Newsletter - No. 18 Thursday 18 November 2010

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Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tena koutou katoa,

What a beautiful day we had for school photographs today. Those of us heading away on the Year 5 and 6 camps next week hope that we encounter the same type of weather conditions while we are away. Camp is a lot more fun when the sun is shining

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

Te Kahu Boynton has started at our school in Room 6. We welcome her to Greenmeadows School. Two New Entrants have also joined Room 12—Declan Norris and Brad Single-Owens have started their schooling years with Mrs Murphy and the other members of the class. Welcome to you all.



GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPORTS RESULTS

A few weeks ago we held our athletic sports on the school field on what was a glorious day. It was a day to celebrate competition and giving it your best, and so many certainly did that!

On the left we have the scene moments before the start of 9 year old girls sprint heat on our school field athletics track.

3rd Zack McPike

3rd Kamoe Fabish

3rd Joel Morrison

3rd Sara Dooney

The following were our school athletics champions for 2010:

8 years old

Boys 1st Warner Dearns

Girls 1st Nikita Taylor-Chaffey

9 years old

Boys 1st Tiaki Fabish

Girls 1st Camryn Bailey

10 years old

Boys 1st Ethan Martin

11 years old

2nd equal Mithius Te Pou / Josh Keating Girls 1st Danika Withell

2nd equal Brianna Sivewright / Anaka Isherwood

Boys 1st Trent Randell

2nd equal Peter Lafferty / Dylan Barron / Darian Beyer-Way / Joel Penisula

3rd equal Maddisyn Dingle / Hannah McIntyre Girls 1stequal Isobel Barretto / Jade Chan

2nd Adam Barron

2nd Jarred Coutts

2nd Awatea Winterburn

2nd Maddison McIntyre

Thanks to everyone—competitors, teachers and parents who made it such a neat day.

TARADALE AND DISTRICTS INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS—WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Our interschool team travelled to the new sports park on the outskirts of Hastings to compete on the 'real' athletics track and facilities for the first time—WOW what a day it was! Our school were defending champions, and followed up their efforts last year with a very close 3rd behind Reignier School, and the winners this year Taradale Primary. We also had some placings in the overall championships:

Warner Dearns 3rd in 8 year old boys

Tiaki Fabish 9 year old boys CHAMPION

Danika Withell 10 year old girls CHAMPION

Jade Chan 3rd equal in 11 year old girls

Maddison McIntyre 2nd equal in the 9 year old girls Brianna Sivewright 3rd in 10 year old girls

Ethan Martin 10 year old boys CHAMPION

Top effort everyone—we were all very proud of you and the way you competed.



BOOK AMNESTY!!!

We are missing quite a few books from school ... actually make that a whole heap of them!! This includes library books and junior readers—all of which cost a lot of money to replace. Could you please check bedrooms, book shelves, wardrobes, or anywhere at home where some of our school reading books may be? All need to be returned, with no questions asked. Can all books be returned by Friday 26 November to allow us to do our end of year stock take. Many thanks for your help.

MATHLETICS

On Wednesday 17 November nine Year 5 and 6 students took part in the annual Mathletics competition at Taradale Intermediate School. Five schools competed, with fourteen teams in total. Greenmeadows 'Number Crunchers' won the competition which was an excellent test of maths skills and knowledge. Well done to Lachie Calder, Jarrod Hellyer and Calvin Herbert who made up this team. Our other teams were the 'Einsteins' (Jade Chan, Ethan Martin and Daniel Robinson) and the 'Maths Busters (Joel Penisula, Antonia Neville and Dylan Bishop). Great effort there people!!!

CHECK THE START DATE FOR 2011

The last two newsletters have incorrectly stated 2nd February is the first day for school next year ... WRONG!!! It is Tuesday 1st February. Apologies for this - Mr J's mistake entirely.

00PS!

