

# GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

Newsletter-No. 11

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Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tena koutou katoa

## **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

Our parent interview sessions that are scheduled as a result of the school reports that were sent out last week finished yesterday. Thanks to those parents who made themselves available to come along to an interview. If you want the opportunity to talk to your child's teacher, but were not able to make it to an interview this week, please feel free to make another time. Contact the class teacher to arrange a time.

## **INFLUENZA A 'SWINE FLU' INFORMATION**

Ministry of Education guidance as noted on the Ministry of Health website information to supply to parents:

1. If your child is sick with flu symptoms keep them at home and contact their local doctor or health centre or call Healthline on 0800 611 116.
2. If your child is being kept home, for whatever reason, you must inform the school immediately.
3. The Ministry of Education has supplied all schools with information produced by the Auckland Regional Public Health Service to ensure schools are well prepared if an outbreak occurs. Further updates will be taking place as information comes to hand.
4. The Ministry of Education website also has information available for you to view if you wish - Pandemic Planning ([www.mindedu.govt.nz](http://www.mindedu.govt.nz)).
5. Hygiene is the most important step in preventing the spread of influenza. Washing hands thoroughly, for at least 20 seconds with soap and drying hands well, or using an alcohol-based rub, are the best ways to protect yourself from the spread of germs. Keep coughs and sneezes covered, and dispose of tissues in a covered, lined rubbish bin. Try to stay a metre away from sick people.

## **HEADLICE**

The school is experiencing an outbreak of headlice. Please check your child's hair carefully and treat the condition if nits or headlice are found. Chemists or our school's public health nurse can give advice if you are unsure what to do.

## **ROAD PATROL**

The Road Patrol rosters are being prepared for Term 3. We have a few spaces where we require helpers to supervise the children. These are:

- Gloucester Street—Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon
- Osier Road—Tuesday morning and Thursday morning.

If you can help please let the school office know.

## **THURSDAY MORNING—GMS WALKING BUS**

There will not be a walking bus this week. The walking bus will start up again in the first Thursday of Term 3 and continue after that. It is great to see so many children joining us on our walks to school.

## **TWO SEASONAL PIECES OF WRITING FROM ROOM 17:**

### **Winter in New Zealand:**

As I leap out of bed my body parts go numb. I think of all the other glacial winter mornings we've had in New Zealand so far. Mr. Jack Frost has left his large white footprints on the lawn to show that it's been yet another cold night. When I step outside, the freezing rain hammers down on me like I'm a steel nail. The sub-zero temperatures make me freeze as if I'm a cold blooded statue. Icy snowflakes tickle my nose as they cartwheel down onto the cold ground. Crisp icicles on my lawn flash their bright lights at the start of another chilly day. I rush back inside to hide from winter's freezing cold breath. The cool condensation creeps down my finger as I draw pictures on the window. I peek out the clear window and spot the sudden hail as it charges down to earth. When I watch the early morning news I see bleak images of avalanches marching down the mountain sides. Chilly south island blizzards fire their wind and snow bullets at the reporter's face. On our way to school the thick fog blinds me when gazes down on our path. Wintry black clouds stare down at us with

ferocious eyes. Mum struggles to get rid of the frigid ice that has crept onto the car windows over night, covering it in a white blanket. The numbing cold air chases and breathes on me wherever I go.

As I rush towards my classroom at school the nippy wind rushes past me, wraps me up in its freezing arms and chills me to the bone. As I step into the shivering cloak bay and then into my frosty classroom my whole body and fingers go numb even more. Trust me! Winter in New Zealand is freezing!!!! By Olivia Cook—Room 17

The cold winter season:

Winter is freezing! In the bitterly cold mornings the sub-zero temperatures destroy the warmth of my house. The strong wind charges through the bare trees as fast as a bullet, covering my skin in a layer of goose bumps.

When I open my curtains, the creepy condensation slithers and slides down the inside of my bedroom window as it tries to escape the cold. The dark black clouds cover the sky with its gloomy coat. The wintry blizzard attacks the earth like a knight in a siege. The images of frigid glaciers command me to almost shiver out of my skin. The frosty hail pounds down on the roof like bombs dropping down from the sky.

As I dare to step outside, the crispy frosted grass explodes as I stand on it. The icy puddles almost convert my body into a frozen statue. As we drive to school the icy car makes my legs freeze to the seat. The bleak fog blinds me from seeing the beauty of winter all around me. The damp dew glistens in the mild early morning winter sunlight. The frozen lake catches my eye as it shines like a twinkly star.

The cold air all around me sucks the last little bit of warmth out of my body. Winter in New Zealand is very cold, which is probably why foreigners don't come to NZ in winter, unless they are crazy about snow and skiing!

By Ben Herekiuha—Room 17

**PTA QUIZ**

Our annual quiz night was a great success. A fun and friendly night was had by all. This annual fundraising could not have been possible without the support of the parents and staff of GMS. Eighteen teams were involved and all had a close result with having a tie breaker for 1st place. A huge thank you is extended to all the sponsors who got behind this event! The sponsors are listed below:

*123 Plus      Athena Shoes      Auto One      Avon      Bay Tree      Best Gifts      Bin Inn  
 Cafe Rich Civic Video      Craftsman Souvenirs      Debbie's of Taradale      Dominos (Greenmeadows)  
 Duckworth's Retrovision Napier      Duke of Gloucester      Esk Valley Winery      Gilmore's Lingerie  
 Glenn Roberts Pharmacy (Taradale)      Gloucester Fashions      Greenmeadows Hairstylists  
 Greenmeadows Pharmacy      Greenmeadows Restaurant and Takeaways      Greenmeadows Service Centre  
 Hair 2 Go      Heavens Bakery      Lance Dustow      McDonalds Restaurant Taradale  
 Mitre 10 Mega      Mode Hairstylists      Napier Aquatic Centre      Orbit Café      Pedal Power  
 Pettigrew Arena Gym      Subway Taradale      Taradale Fresh      The Old Church Restaurant  
 Unichem Pharmacy Taradale      United Video Taradale      Video Ezy Greenmeadows*

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

1 July	'The Gardner' visits (junior classes)	2 July	Kelly Sports PE sessions for all classes
3 July	Term 2 ends	20 July	Term 3 commences

I wish you all a safe and healthy holiday break with your children. Ka kite ano.

Mark Johnson

**Principal**

**PRINCIPAL AWARDS**

Room 1	Lucy Westphall
Room 2	Kayla Heath
Room 3	Jack Bennett
Room 4	Logan Bishop
Room 5	Courtney Piercy
Room 6	Eric Bloomfield
Room 7	Sarhara Glentworth
Room 8	Sophia Gross
Room 9	Caleb Houston
Room 10	Michealla Upston
Room 11	Holly Lawrence
Room 12	Braden Gibb
Room 14	Ashley Baker
Room 15	Madeline Bayley
Room 16	Tae'ah Johnson
Room 17	Joedeci Lewis

**Weeks 9 —Term 2**



## GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL WEBSITE—STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Our school website is getting more content on it each week. Teachers are starting to put more creations from our children onto the site. Student photos, videos and creative writing are able to be uploaded and viewed with password access. Passwords can be set for any page of our website, and as they are created, families will be notified of the keywords to access certain parts of the website.

We need to be sure that families are comfortable with their children being involved in online publication. If you **do not** give consent for your child to have images on the secure parts of the school's website please return the slip below. If this is not returned to school we will assume you are happy for your child to be included in the secure access parts of our website.

I/We DO NOT give consent for images / written work of my child

\_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

appearing on the Greenmeadows School website.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the school office.