



P: 06 844 7024 | E: admin@gms.school.nz | www.gms.school.nz

Tuesday 15th December 2015



NEWSLETTER 22

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

Tena koutou nga whanau, mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The end of our fantastic year is in sight ... and here is our final school newsletter for 2015.

ENORMOUS THANKS TO:

A huge round of applause and thanks is required for all of our school staff. They make our school fantastic and create so many engaging learning opportunities for all our students. Without all of our teachers, teacher aides, office staff, librarian, cleaning and caretaking team and relievers, many many things would not be possible! Thank you to all on 'our team' for all your individual efforts and time in your roles that help make Greenmeadows School a positive and happy learning environment. It has been a great year ... and staff are already planning for a brilliant 2016.

It is important to thank and recognise our school Board of Trustees also. As governors of our school, our BOT members are charged with great responsibility - I would like to thank them all for their significant efforts and time. They do so much to ensure our school is operating efficiently and above expectations so that we have excellence at our school. Our business is 'learning' and the board help ensure this stays our focus.

SCHOOL CAMPS, TRIPS AND OUTINGS

The past few weeks have been jam packed with a range of activities for children throughout the whole school. From the senior camps, to the syndicate trips for Pohutukawa and Kowhai students, these have been a great way to end a most successful year.

None of these activities could have occurred without the tireless support of our fantastic group of GMS parents and grandparents. The way you are there in such large numbers helping our children and the staff is greatly appreciated ... and believe us, we never take it for granted! Thank you all so much for all the incredible help throughout the year.

END OF YEAR BREAKUP AND PRIZE-GIVING

The school breakup and prize-giving will be held this evening, Tuesday 15th December in the Heart of the School outdoor stage. The start time is **6.30pm** and the ceremony expected to last for about an hour. All parents and friends of the school are most welcome to attend. All children are expected to attend and need to be lined up in class groups on the school field by 6.20pm. Parking gets difficult so please plan to get to school with time to spare.

Children in Years 1 to 5 need to wear school uniform, but do not need their hats for the evening.

STAFF CHANGES FOR 2015

We farewell three members of staff this week. Mrs. Maia Murray, Miss Michelle Steiner and Mrs. Carole Pettersson who have all been working in the junior syndicate this year. All three have made a very valuable contribution to our school and have created many wonderful learning opportunities for all the students in their respective classes. They have also been part of a very effective and highly regarded junior syndicate. We wish them all the very best for the 2016 school year and what lies ahead. Our sincere thanks to these teachers.

Last evening the staff and Board of Trustees held a farewell function for Mrs. Linda Dallimore. Linda first started working at Greenmeadows School in 1986, and has been here full time since 1991. She has made an immense and lasting impression on hundreds of children and on our wider school community with her engaging and empowering classroom teaching. We will still be seeing her in 2016 in various roles, so she will not be lost to our school.

We have one new member on our teaching staff. This will be Miss Paige Alexander who will be teaching in Room 12. Paige will have a Year 5 class, and this will be the fifth class in the Totara syndicate as a large year group makes its way through the school. Paige has visited school over the past week and is looking forward to the new year getting underway.



Room 1	Sarah Burton Brylee White	Room 2	Joshua Hicks Olivia Sinden
Room 3	Angus Hawthorne-Grey Kala Miringaorangi-Turua	Room 4	Luke Sharp Kalan Wedd
Room 5	Jaimee Steed Lucas Miles	Room 6	Luka Jones Jordan Sullivan
Room 7	Kayla Hooper Charlotte Field	Room 8	Emilee Jeffares Nick Catley
Room 9	Piper McKnight Lelia Weeks	Room 10	Riley Burke Nerrisa Scott BJ Bloomfeild
Room 11	Caitlyn Walls Kaden Heke	Room 12	Courtney Becker
Room 13	Olivia Harding Tyler Hadabora	Room 14	Harley Taurima Ryder Moore
Room 15	Kayla Glentworth	Room 16	Charlie Stewart Maddie Walker
Room 17	Logan Fimmimore Dana Hogg	Room 18	Logan James Cyris Allen Jaxon Peake Jacinta Hopkins

