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Wednesday 7th December 2016



## NEWSLETTER 21

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

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

*Here we are ... the final newsletter for 2016. This notice will be a lengthy one (sorry folks ...) so please store it carefully, as there will be plenty of stuff to refer to in the future.*

### THANKS TO:

2016 has been such a successful year. This happens because of the dedication of so many. I want to acknowledge all the people who work at Greenmeadows School. Your children, and our community, is so fortunate to have such a skilled, dedicated group who make our school that great place that it is. As I read all of the end of year reports of the children in the school, I am constantly reminded of the very capable staff who strive to create the wonderful opportunities for all our learners. Without the amazing GMS teachers, teacher aides, office staff, librarian, cleaning and caretaking team and relievers, not all of this would be possible. My sincere thanks to you all.

I also want to recognise the Greenmeadows School Board of Trustees for all they do. They spent most of last Friday planning with senior management staff about the direction for GMS in 2017. We are so fortunate that the Board members take their responsibility seriously and act in the interest of our entire community. Thanks to all our trustees who served this year.

Our parent community is also fantastic! Led by the mighty and hard working PTA, we have so many of you who give so much to benefit the school. We can't do it all by ourselves, and the commitment so many of our community show to GMS is so deeply appreciated. The past few weeks have been packed with a whole host of activities for children throughout the whole school. From the senior camps, and various outings and events, none of these activities could have occurred without the tireless support of our 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 amazing contribution you have made throughout the year.

### WELCOME TO GMS

Our school has had one new enrolment recently — Ammar Kashif. Welcome to Greenmeadows School Ammar — he has settled in brilliantly too! This means we will end on a roll of 486 children (yet another all time high ...).

### END OF YEAR BREAKUP AND PRIZE-GIVING

The school breakup and prize-giving will be held on Tuesday 13th December in the Heart of the School outdoor stage area. The start time is **6.30pm** and the ceremony is expected to last for about an hour. 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 with the large numbers, so please plan to get to school with time to spare.

All children need to wear school uniform to the prize-giving, but do not need their hats for the evening. Please note that school will start at 9.30am, and not 9.00am, the day after the breakup.

If the weather does not allow the prize-giving to go ahead on Tuesday we will communicate it in the following ways:

- the GMS Facebook page
- an alert on the GMS App
- a text message sent to the GMS Twitter followers

If the prize-giving does get postponed, then it will be held on Wednesday 14th December at 6.30pm.

### SCHOOL REPORTS

On Tuesday 13 December your children will receive their end of year school report.

These reports are important documents and take the teachers considerable time to write and prepare. Having read reports on all the children in the school I am thrilled with the progress made this year. I urge you to take the time to share the comments in these reports with your child — they really tell the story of learning for each student over the course of 2016.

They will also get a National Standards report on a separate piece of paper.

## STAFFING CHANGES FOR 2017

There are some changes for our staff next year. We have had two teachers in fixed term positions who are about to finish with us at the conclusion of this term. Mrs Shari McKay and Miss Paige Alexander have made fine contributions to our school in 2016. They have been excellent classroom teachers and created many valuable learning opportunities for the students in their respective classes. We wish them well for the future and what lies ahead next year.

Mrs Helen Harvey has been granted study leave for most of Terms 1 and 2. While she is completing her university work, Mr Antony Shroff will take her class for that time. Mrs Christina Tareha has announced she will be taking maternity leave from the start of Term 2 2017 – exciting news!!! Taking on the teaching role when Christina leaves will be Miss Leah Nikolaison. Leah is currently teaching at Reignier Catholic School.

Mrs Jane Carter is returning from her time on maternity leave to take one of the Year 1 classes. Miss Rebecca Start will be joining us in the 2017 year. She will join the Totara syndicate in Room 13. Rebecca has previously spent time at GMS as an EIT Candidate Teacher.

## PROPOSED WHANAU CLASS FOR 2017

Earlier this term we asked families of students who would be in the Totara syndicate next year if they would consider their children being part of a possible 'whanau class' for 2017. Mrs Pixie Bryan was an ideal person to take this class.

