



The Elephant's Belt

Newsletter

20/08/2021

Academics

Learners finished writing exams during the first week of term 3, after the holiday and Covid disruptions. School reports for the 2nd term were handed out last week. The top 10 learners of each grade will be announced as soon as the SMT have finalized the results.

The matric year has been a daunting one for many – the Covid 19 pandemic, infection fears and local and provincial unrest has added to the usual pressure that learners face. Some learners have thrived during the lockdown, especially those independent learners who enjoy being able to manage their own time and who have a high level of self-discipline, whilst most learners prefer a structured school environment.

Grade 12 Trials

On the 30th August 2021, the Matrics start writing their trials. With just under a week to go, Matrics are receiving intervention lessons everyday after school until 3pm to assist them in their exam preparations. We wish all our matrics happy studying and best of luck.

So many matriculants are worried about low results, a missed distinction or not getting enough points to further their studies. With all eyes are on the matrics, it makes the process very overwhelming and creates a lot of anticipation for their upcoming trials. While some matrics are feeling anxious, others are feeling optimistic about the upcoming trials and looking forward to their finals.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evenings took place this week from the 23rd Monday until Wednesday 25th. Grades were allocated a specific day and the meetings took place in the hall from 16:30 - 18:00.

Hospitality Exam for Grade 12 (Practical)

On Wednesday, 18th August, the Grade 12 Learners prepared a three course meal assessed by Mrs Govender, subject advisor for Hospitality Studies for the Umzinyathi District. Six guests from the SMT enjoyed the scrumptious meal that was prepared by the Hospitality Learners.

Our Hospitality Teacher is Miss Mzila who says: "The task allows for learners to be assessed on practical skills where learners are required to demonstrate and fulfil the role of a Chef and that of a waitron."

Learners are required to: - present a range of exotic dishes- set up a venue for a formal dinner- apply correct serving techniques for food and beverages suitable for a formal dinner.





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Sport

Cross-country takes place every Tuesday and Thursday after school and all learners are expected to participate. All participants receive a point for his/her house. A well-marked 5km route behind the school offers undulating terrain with marshals along the route.

One of the most wonderful aspects of cross-country running is that it's not only the learner against the competition, but also the natural terrain. Cross-country running means that participants have to run over a variety of surfaces, from grass, dirt, mud, asphalt and gravel. Participants will also find sharp turns, short steep hills, long cambered sections, branches, stones and sometimes stream crossings. With all these elements combined it is sometimes disruptive to running on a flat even surface. For most runners, track and road races are dictated by pace, while cross-country running is mostly dictated by effort. Trying to maintain pace through constant changes of footing, elevation and direction requires a steady effort. GHS learners are having fun while participating in cross-country.

Cross-Country results for this week:

Name:	Time:	Name:	Time:
Zaakir Hajat	30:00	Nkosenhle Ntshingila	26:00
Duran Mohan	25:30	Xolani Sikhosana	26:00
Thembekile Kubheka	26:00	Nolifah Maane	28:00
Asilonde Dhlomo	19:52	Nhlanzeko Jili	20:45
Anathi Mhlongo	27:45	Thabani Ndawonde	22:40
Joshua Hill	22:35	Nkazimulo Mzolo	15:00



Learners' with Mr Goosen at the Cross-Country on Tuesday 24th August 2021.



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Greytown High School Personalities

'Powers of B' asked me to write an article about GHS. To introduce myself, my name is Sydney Bondesio. I am an old scholar of GHS (1982-1986), a former Chairman of Old Scholars and did my practical teaching at Greytown High in the 1990s. I have been teaching at Greytown High since 2004 – to present. Nothing much changed from my school days in the 1980s to my current teaching days. GHS or the “Little School on the Hill” still surprises many with outstanding results. During the 1980s, we have had many students with 7 straight A's. From 2000 till recent, we again excelled with 9As; 7As and students getting 100 percent for a subject in their final matric examinations. Today many of our old scholars - and more recent, are in many leadership positions and serving their communities to a great extent.



Sport is still one of the highlights in Greytown. Many big schools then and today have been defeated by Greytown High because they underestimated GHS. Nothing has changed. On a Saturday the senior rugby boys would cluster around the Netball and Hockey girls. They cheer and shout without really understanding the games. The highlight of our first team rugby is when our boys take to the field running through the tunnel. These days, Netball and Soccer are major fixtures in our school calendar. Our athletics is bigger and stronger than ever. Very recently, we had athletes that broke records at Grey College and Menlo Park. Our swimming pool is being overhauled and almost functional after a long drought and we look forward to many competitive swimming galas in the future. As always, sport is very well supported by scholars, old scholars and the community. Many old scholars will be pleased to know that Nel and Melville houses are back and similarly as back

in the day, the competition amongst the four houses is fierce. Again nothing much has changed concerning 'naughty children'.

Hands in pockets, excuses for homework not done, hair for boys and girls and girls trying their luck with shorter skirts. We still have our class clowns and very studious students. Nothing has changed. Since my involvement with Greytown High, the school has been blessed with good educators and brilliant principals. During the 1980s, Mr S Odendaal was our principal and what a remarkable man and leader. During my career as a teacher, we had Mr JP Scholtz who became a legend of a man of many achievements and accolades e.g. 100 percent pass-rate for twenty-two years. In 2020, Miss R Jagesar (who was acting principal) had to see GHS through a most challenging year with Covid. She did a sterling job and paved the way for Mr C Dutton who was appointed as principal in 2021 and it is clear that GHS will continue with the culture of hard work in all spheres and continue our successes as we have had in the past. Last but not least, how could I write an article without making mention of our school bus – The Yellow Submarine. Back in the 1980s, we as scholars were embarrassed by the “old bus” and always wondered if we would make it to our destination. We always did! The Yellow Sub was sold in 2019. Today we see how privileged we all were. May the bus live in peace.



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GHS in Action

Grade 8 Open Day & Registration

We are full for Grade 8 in 2022.

At Greytown High we are delighted to be part of a young learner's preparation for high school. It is an exciting time, full of important questions for learners about their strengths, interests and goals. It is also a time for academic, emotional and spiritual growth. We, at Greytown High, believe in each learner's capacity to learn and that each learner deserves to learn in an environment where they can be valued, cared for and respected.

On Friday, the 20th, and Saturday, 21st August 2021, the Grade 8 open days for 2022 took place in the school hall. This year the open days were held differently due to Covid. Parent and learners were allocated various time slots on Friday and Saturday to complete the registration process.

After Mr Dutton's welcoming address, learners were taken on a short tour of the school by our four Head Prefects.

We look forward to seeing all the Grade 8's for 2022 and wish them a happy and successful high school journey with us.



Pastoral Care

Prefect Elections for 2022

Thursday and Friday last week saw the highly anticipated elections of the 2022 School Prefects. All learners were given an opportunity to cast their votes for next year's leadership. The results will be calculated and verified by the SMT before the announcement will be made in the weeks to come. Becoming a school prefect has always been an honour to receive with the responsibility and duties that come with it. The prefect groups are expected to be ambassadors to the school and to uphold the basic principles of academics, sport and discipline whilst motivating their peers to do the same. Good luck to all the candidates.



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Fund Raising

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