed it a lot, knowing what to teach my children” - Parent from 3rd parent yarn

Gray Primary School
Staff Room

Thursday 22 November 2012
5.30pm for meal; 6:00pm parent yarn starts

• Child minding with Chantal the Fairy Chicken, fried rice, fruit and drinks
• Transport from your front door
• Reminder text, phone 0428 292 485

Deadly Event! Spread the word...
Gray Primary School (Good Beginnings Building)

Good Beginnings Palmerston is based at Gray Primary School in the green demountable towards the back of the school. We offer a variety of programs, resources, information and support for families in the Palmerston community.

Gray Play 2 Learn

Play 2 learn is a supported play session where play based learning is designed around what the children are interested in, to help their development. The sessions are facilitated by an Early Childhood worker and Family support worker.

At Play 2 Learn we believe that by providing children with a secure and happy environment, where they are supported to develop their intellectual, social, emotional and physical skills, they will become confident and competent individuals.

Children and parents can participate in experiences together, strengthening relationships between children, parents and caregivers.

Good Beginnings will support you to build on your existing knowledge, skills and the resources that are available to you. Create connections and relationships in the community, both with other parent and community supports and services.

Tuesday
Play 2 Learn 9am—11am Birth—4yrs
(Please bring a piece of fruit to share)

Wednesday
Baby Play 2 Learn 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

9am —11am Birth—12 months
(Morning tea provided)

Friday
Dreamtime Indigenous Play 2 Learn
9am—11am Birth—4yrs
(Morning tea provided)

GOOD BEGINNINGS HOLIDAY PLAY GROUPS

During the School holidays Good Beginnings will be delivering a Universal Play 2 Learn Group. The group will commence on Tuesday January 8th and finish on Tuesday 25th January 2013.

After this the normal Play 2 Learn groups will commence as usual.

Good Beginnings will also host a Universal Play 2 Learn during the mid year school holiday break.

This will commence Tuesday 25th June and finish Tuesday 16th July 2013.

Play 2 Learn

9-11am A supported playgroup for families with children 0 – 4 yrs
(Older brothers and sister are welcome to attend)
Venue: Good Beginnings Centre, Gray Primary School

Please bring a piece of fruit to share
Come and join us for some holiday fun – art and craft, singing and dancing as well as story time.

All Good Beginnings programs are provided free of charge

For more information please call 08-89327022
Mobile 0417200170

A Good Beginning for Every Child
SAFETY HOUSE

Do you work from home or are you a stay-at-home parent?

Safety House Members provide a safe place for children to go, if they are feeling scared, are lost, being bullied or frightened by dogs before and after school.

If you are home between 7.00 - 8.30 and 2.30pm - 4.00pm most weekdays, are willing to apply for a Working With Children Volunteer Ochre Card and commit to an annual National Criminal History check you are eligible to apply.

Join Neighbourhood Watch NT and there will be no charge for the initial application for your Ochre Card.
Visit www.nhwnt.org.au for more details.

Contact: Sue Sevors; Safety House
Coordinator on 8999 0843 or email: safetyhouse@nt.gov.au.

We Need You!

FREE ‘learn to skate clinic’
Palmerston Senior College
Saturday 24th of November

Workshops run from 9-11 and 12-2
Skateboards and helmets are provided
Participants under the age of 18 need parental permission
Registrations will be taken on the day
Workshops will be held undercover on the basketball courts

MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB
AFL NORTHERN TERRITORY

SUPER CLINIC
MONDAY 10 DECEMBER
TIO STADIUM

SUPER CLINIC
1.30- 2.30pm
Autograph & Interaction
Session with children
2.30-3.30pm

To confirm your school’s attendance
contact Adam Moedt
adam.moedt@aflnt.com.au
08 8980 4815