Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

Today I am in Melbourne for the announcement of the National winner of the NAB Schools First Award with $140,000 prize money. We are hoping this will come to Gray School. With some of our $60,000 prize money for being the NT winner we have purchased 30 I pads for use across the school. These will come into classes in a couple of weeks. The students are very excited and these I pads will assist students to keep up with technology.

Please ensure that you put Thursday 29th November into your calendar as our Gray School Awards and School Performance Extravaganza. This year we are combining our End of Year Awards and our end of year School Performance into one big night. The event will be held at the Palmerston Senior College Gym in air-conditioning. The night will commence at 5.30pm so please come along and have a great time.

All class teachers have sent out their class letter explaining their expectations, homework and the students learning for this term. The letter has also explained about the end of year reward excursion that the class will go on. Parents are to sign the tear off slip and return this to the class teacher so that we know that you understand if your child does not participate in the end of year reward excursion it is because their behaviour at school has not entitled them to go. If you need another copy of this letter please contact the front office or the class teacher.

Last Saturday many teachers from Gray School attended a professional learning with Bill Rogers, an expert in behaviour management in schools. Bill was inspiring and practical in his advice. He was also insistent that students as young as Pre-school have to “own” their behaviour. This means when they make wrong choices, both the parent and the teacher need to talk with the student to help them to see why their choices were not acceptable. Students’ Behaviour needs to always show respect for self and others, safety for everyone and on going learning both academically, socially and with behaviour. Schools are “learning zones” and this needs to be our focus as we help you prepare your child for a world of work and success. When students spend a vast majority of their time displaying unacceptable behaviour this deters them and others from learning.

Parents are the child’s first teacher and we respect that. We therefore ask parents to model respectful behaviour to their child. Parents who come on to the school grounds and into the office swearing will be reported to the Police and may have a trespass notice placed on them. Thank you for taking this on board in a positive way.

Have a wonderful week.

Sue Beynon, Principal and Sharon Chin, Assistant Principal
All Parents, & 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@ntschools.net
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

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. Tickets will be $1.00 each and a book of 10 tickets will be sent home with each child shortly. Please treat the table below as suggestions only, all donations are greatly appreciated.

Hope you will support this to enable us to make up wonderful prizes. Tickets will be $1.00 each and a book of 5 tickets will be sent home with each child shortly. Please treat the table below as suggestions only. All donations are greatly valued.

<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>
Need some Time Out before the silly season Begins?

Come and join us for an afternoon of laughs and crafts in the air-conditioning!
Every Monday afternoon 12.30pm - 2.30pm
At The Gray Family Centre

Items will be sold at a craft stall during week 9 to assist in our fundraising efforts to get our 4 shade Marquees and a new BBQ.

Donations are always welcome!

If you have some old craft items, wrapping paper, small clean glass jars with lids, buttons, mugs, plants, materials or any other items you no longer need, we would love to have them. Please drop them to the front office or bring them with you on Monday afternoon.
PROPOSED COMMUNITY GARDEN
HAVE YOUR SAY ....

What is a Community Garden?
Community gardens are places where people come together to grow food and engage in communal activities. They are a great way to foster good health, support life-long learning, cultivate vibrant communities and ‘green’ urban environments. Community gardens have the ability to bring people together from all walks of life and cultures and instil a sense of ownership and pride.

Why a Community Garden?
As well as growing food, community gardens can be an educational resource where people of all ages can learn about food production, contemporary environmental issues and sustainable practices for everyday living such as composting, recycling and water management. The physical health benefits of community gardens extend to access of locally grown produce, recreation and exercise. Access to community gardens has positive impacts on emotional wellbeing as it allows people to reconnect with natural processes, alleviating stress and providing opportunity for reflection, respite and relaxation.

City of Palmerston would like to hear your ideas for a community garden at the Gray Community Hall. The garden would aim to extend the Council’s ‘Healthy Palmerston’ program that encourages healthy eating and physical activity. If you are interested in hearing about a potential community garden or would like to provide feedback on what you would like to see in a community garden you are invited to attend the community workshop.

Time: 3.30pm
Date: 8th November 2012
Venue: Gray Community Hall

RSVP:
By the 5th November 2012.
Email: healthy@palmerston.nt.gov.au
Telephone: 8935 9929
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 292 486

Deadly Event! Spread the word...