We received almost twenty positive messages of support for this idea. However with the pressure on our roll next year, we needed a class size of around 27 students (in the Totara syndicate) to go ahead with this. As a result it has been decided that Mrs Bryan will now take a Year 5 class next year which will be a 'mainstream' class, rather than a whanau class focussing on Maori culture, language and identity.

The prospect of whanau class for 2018 will be explored and investigated during the course of next year.

## SCHOOL READER AMNESTY

Please check under beds, behind couches and in your bookcases. We have lost **hundreds** of school readers this year. 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 ASAP (i.e before next Tuesday). Please return any books, no questions asked.

## 2017 CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

The following will be our teaching staff next year:

Principal	Mr. Mark Johnson
Deputy Principal	Mr. Maaka Papuni
Assistant Principal	Ms. Allyson Ross
AP (Junior School)	Mrs. Ali de Lange

### Kowhai ('Junior') team Rooms 1 to 7

Room 1	Mrs. Wendy Currie (Year 1 & NE)
Room 2	Mrs. Jane Carter (Year 1 & NE)

Rooms 3 and 4 To fill during the year

Room 5	Mrs. Sue Martin (Year 2)
Room 6	Mr Anthony Shroff Terms 1&2 Mrs. Helen Harvey Terms 3 & 4 (Year 2)
Room 7	Mrs. Christina Tareha (Years 1&2) Miss Leah Nikolaison (from Term 2)

### Pohutukawa ('Middle') team Rooms 8,9,10,11& Hall

Room 8	Mrs. Sarah Groenveld (Year 4)
Room 9	Miss Toni Miles (Year 4)
Room 10	Miss Jane McCosh (Year 3)
Room 11	Mrs. Monique Cowie (Year 2&3)
Hall 'Room 18'	Mrs. Shona Milner & Mrs. Paula Kinsey (Years 3 &4)

### Totara ('Senior') team Rooms 12,13,14,15,16 & 17

Room 12	Mrs Pixie Bryan (Year 5)
Room 13	Miss Rebecca Start (Year 5)
Room 14	Mr Greg Bain (Year 5&6)
Room 15	Mrs. Ceirwyn Ware (Year 5 & 6)
Room 16	Mr. Marty Gibbs (Year 6)
Room 17	Ms. Kim Davidson (Year 6)

## CLASSES FOR 2017

During the same afternoon the children get their reports, they will also find out their 2017 classes. They will be able to meet their new classmates, as well as their teacher for next year. At that time all children will get a stationery list for the coming year when they visit their new room. Please note there are new arrangements for purchasing stationery in 2017 – it should now be obtained from Hawkes Bay Office Products in Wakefield Street, Onekawa. There are options outlined on the information sheet of ways in which to get your child's stationery.

## SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS

We have hundreds of dollars of unreturned library books we desperately need back. Please make sure that all outstanding books are either paid for or returned. Please ensure this happens before the end of the school year.



If you are thinking about moving, let's work together to help both YOU and Greenmeadows School achieve a great result.

For every property that is listed and sold with us, we will give \$500 back towards Greenmeadows School for them to use to benefit your children. The next time they need library books, sports gear or IT equipment could be on us! Give me a call today, I would love to hear from you.



**Debbie Dudding**

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## SCHOOL CANTEEN

Please note the school canteen will be closed from Monday 12th December. The last day for the canteen will be Friday 9th December. Thanks to Mrs Batt for the fantastic service she runs operating our canteen.



Photos:

Top: The GMS team from the Hawkes Bay Duathlon Champs.

Middle: Bucket filling from the Kowhai Tabloid Day last week

Bottom: Kowhai Kapa Haka perform at a recent school assembly

## KOWHAI SUNSHADE DAY

Due to the weather forecast for tomorrow not being favourable, the Sunshade Day is postponed until Friday. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## SPORTS NOTICES

### GMS SPORTS SHIRTS

Please return all borrowed GMS sports shirts to the school office this week. Search wardrobes, bags, cupboards and drawers - we are missing several shirts from our school supplies. We also appreciate the donation of any outgrown or unused sports shirts that you may own back to the school. These will be well utilised in 2017 as we aim to outfit all teams in sports uniforms. And yes - our new sports shirts are on their way!

