



Dear Parents and Caregivers – Tena Koutou Katoa

## WELCOME BACK TO LEVEL 1

We need to thank everyone for the way our school whānau coped with the change in alert levels earlier this week. This was a smooth change in routines and we appreciate the way that families supported the school to keep everyone as safe as possible. Now we have returned to Alert Level 1, parents are welcome to return inside the school grounds.

The staggered endings to the school day will continue until further notice. This has really improved the safety at the end of the day by reducing the congestion in terms of traffic.

- Kowhai students (Years 1 and 2 plus their siblings) released at 2.45pm
- Pohutukawa students (Years 3 and 4 as well as any older siblings) released at 2.55pm
- Tōtara students (all remaining Year 5 and 6 students) released at 3.00pm

## **OUR NEWEST ENROLMENTS**

The GMS roll is now 435 as three students have started with us over the past fortnight. We welcome Evelyn Barnes, Logan Barnes and Milly Whaanga to our kura.

#### **STAFF NEWS**

We are very sad to announce that Mrs Pixie Bryan will be leaving our school at the end of Term 1. Pixie has worked at GMS for the past fifteen years and has been such an inspirational teacher for so many. She has taught all ages throughout the school, which is quite a rare feat for teachers these days! Pixie and her family are moving to the South Island. We shall be farewelling her in the last week of this term.

We have also found a cleaner to join our staff. Debbie Johnson-Neill has taken on this role to work alongside Heather Kennedy. We welcome Debbie.

### PARENT INTERVIEWS - MONDAY 22ND AND TUESDAY 23RD FEB

We are close to 400 bookings for the parent interviews ... which is fantastic at this stage. There are still spaces available for those of you yet to book, so please make sure you do. Contact the office if you are unsure, or follow this link to take you directly to the booking website:

https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=4tdcg

A reminder that school will close at 2.00pm on both Monday and Tuesday for the interviews. Children can be picked up from 12.50pm onwards if you wish, otherwise they will be released from 2.00pm. Tamariki who need to remain at school until 3.00pm will be supervised on the school field.

Times for the interviews are:

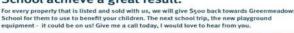
Monday 22 February 2.15 pm - 5.30 pm 6.15 pm - 7.30 pm Tuesday 23 February 2.15 pm - 7.00 pm

## MIHI WHAKATAU WELCOME FOR NEW FAMILIES AND WHANAU

The change in Alert levels caused us to rethink the timing of this. We will still go ahead with the mihi whakatau, but will do so once the astroturf is opened up and is available for use. More details to follow when we have confirmed a suitable date.



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







### **TEACHER ONLY DAY - MONDAY 1 MARCH**

A reminder that school will be **closed on Monday 1 March** when teachers are involved in training courses linked to maths, mindfulness and developing skills throughout that day. This date was the one where we could get the instructors into our school.

# TŌTARA CLASSES SWIMMING AT TARADALE COMMUNITY POOL

The return to the Taradale Community Pool has gone well and the students have had three lessons there to date. The senior classes will be swimming on the following days:

- 19th, 23rd and 26th of February
- 2nd, 5th, 9th and 12th of March

Year 5 and 6 students please remember your togs, towels, goggles and caps for those days - you have done very well so far.

We want to express our sincere thanks to the support of School's Out Napier, as we are trialling the use of their minivans as an alternative way of transport for some of these sessions.

# LOST PROPERTY AT SCHOOL

It is great to report that our new system of lost property is working well ... and what allows it to work, is that so much more of the clothing coming to school is named! Thank you for helping us, and ensuring that your child can keep possession of their belongings. Keep that naming going - including footwear as well (this is the most common item of belonging left around the school).

### **PTA NEWS**

The first PTA meeting was held on Wednesday this week, and it was fantastic to see new members come along and join. We have two fundraising events planned for Term 1. The famous GMS PTA Easter raffle and an end of term 'outside disco' ...! More details to come.

Did you know there is a GMS PTA Facebook page? Here is your link:

https://www.facebook.com/GreenmeadowsSchoolPTA

## SPORTS DUE TO COMMENCE TERM 1

Our sports coordinator Nicki Sunley has done an incredible job getting all the teams and management people organised in such a short time for the start of the Term 1 schedule. It is great to see so many involved - enjoy all these wide and varied activities over the coming weeks! And thank you so much Nicki!!!

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Check the school app or www.gms.school.nz website for more details:

22nd/23rd Feb Parent interviews - School closes at 2.00pm both days

1st March 2021 Teacher Only Day - School closed 2nd to 26th April Easter break - school closed

16 April 2021 End of Term 1

Have a great weekend everyone!

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson Principal/Tumuaki



