HEADMASTER'S NEWSLETTER

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The following boys are congratulated for their academic performances in Term 4. They are listed in alphabetical order.

GRADE 4
Connor Arnold
Nathan Dillon
Luke Myburgh
James Nepgen
Christopher Raubenheimer

GRADE 5
Keagan Cyrolies
Oliver Ellis
Ryle Nortier
Liam Pieterse
Tink Strydom

GRADE 6
David Castelyn
Nicholas Nel
Levi Peters
Sion Schoeman
Harry Watson

GRADE 7
Niel Coetzee
Noah Moffett
Liam van der Mescht
Chris van Staden
Connor Wilson

Erratum: Last term, Ridge Lawson's name was omitted from the Top 5 Grade 7s. Congratulations, Ridge.



Keeping Your Finger on the Pulse

In this final newsletter for the year, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to the great majority of parents who have "kept their finger on the pulse" to the great benefit of their sons. Your active participation in the education of your fine young lad ensures that he is organised, supported - and held accountable - while learning to stand on his own two feet. Never underestimate the value of early scaffolding as he learns to take responsibility for his own progress, develops a healthy resilience when tackling difficult things, and builds character.

To the few moms and dads who are *still* asking, "What project? and "When was that for?" on bootleg WhatsApp groups, often while happily signing an empty diary daily - please help us to get matters in hand. Staying in rhythm now prevents the weak pulse of mediocrity later.

Message from the Headmaster



There are several opportunities in Term 4 for us to celebrate the fine young men of Grey Junior. The prize giving ceremonies, the Grade 7 Farewell Music Concert, the Valedictory Service and the final reports, to name but a few, offer a wonderful glimpse in the rear-view mirror of 2025 - a good year!

Ringing in the Changes

This year marks a significant chapter of transition at Grey Junior as we bid farewell to Mrs Pera Lunnon, Mrs Ann Easton, Mrs Gwenda Keppler, Mrs Ilse Klingelhoeffer and Mrs Toni Wannenburg. We have always said that teachers don't resign from Grey Junior; they retire from here - but five is unusual and unprecedented. These ladies' combined decades of dedication have shaped generations of Grey boys, and, in truth, the school itself. They will be sorely missed and warmly welcomed back as friends.

Staff Farewells



Mrs Ann Easton: Helping boys become their best, Ann served Grey with excellence, humour and heart, shaping learners and traditions across four decades.



Mrs Gwenda Keppler: An educator who inspired young voices, blended creativity with learning, and turned classrooms and choirs into confident performances.



Mrs Ilse Klingelhoeffer: With precision, passion, and a legacy that resonates, Ilse's influence spans music, sport and generations of Grey musicians.



Mrs Toni Wannenburg: Genuine and calm, Toni guided learners confidently into the digital world, shaping skills with warmth, clarity and integrity.



SPOTLIGHT ON

Mr Gary Carter

Mr Gary Carter, Head of Grade 7, recently represented Grey Junior at the China–South Africa Bilateral Education Conference at Zhejiang Normal University. Engaging with global leaders in Artificial Intelligence and digital learning, he returned with valuable insights on smart classrooms, AI-assisted teaching, and future-focused skills development—strengthening our vision for innovative, tech-empowered education.

"Technology should not replace teachers—it should empower them. The classroom of the future blends human creativity and digital intelligence, enhancing our teaching, supporting each learner's journey, and ensuring our children are equipped to thrive in a world where AI will be an everyday tool."

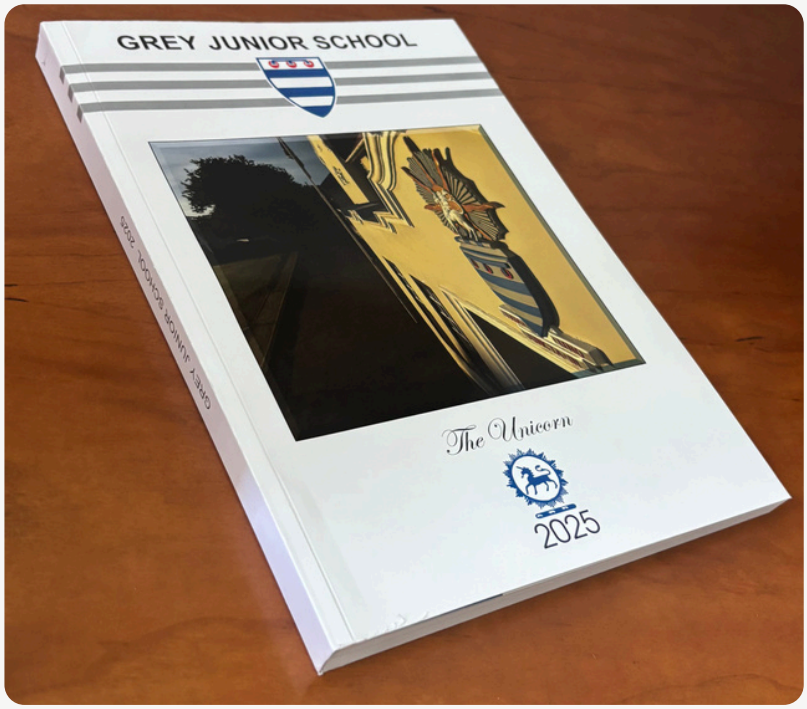
- Mr Carter -

Never Underestimate the Impact



Legacies & Legends was an inspiring discussion between Siya Kolisi and Vincent Mai, organised by the Grey Foundation and hosted by Gavin Cowley. Siya literally dropped the ball he was signing to embrace Dr Adie Mukheibir when she walked in. Later, he said, "When I got here (to Grey), I felt so stupid and I felt so useless because the language barrier was too difficult. Dr Mukheibir is here today - she was my English teacher!"

