Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents

What a wonderful Book Week Assembly we had last Friday with so many students and staff dressing up in the Space Theme. Our office was magnificently transformed into the Gray Space Station by Jenny and Mrs Fisher in the Library did a great job organising the sale of books, the competitions and the Friday dress up day.

This Friday we have our annual Blokes Big MasterChef Breakfast in the hall from 7.30am until 8.45am. This is a great time for all the dads to come along to the school and eat breakfast with your child/ren, meet the teacher and have a look in the classroom at the wonderful work that is happening. Students love having their dad, granddad, uncle or big brother come into the school for this event so please make it a priority.

We have noticed this term that students are not wearing the correct uniform to school. Uniforms in NT Government schools are compulsory. At Gray School we expect students to wear the school shirt every day, black shorts and closed in shoes. Thongs are not acceptable footwear for school. Skimpy shorts are not acceptable for school—that is beach wear. Students who do not have a clean school shirt to wear can borrow a shirt from the office for the day. Uniform is about being proud of your school. We would appreciate parents taking the time to discuss this with your child and ensure that they come to school appropriately dressed in full school uniform every day.

Our wonderful US Marines continue to work with our Year 5 Rummery class each Friday. The students love this time to play sport, read and gain some new knowledge and inspiration from the US Marines.

Genna Smiley will be holding some parent workshops this term to assist parents to understand how to teach Literacy skills to your children. These workshops are free and will be held at the school Library—the first one being held on Monday 2nd September. Invitations will go home to parents with children in the Early Years this week.

Please remember to fill in the “Returning to Gray School” form that was sent home last week. This helps us to plan our classes for 2014. If you have particular requests regarding the placement of your child/ren in classes for 2014 please send a note or email to Mrs Chin.

Have a wonderful week.

Sue Beynon (Principal) Sharon Chin (Assistant Principal)
Please join us for our **Blokes Big MasterChef Breakfast** to celebrate and recognize the wonderful role that males play in our students learning and lives. All students are encouraged to invite a significant male in their life (Father, Grandfather, Uncle, Brother or Family Friend) to join them at school for a Bacon and Egg Breakfast with all the trimmings.

**Friday 30th August**  
The Assembly Hall  
7.30am - 8.30am

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**ASSEMBLY AWARDS - 23/8/13**

**GIANT MERIT AWARD**  
Erin Draper

**MAXI MERIT AWARDS**

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<td>T/B</td>
<td>Ricky Prance</td>
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<td>Deejay Taylor</td>
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<td>T/F</td>
<td>Denny Waters</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Kogler</td>
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<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Annie Mae Rizaldo</td>
<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Rylie McDonald x3</td>
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<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Sayera Abir x2</td>
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<td>Angel Kenefake</td>
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<td>Wasif Khan x2</td>
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**EARLY YEARS STUDENTS OF THE WEEK AWARDS**

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<td>TB</td>
<td>Dashawn Appo</td>
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<td>William Noakes</td>
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<td>Daniel Nelamalli</td>
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<td>Damon McCoy</td>
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<td>2J</td>
<td>Laquell Banderson</td>
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<td>Sarita Armstrong</td>
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**PRIMARY STUDENTS OF THE WEEK AWARDS**

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<tr>
<td>3/W</td>
<td>Bryce Campbell-Bann</td>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Abigail Tidalgo</td>
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<td>4M</td>
<td>Serevi Tom</td>
<td>5R</td>
<td>Brandon Martin</td>
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<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Brandon Chong</td>
<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Alan Beyer</td>
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<td>5/6G</td>
<td>Brad Svansfeld</td>
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**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

School uniforms are **compulsory** in line with the Department of Education & Childrens Services Uniform Policy.

Gray School compulsory uniform consists of a school shirt, black shorts/bottoms and enclosed footwear. Parents/carers will be receiving a note advising them if their child is out of uniform. A hat is required for outside play (available at the office $10).

- Polo Shirt $25.00
- Black Shorts $12.50
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@ntschools.net or phone 08 8932 1700.

Please register your expression by Friday 30th August direct with the school

Scholastic Book Club
Issue 6 orders are due back on Thursday 12th September

For any queries, late or extra orders
You can contact Advanced Photography direct on..
1300728972
enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

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.
BOOK FAIR - 2013 READING ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

A huge thank you to the Gray Primary School community for your support throughout our Book Fair.

It was an amazing day on Friday with so many students making an effort with the dress up. It was also fantastic to see the amount of effort that some parents went to.

We sold over $3000.00 in books and this gave us $1000.00 commission to take out in value of books.

