



# Greytown High School

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Having a child is a blessing, but with parenting comes responsibility. Both mothers' and fathers' roles in the development of a child are vitally important and you need to be there with your child at each step of the way. Your child has received his/her report, knows the marks and they will be looking to you for guidance. If they have underachieved, they will seek support and guidance as to how they can improve. Grade 9 learners will need parents to guide them in choosing subjects and grade 10 and 11 learners will require guidance from parents to decide what to apply for at the end of grade 11. The pressure on grade 12 learners is immense and they will be crying out for support, guidance and love.

Academically, the school will have an intense intervention program where learners who have failed will be called in with their parents and strategies discussed to deal with the situation. Any learner who has failed a specific subject will be monitored closely by the subject teacher as well as the head of department. We will also give attention to learners who are achieving below their abilities, e.g. a learner who is getting 70% instead of 80% and look at strategies to help them achieve excellent results at the end of the year. These strategies will only be effective if we have the complete buy in from parents. We were disappointed with the parental turnout at the parents' evening this past week. Your child needs you every step of the way.

We had the matric farewell last weekend and our learners looked glamorous. Tragedy however occurred at one of the after parties, where a grade 10 learner (from another school) snuck out of his house with two other boys at midnight, went to the after party at 2 o'clock (the party had finished and most people had left), drank a bottle of vodka and passed away just before 5 o'clock in the morning. The matric after parties have nothing to do with the school and are organized by parents. The truth is, however, that it could easily have been one of our own learners (in 2023 two learners were hospitalized at an after party with alcohol poisoning) and it could be your child. You must know the parents of your child's/children's friends, even more so if they are staying over at a friend's house. Do not allow your child/ren to go to parties if you don't know who will be there or exactly where the party is held. Wait up for your child. Have open and honest conversations about alcohol, drugs and the behaviour of others at parties and most importantly - your child must never get into a car with an unlicensed or drunk driver. As parents, you need to be firm, decisive and aware of what is going on in order to avert tragedies.

Probably the most important thing that a child can learn or get from a good education is to have the skills of compassion, consideration for others and the willingness to give more than they get. We were very proud of the Greytown High School scholars who participated in Mandela Day on Thursday. Over R15 000 in tinned food and cash was raised to give to four of Greytown's charities - Umvoti AIDS Centre, Kyalami Children's Home, God's Will Ministries and LETCEE. Learners also spent time at Kyalami and the Umvoti AIDS Centre playing with children, making a vegetable garden and working in the soup kitchen. It is so important to, as parents, teach your children the importance of appreciating what they have, and very importantly what others don't have and to be willing to contribute and make life better for them. All four of these charities are looking after orphaned children in Greytown and it is a good life lesson for our children to see and appreciate all that they have. We thank you as parents for your contribution and look forward to expanding on our outreach to include more activities and opportunities for our learners to give to those less fortunate than themselves.

This term we are hosting two festivals: Lucas Ngiba Soccer Festival (20/07/2024, starting at 09:00) and the Amagugu Cricket Festival (20 - 21/09/2024). Please note that we have decided, for security purposes, to charge an entrance fee of R10 for the festivals for spectators (learners in school uniform will enter for free). We need parental support, sponsors and community involvement. Please support the school.

Lastly, I have included the link to the school's Facebook page. Please see the activities at school and like the page.  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100065002899992&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

Enjoy your time as a parent of a school-going child, as it will be over quicker than you realise. Understand the important role that you play and the impact that absent parents have on a child. With your unwavering support we will make Greytown High School GREAT.

Regards

CR DUTTON  
PRINCIPAL