READ ALL ABOUT IT



By now, you would surely have paged through The Unicorn, and perhaps even read it from cover to cover. What an amazing archival treasure trove of goodwill and activity.

The editor, Ms Lucy Roger, is always quick to waive off credit for the enormous amount of work that goes into our annual school magazine, but it would not be the polished publication that it is without her expert eye for detail.



Out and About in Term 4

A very important part of Term 4 is Camp Week. Our Grade 5s travel out to African Imprint in Kirkwood, our Grade 6s head off to Hobbiton on Hogsback and our Grade 7s camp on the banks of the Sundays River at Leaders in Life in the heart of Addo.

The experience of canoeing, fishing, abseiling, fire-making and teamwork challenges can be life-changing.



To say that Brian Fitzhenry is a fishing enthusiast is an understatement. Proving his skill, he managed to land this magnificent specimen while on camp in the Addo area.

The Music Scene

The Foundation Phase Music Concert was a highlight for our Grade 1s, 2s and 3s, and Ms Hayley Africa can be proud of the enthusiasm she harnessed and the talent she showcased.

Joy to the World was the theme of this year's "Christmas, the Grey Way" and the audience were in for a treat as both Junior and Senior Choirs, the Strings Ensemble and our Concert Band performed Christmas favourites.



The Beginners' Concert showcased up-and-coming talent and the Seniors' Outreach Concert saw 145 senior citizens from across the city gather for an afternoon of tea, sweet treats and good music.

PERI'S SUITS
083 469 9602

Thank you, Mr Andrew Fisher of Peri's Suits, for the generous donation of beautiful new covers for our baby grand piano and timpani drums.

Art Exhibition 2025

This year's Grey Junior Art Exhibition was held over two evenings, extending the opportunity for boys, parents and friends to view the most amazing work being done during Art and at Art Club.





Ms Stacey Irvine, take a bow! The quality and range of the art on display not only represents the depth of talent of our young artists, but is also a direct reflection of the inspiration you are to your classes.

The fact that all proceeds of the evening are donated to animal rescue projects that include the work being done in Tarka, the Animal Welfare Society, Domestic Animal Care, Izinja and Oudtshoorn Dogs in Need.

Our boys are learning that talent can be harnessed for change, and the world is a better place for it.

SPORT

TERM 4 SPORT REPORT – A STRONG FINISH TO THE YEAR
Term 4 sport delivered a vibrant end to the calendar year, with Grey's summer codes demonstrating depth, determination, and standout individual performances.

Our U13A **water polo** team travelled to Cape Town at the beginning of the term to compete in the SACS Water Polo Tournament, finishing 5th overall.

Our U13A, U13B and and U12A teams placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Eco Tournament in early November.

Six Grey Junior **mountain bike** riders - Oliver Claridge, Eliah Kleu, Aiden Waudby, Ross van Rooyen, Liham Labuschagne and Micah Kleu - competed in the Interprovincial Primary Schools' Final in Tzaneen and Grey placed 23rd out of 85 boys' schools nationwide. Thank you, Mr Hein van Rooyen, for coaching the team.

Four of our **squash** players - Nicholas Bornman, Logan Parry, Blake Parry and Rossouw Bornman competed in the EP Men's Squash 9th League and went undefeated.

Meanwhile, Grey has continued to dominate the **tennis** scene and our Top 4 - Niel Coetzee, Erik Goedhals, Chris van Staden and Harry Watson - represented the school at the Rising Stars National Tournament, bringing home the Bronze Medal.

Grey swept the Queen's Derby tennis fixtures with victories in all singles and doubles matches, showcasing superb skill and discipline.

The U13A **cricket** team returned from Cape Schools Cricket Week with results that captured attention, beating Bishops and SACS. The game vs Rondebosch was called due to rain.













SPORT CONTINUED...

Derby season brought local bragging rights with impressive returns:

- Queen's Derby – four wins despite weather interruptions
- Kingswood, Stirling and St Andrews – unbeaten across all matches

A notable highlight was the selection of 11 Grey boys for EP cricket teams, underlining the programme's growing stature.



In the mind-sport of **chess**, Grey took top spot in the Nelson Mandela Bay Schools Chess League, displaying strategic mastery over the season.



On the **track**, Thomas Fick sprinted into the spotlight with two gold medals at EP Primary Champs.

He was subsequently awarded a place at the ASA Sub Youth Championships, where he earned a Silver medal.





It is worth noting that, on 8 October 2025, two **Grey Junior School "Old Boys"** played vital leadership roles in both the Springboks and the Proteas.

Siya Kolisi (on the occasion of his 100th cap) and Matthew Breetzke captained the Nation's rugby and cricket teams, respectively.

Just saying...