### HB NETBALL NETSTARS JANUARY HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

HB Netball are offering three holiday program options for the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> January. A single day program for children Years 1-2 and Years 3-4, and a three day program for Years 5-6. Each program is designed to fit within the structure of the ANZ Future Ferns games that children play during their netball season. Participants all receive a t-shirt and ball. These holiday programs are extremely popular so early registration is recommended. For full information and registration visit [www.hawkesbaynetball.co.nz](http://www.hawkesbaynetball.co.nz).

### BASKETBALL HB JANUARY HOLIDAY CAMP

Basketball HB are holding their popular school holiday camp from 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> January, 8:30am - 4:30pm daily at the Rodney Green Centennial Event Centre. The camp is open to players of all abilities from 5 - 18 years, and includes fun games, awards, a free t-shirt, competitions and great coaches. Family discounts and Oscar subsidies are available. Places are limited so early booking is advised. For full information and registration visit [www.basketballhawkesbay.co.nz](http://www.basketballhawkesbay.co.nz) or ph 8336215.

*An enormous thanks to all the sports coaches, team managers and supporters for a wonderful year of sporting activity at GMS. This would not happen without our outstanding Sports Coordinator, Nicki Sunley. The organisation and management she brings to our teams is simply brilliant ... we are so thankful.*



Above: A great photo of some of our Year 6 leavers in a 'Q and A' session with former Greenmeadows School students who now attend Taradale Intermediate.

## SPONSORSHIP THANKS

Thanks to our main sponsors this year. Phil and Katherine Simmons from Greenmeadows Service Centre who have supported our school newsletter for the past eight years now and we appreciate this ongoing relationship. We also want to acknowledge Debbie Dudding from Tremains. Debbie instigated the 'Team Up' involvement for GMS which has seen the school receive donations of \$2500 this year. This occurs when houses get sold and Greenmeadows School is nominated by the sellers. We also received a \$500 donation from ASB in a venture also linked to house loans. This funding is vital for our school, especially when budgets are getting difficult to manage for schools.

## OSCAR OPENING LAST DAY OF TERM

OSCAR will be operating from 12.00pm on the last day of school. School finishes at this time, and those children who need to go to OSCAR, can go straight there.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 8 December Cultural Concert St. Mary's Hall  
Year 6 Social St Mary's Hall
- 9 December Kowhai Shade Day
- 13 December Reports out  
Children visit 2017 class
- 13 December End of year Breakup and Prize-giving 6.30pm start
- 14 December Postponement for Prize-giving
- 15 December Last day for 2016  
**School finishes @12pm**

30 Jan 2017 Term 1 begins

## FINAL MESSAGE

*As the year is about to come to its end, I want to wish you a very safe and happy holiday and festive season.*

*A special message to all those students and their families who are leaving GMS – all the very best for the future. Don't forget the wonderful memories of our school and take the lessons you have learned from here as you face new challenges. You are always welcome back to visit!*

*Earlier this week the school received an email which sums up just how fantastic the children of our school can be and the spirit that they show. I have taken out the names as I see this type of support repeated time and time again and it could apply to so many children ...:*

*"A special mention for two of the senior boys ... They came in 1st and in 2nd in the duathlon last week. [My son] participated and as you know running ain't one of [his] strong points!! But he gives it a go as usual (which is all a parent can ask) and made some improvements on last year. But at the end he was still sucking in the big ones!! The two mentioned boys, even though they came in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, remained at the finish line cheering on the rest of the kids and high fiving them and congratulating them. After the completion of the race, they both congratulated my son, gave him a high five and hug and said "Well done!" and picked up his bike for him. Great sportsmanship shown by both, which you don't often see in boys that age.*

Firstly, thanks for taking the time to send us emails like this. Secondly, this is something our GMS children are known for and role model perfectly. Ka mau te wehi! Awesome!

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson  
Principal