



# Greytown High School

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Dear Parent/Guardian

“Time flies when you are having fun” and it is difficult to believe that the first month of the year has already passed. It is important that parents are involved in all aspects of their child's life (socially, academically and extramurally).

Socially it is very important for your child to have friends that encourage and build him/her up. Please get to know your child's friends. If friends come to your house, ensure that they are presented to you so that you know who they are. Don't let your child go to other people's houses whom you don't know. Phone the parents and introduce yourself and make sure that there is supervision at the house. Children have different friends. The friends that your child has in grade 8 may not be the same in grade 9. Please be on the lookout for “friend break ups” that could harm your child. Speak to them and give them the skills to deal with the situation and “toxic people” who will break your child down. Lastly, make sure your children have real friends who they talk to, not Instagram followers.

Learners wrote their first cycle test last Friday and will write one today. Please monitor your child's performance by asking a very simple question: what did they get and what was the class average? The cycle tests are there to monitor your child's progress, to see whether your child is understanding content and to check if there are any problems or difficulties. Please make sure that you are checking your child's results each week, discuss their goals for each subject and react swiftly to any poor performances.

In this regard, we have already started with extra lessons and will have compulsory study sessions on Saturday mornings for grade 12 learners who got below 50% in a subject in 2023. We will be splitting the extra lessons: one educator for those who are aiming for 80% and another educator who will work for those the others who are aiming for 50%. You will be given notice of extra lessons. We encourage you to make the arrangements for your child to attend them as they will enrich him/her. Whilst we are very proud of last year's matric results, we are well aware of our shortfalls and this year we will be focusing on getting our bachelors pass up to 90% (meaning we don't have subjects where learners get below 50%) as well as pushing the highflying learners to get A's. Our educators need the parents by their side to motivate learners to succeed.

Worldwide research has shown that schools that offer an all-round education get better results. Greytown High has an extra mural program with practices that take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays (during school hours) with matches normally on Saturday, but these can also occur midweek. One of the benefits of being a student at Greytown High is the variety of activities we have on offer. This term we have swimming, debating, chess, shooting, athletics, volleyball, cricket, science club and art and drama, as well as conditioning for the winter sports. Please get involved in your child's world and get to know the rules of the activities your child is doing. Watch the sport on TV and walk the journey with your child.

We will be running a coffee shop as well as a tuck shop at all sports events for parents to relax with a cappuccino on Saturday mornings whilst watching your children. If you are a new parent, a great way to get to know other parents is to watch an activity your child is involved in. Please note the following activities taking place in the next two weeks. We expect to see parents supporting their children:

- 3 February, Saturday - Cricket vs Grace College, 1<sup>st</sup> and junior at home.
- 6 February, Tuesday - Cricket vs Hermannsburg, 1<sup>st</sup> team at Hermannsburg.
- 10 February, Saturday - Cricket vs DSS, 1<sup>st</sup> and junior at home.
- 13 February, Tuesday - Quad swimming gala at Wembley.

Enjoy the journey and please be there for every moment of your child's High School journey. Before you know it, they will be finished with school.

Regards

CR DUTTON  
PRINCIPAL