PRINCIPAL AWARDS WEEK 7&8 TERM 4



2016 CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

The following will be our organisation for the 2016 year:
 Principal — Mr. Mark Johnson
 Deputy Principal — Mr. Maaka Papuni
 Assistant Principal — Ms. Allyson Ross
 Assistant Principal (Junior School) — Mrs. Ali de Lange

Kowhai ('Junior') team Rooms 1 to 7 & 11

Room 1	Mrs. Wendy Currie (Year 1 & NE)
Room 2	Mrs. Christina Tareha (Year 1 & NE)
Rooms 3 and 4	To fill during the year
Room 5	Mrs. Sue Martin (Year 2)
Room 6	Mrs. Mrs. Helen Harvey (Year 1)
Room 7	Mrs. Monique Cowie (Year 2)
Room 11	Mrs. Jane Carter (Year 2)

Pohutukawa ('Middle') team Rooms 8,9,10,13 & Hall

Room 8	Mrs. Sarah Groenveld (Year 3)
Room 9	Mrs. Pixie Bryan (Year 4)
Room 10	Miss Jane McCosh (Year 3)
Room 13	Mrs. Toni Miles (Year 4)
Hall 'Room 18'	Mrs. Shona Milner & Mrs. Paula Kinsey (Years 3 &4)

Totara ('Senior') team Rooms 12, 14,15,16 & 17

Room 12	Miss Paige Alexander (Year 5)
Room 14	Mr. Greg Bain (Year 5 & 6)
Room 15	Mrs. Ceirwyn Ware (Year 5 & 6)
Room 16	Mr. Marty Gibbs (Year 5 & 6)
Room 17	Ms. Kim Davidson (Year 6)

LIBRARY BOOKS

To ensure your child can issue library books in 2016, please make sure that all outstanding books are either paid for or returned.

SCHOOL REPORTS

The end of year reports were sent home this afternoon. These reports are comprehensive summaries of your child's progress and achievements this year. I thoroughly enjoyed reading all the reports and there are so many wonderful comments to be found in these special documents. The children can be very proud of their achievements this year.

CANTEEN

Thank you for your support with the canteen during 2015. The canteen will reopen on Wednesday 10th February 2016. Wishing a Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all the GMS families.

SCHOOL READER AMNESTY

Please check under beds, behind couches and in your bookcases. We have lost a number of school readers. These are the books that come home every night for home reading. They cost between \$10-12 so it is important we get as many back as possible. Please return any books, no questions asked.

SCHOLASTIC SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Visit: www.scholastic.co.nz/summer to register for the Scholastic Reading Challenge. There are great prizes to be won. Encouraging students to read for a least 10 minutes every day during summer avoids the 'summer slide' and keeps reading levels up.



KELLY SPORTS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Kelly Sports will be running Holiday Programmes in the school holidays 21st- 23rd December and 18th- 29th January 2016. They will be offering a great mixture of sporting and craft activities the programme offers something for everyone. Prices start from \$35 per day, with family discounts and full week specials available. The program is OSCAR accredited so WINZ subsidies are available. For more information please visit www.kellysports.co.nz. Alternatively please contact us at hb@kellysports.co.nz or on 06 843 4219.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 15th Dec Reports sent home
15th Dec School breakup and prize-giving
6.30pm start
16th Dec Meeting for parents in Room 18
2016 year) 3.15pm
17th Dec Last day for 2015
School finishes 12.00pm
- 1 Feb First day of 2016

So our wonderful year is about to end. It has been an amazing last forty weeks of school with our fantastic 471 children, such talented and hardworking teachers and a very supportive community.

What a great collective strength we have at GMS!

Thanks so much to all who have contributed to make GMS such a neat place and successful school in 2015.

Left: GMS Ukettes and singers with NZ music legend Dave Dobbyn after they sang for him last Friday!!!!