END OF YEAR PRIZEGIVING

The situation with the Hall is causing us some frustration in not being able to definitely plan out our end of year. However, the intention is to have a school break and prize giving ceremony from 11.30am on the last day of school—Thursday 16 December. At this prize giving awards will be given out for each class, as well as special certificates for some senior students. School will conclude for the year at the end of this prizegiving—12.30pm Thursday 16 December.

CRICKET DRAWS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Friday afternoon at Nelson Park

Greenmeadows A v Arthur Miller School Pitch 8

Greenmeadows B v Napier Central Pitch 1

Saturday morning 9.00am start Greenmeadows v NTOB Nelson Park Pitch 6

ST AUGUSTINE GIRL GUIDES FUNDRAISER

Garage Sale at the Mahoe Guide Hall on the corner of York Avenue and Auckland Roads. Saturday 20th November 2010 Start time: 8am

Attached to this newsletter is a notice from Greenmeadows School OSCAR with important information about the coming holiday programme.

Term Dates for 2011

Term 1 1 February to 15 April (11 weeks)

Term 2 2 May to 15 July (11 weeks)

Term 3 1 August to 7 October (10 weeks)

Term 4 25 October to 15 December (8 weeks)

Nb. The dates are adjusted for the Rugby World Cup in 2011.

Have a great week. Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson

Principal

Greenmeadows School Board of Trustees News—November 2010

Greetings from the Greenmeadows Board of Trustees (BOT), this is the first of what is planned to be regular updates to the school community from the Board.

The October meeting of the Greenmeadows Board of Trustees was the first meeting in nearly two years where a <u>full</u> board was in place as a result of filling vacancies by co-opting Trustees (Andrea Driver and Robert Mudgway) as the next highest polling candidates. This is a positive and healthy situation for Greenmeadows School and reflects the interest in the school. I thank the board members who have come forward offering their time, skills and wisdom.

The BOT comprises the following people Hamish Durrant, Natasha Berkett, Tanya Dearns, Andrea Driver, Robert Mudgway and myself as the elected members, Linda Dallimore as a staff representative and, of course, Mr Johnson in his dual capacity as board member and Principal.

The BOT set the goals and strategies for the school while juggling the financial challenges of Ministry funding. The day to day management and operation of the school is capably undertaken by Mr Johnson and the senior management team within the school. The BOT are elected to provide that direction while also communicating with you the school community to try and achieve the best learning environment and educational outcome for our students. If you wish to discuss any of the governance, strategy or general issues, please contact one of the BOT members.

As this is the first BOT news to the GMS school community and with the ongoing debate around National Standards, it is appropriate to outline the BOT position. There are obviously very mixed and passionate views regarding the appropriateness of the National Standards and the way they have been implemented. The GMS BOT have taken the view that after removing all the political interference around this policy that the pragmatic approach is to undertake a watching brief on National Standards. We will continually review the National Standards and the Greenmeadows Schools standards and compare to ensure the best objectives and strategies are in place for the students and staff. The key focus and underlying objective for Greenmeadows School is to allow students to learn, grow and achieve, which is a very simple and clear objective for the BOT.

The end of the year is closing fast with only a few weeks left until close of school, we have two board meetings left, one in November and early December and we welcome any communication or feedback that you as a school community may have. Otherwise we look forward to seeing you at the end of year break up and prize giving. We thank you for your support of Greenmeadows School which is reflected by the good heart that the school is currently in.

Boyd Gross, Chairman of Board of Trustees—Greenmeadows School

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (for more details look under 'School Events' on www.gms.school.nz)

22 November Camps for Year 5 and 6 students commence
30 November Year 6 photograph taken—provided by the PTA
3 December Parents 'thank you' morning tea 11.00am start

7 December PTA Meeting 7.30pm

8 December Year 6 Social (venue to be confirmed)

9 December Board of Trustees meeting
 10 December School Reports sent home

Final day for school lunch orders

End of year breakup arrangements still to be confirmed as we await the availability of our school hall and the production 'One Bright Star'

16 December School breakup and prize-giving (11.30am start)

End of Term 4 (12.30pm)

1 February 2011 Start of 2011 School year

15 April End of Term 1 2011