Our students love coming to our Library so these new books will certainly be a hit for everyone.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Sue Fisher
Library

Queen Amidala from the planet Naboo would like to extend her sincere gratitude to all staff, students and families for your support, fun and encouragement during Book Fair.
My Dad Is A Super Star

My Dad swims with me and reads a special book to me. Annabelle

My dad takes me to the park, cooks yummy macaroni and cheese. Damien

My Dad throws me in the air and catches me. Calleigh.

My Dad takes me on his quad bike. Xavier

My Dad hugs me lots and plays footy with me. Arcadius

My dad plays skylanders with me. Nate

My Dad gets me spring rolls at Woolies. Yvonne

My Dad takes me motor bike riding. Tyler

My Dad plays with me. Izabelle

My dad swims with me. Izabelle

Parents & Carers are invited to attend a hands-on and informative workshop on:
IMPROVING & UNDERSTANDING READING AND OXFORD WORDS

When: Monday 2nd September
Time: 5pm – 5:45pm
Location: Gray Primary School Library

All attendees will get their name in the draw to win some fantastic prizes including a Hog’s Breath Voucher, Target Voucher and Movie Tickets!

SRC FUNDRAISER
GOLD COIN DONATION
Wear your footy colours to support kids fighting cancer.

Friday 6th September
come to school dressed in your favourite team colours or Jersy to show your support for the cancer foundation.
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 Child’s 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
EASY WAYS TO INCREASE CALCIUM IN YOUR CHILD’S DIET

- Offer milk instead of cordial & fruit juice (if your child doesn’t like plain milk try a sippah straw with it
- Offer breakfast cereals with milk as a snack
- Use custard, yogurt or fromage frais for a healthy dessert
- Try cheese sticks in lunchboxes
- Milkshakes and fruit smoothies (made with fresh fruit and milk and yogurt
- Use milk as much as possible in cooking (soups, sauces, mornays and milk based puddings
- Try toasted cheese sandwiches for lunch

Father’s Day Family Night

Wednesday 28th August 6pm – 8pm

Join us for a great night of fun for the whole family!
- Make a gift for dad
- Hands on product demonstrations
- Free gift wrapping
- Light refreshments provided

Father’s Day Family Night

FEEDING TIME AT THE ZOO

9am - Saturday 31 August - Goyder Square

With special guests Rama the noisy lion and the monkey performing three shows

Food stalls & face painting & jumping castle

Bunnings Warehouse

Copa Festivals
Father time is valuable time

On Father’s Day it’s worth reflecting on how good fathering matters. It matters to men. And importantly it matters to children.

Building up frequent father points

Prince William is typical of many modern dads. Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their children was through their wives. Men, increasingly, recognise that their effectiveness is dependent on first-hand interactions with their kids. That means their presence is needed far more than any presents they may provide for their kids.

For some dads first-hand interactions with children are easier said than done. Family separation, work circumstances and busy lifestyles are all factors affecting their capacity to become involved in their children’s lives.

In these circumstances it’s important that men maintain an emotional attachment to their kids; do their best to know what’s going on in their children’s lives; and respond appropriately to the developmental imperatives of their children.

The impact of fathering on children

Good fathering matters.

It matters to mothers as a supportive father makes a mother’s life easier.

It matters to girls. Good fathering has been linked to higher confidence levels in girls, particularly during the tricky adolescent years. The notion of a father who is present, available and attentive affords a sense of security to a girl, which is necessary for healthy development.

Dads are also the first introduction to the world of men for girls so it’s important that fathers treat their daughters with gentleness and respect, but also encourage them to be assertive. In a sense, fathers teach their daughters how they should expect to be treated by males as they get older.

Good fathering matters to boys. They learn their first lessons of manhood from their dads. Early primary-aged boys usually want to spend a great deal of time with their dads. Steve Biddulph, author of Raising Boys, describes this phenomenon as “father-hunger” and suggests that dads need to be around their sons in the primary school years so they can “download the software” of how to be male.

The father-son relationship during adolescence can be problematic. While teen boys seem to be hard-wired to challenge their fathers, most desperately want their dads to be proud of them. Teen boys need a dad who can be firm when needed as they don’t always make great decisions. They need a dad who remembers the awkwardness and insecurity of being a teenage boy themselves. And they relate best to dads who don’t take themselves too seriously. The judicious use of humour, particularly with boys, is a great fathering strategy.

Fathering matters to men

And, of course, involved fathering matters to men. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men, as well as of life satisfaction levels. I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing for a man to get into a child’s space and time. There is a big kid in most men just busting to get out.

Parental well-being would be the last thing on Prince William’s mind as he attends to his young son’s needs. It is through these early forays into parenting that Prince William, like countless other men, will find his feet as a dad, and also discover his place in the life of his son.

Five fathering tips (whether you live with the children’s mother or not):

1. Go on dates with your daughters.
2. Have adventures with your sons.
4. Change as your child changes.
5. Discipline with firmness and compassion.