Can you spot him at the back?

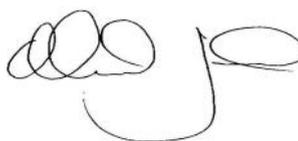
To all our school leavers and their families and whanau — haere ra. I especially want to acknowledge those who are ending their formal ties with Greenmeadows School, of whom there are quite a large number.

This Year 6 group holds special significance for me. They all enrolled after I become Principal here at GMS in January 2009. So this is the first time in my career I have seen a year group right through their primary years: and what a wonderful group they are! I wish you well for the exciting challenges and learning that lies ahead for you all. I am sure your time at Greenmeadows School will have prepared you well.

I wish all a very safe, happy and enjoy festive season.

Look on our school website for additional dates and events: there are plenty!!!!

Have a great summer!



Mark Johnson
Principal



SPORTS NOTICES

GMS SPORTS UNIFORM RETURN

A reminder that all school sports shirts must be returned to Mr Gibbs in Rm16 before the end of term.

SPORTS IN 2016

We are pleased to be able to offer Basketball, Cricket, Junior Cricket, Volleyball, Junior Netball, Canoe Polo, MiniPitch and TeeBall as team sports for children in Term 1 2016. There is something for everyone in all year groups, and we encourage as many children as possible to get involved. For further information now see the sports notice board in front of the school office, or visit the school website. Full information and registrations forms will be sent home with all pupils on 1st February 2016.

RESULTS FROM TRIATHLON CHAMPS - 7th December

We had a fantastic day at the HB Primary Schools Triathlon Champs, with all our athletes proudly representing GMS, supporting each other and giving it their very best. With nearly 600 children competing we were able to celebrate some great results, with all teams and individuals making it home over the finish line. Full results are now available on www.triHB.kiwi. Special congratulations must also go to Mary-Anne Tuala, who to the loud delight of us all was the lucky winner of the day's major spot prize of a \$250 Avanti Cycles voucher. A big thank you is extended to all the parents who helped with transport to and from the venue, and who helped to cheer our children on. Your support is what made it possible for us to participate in this event.

2016 WEETBIX KIDS TRYATHLON

Don't forget to enter the Weetbix Tryathlon during the school holidays!!

Entries are now open for the 2016 Sanitarium Weetbix Kids TRYathlon, set for Thursday 18th February at Frimley Park, Hastings. This event is part of the biggest series of its kind in the world, and encourages Kiwi kids of all sporting abilities aged between 7 and 15 to get out and *Give it a TRY!* Entries for this event close during the school holidays, so all children keen on entering must do so on-line from home with a parent/guardian. Go to try.weetbix.co.nz and use our GMS school group discount code of GREE0618 to link to our school and receive your discounted entry fee. Early bird entries at the discounted price of \$35 close on Monday 18th January, and further school discounted entries of \$39 close on Wednesday 27th January. Payment is made online at the time of your entry. Visit the website for full information on the event - we encourage as many children as possible to *Give it a Try!* We will have our GMS gazebo set up there on the day as a meeting point, however participants must organise their own travel to and from the venue. For any further enquires please contact Nicki at nickis@gms.school.nz.

2016 FRIENDLY DENTAL IRONKIDS TRIATHLON SERIES

For those children keen to have a go at another triathlon, or experience one for the first time, this triathlon series is a great way to get started. Held at Ocean Spa in Napier, these events are extremely well run by TriHB and can be entered as individuals or teams. Distances for the 8-10yr old race is 100m swim, 2km cycle, and 1km run/walk, and for the 11-13yr old race is 200m swim, 4km cycle, and 2km run/walk. Great spot prizes are available for all participants, and the sense of achievement for completing a race is priceless. The first event is set for Sunday 31st January, 2nd event is 14th February, and last is on 28th February. Have a go at one, or all three! Entries can only be made online at www.triHB.kiwi, or can be made on the day. For full information please visit the website.

