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Thursday 6 March 2014

CHATTERBOX



NEWSLETTER 3

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

Three new students have enrolled at our school in the past two weeks. We want to extend a very warm welcome to Cree Eden, Andre Adlington and Sarah Hansen. It is great to have you as part of GMS.

STAFF UPDATES

Our Room 13 teacher Mrs Lyndsey Starkey has informed us that she will be moving from Hawkes Bay after the end of the current term. Her husband Mark has secured work in Auckland, and they are relocating there. The move will also increase the available opportunities for Lyndsey in her specialist teaching field supporting visually impaired children. She has had study leave to obtain a university diploma in this area over the past two years. Lyndsey has made a wonderful contribution to our school over the past eight years when she joined our staff from Reignier Catholic School. She has taught many children over the years and we will all miss the positive impact she has had.

We are currently advertising for a replacement teacher for Lyndsey's class, with the intention that they will commence in Term 2. We will keep you updated on any developments.

The third New Entrant class (in Room 3) is due to open up at the beginning of Term 2. We are also in the process of appointing a teacher for this role. It is a very busy time ... as we have also commenced the process to appoint a new Deputy Principal! We hope to announce the appointments before the end of this current term.

NEW ENTRANT SCHOOL VISITS

Mrs Anna Murphy's transition classes to school have been a great success in the two sessions we have had to date. Anna has a delightful group of 'soon to be New Entrants' working with as they become more familiar with the imminent start to their school days. These classes will run on Wednesday mornings.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

You will have received the first account for your child as they were sent home last week. If these have not been received then you can request another copy from the office (advice: check in school bags first ...).

Please note that our preferred method of payment is by internet banking. Details for the ways to make these payments by internet banking are on the invoices. This year we are making two changes to our accounts procedure:

- i) Providing receipts for payments that are made
- ii) Moving to email invoices to those who have given the school email accounts.

Hopefully this will simplify the process for families as well as making things easier from our end here at school.

TOTORA SYNDICATE TRIP TO TARADALE PARK

On Thursday 20 March the four classes in the Totara team will be walking to Taradale Park for lunch and activities linked to our 'guardianship' of the pou that is situated there. We will depart at 11.30am before having lunch and hearing about the history of the area around this reserve. Following that talk there will be a time for activity and some traditional sports and games.

FAREWELL FOR MS GARRETT

A reminder that there will be a farewell assembly for Ms Garrett on Friday 7 March. We will be in the Hall for this event. We will start slightly earlier than normal at 12.10pm. Parents and community members are most welcome to attend to officially farewell Micky.

ABSENCE TEXTS

Thank you to the families who have been letting the office know when their children are not coming to school. This really frees up time for the office staff in the mornings if parents let us know where their child is. Texting the information about an absence is working particularly well and is the best way of getting us the message.

027 9264 452

WRITING FROM ROOM 15

This year we are having a real focus on developing the writing of our students. We will aim to include examples of student writing in our newsletter to share the types of quality writing our children can create. This week we have writing from Room 15. They have written some poems about Seaweek, so we have a couple of examples. There are also two 'introductions' where the children were secretly given a classmate to write about, which caused a lot of interest.

SeaSnake

Sea snake skin is shiny
Shimmering in the sizzling sunshine
Sea Snakes slither slowly through the salty sea
Searching for the slimy sea snails
Skimming the seabed
Stalking the snapper
Silently.
written collectively by Room 15

'let Me Introduce ...'

Let me introduce one of my awesome friends.
He has short blonde hair and blue eyes. He likes to walk bare footed and likes to wear shorts that go down to his knees and a T-shirt. He is very funny, has a cool laugh and is very kind. He likes to play X box, has one cheeky brother, an in-ground pool and loves playing sport especially soccer (he is great at it too). He is mischievous and cheerful as well.

He is as active as a tiger and also likes to sit in front of the T.V. I like his cute puppy that always waits by the door to greet people. He is my friend because he is very caring and when I see him walk in the classroom with a smile on his face, it tells me that it's going to be an awesome day.

Do you think you know who he is?
by Tom Davies

Whales

Whales with wrinkled skin wander across the water,
Wriggling plankton soon disappear,
The whopping whistle as they splurt out water,
Whacking their wondrous tails on the water,
Weak whales wail at the Japanese whaling.
Watching,
Waiting,
Wrong.
- Karlie Morrison

'let Me Introduce ...'

He's fast, sporty and loves soccer. This person got an X-Box and a brother. This person is friendly, nice and caring. He's always got a smile on his face. He's a good worker and always listens to instructions. His hair flies around like a lion's mane. He has got brown hair and he's funny. He likes to play cricket and X box. He's good with the teacher but bad when he hangs around soccer. He's very friendly and nice and has a good sense of humour.
My friend's name is?
By Braden Gibb

GMS V HENRY HILL SCHOOL

This afternoon teams from our school are travelling to Henry Hill School to play softball and T-ball games. We wish our teams all the best – we really do enjoy our sports exchanges with Henry Hill!
This is the first trip that we have undertaken since the change in transport regulations requiring children to be in booster seats. Previously we would have used parent vehicles to get us there, but have decided to use Mrs. Duncan's bus to ensure we are transporting everyone legally.
Let's hope that the weather makes the play pleasant!

KOWHAI SYNDICATE 'WACKY WATER WEDNESDAY'

Next Wednesday 12 March the children in the classes in Kowhai Syndicate will be having a 'water play' afternoon. A letter will come home with details about this event.

We need the following items:

- Paddling Pools
- Water Guns
- Bubble Blowers

Can you help? If you are willing to share these with us please let your child's teacher know. Thank you

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

There are some changes coming in the way families obtain a Greenmeadows School uniform. Due to a change in ownership, uniforms will be able to be purchased from The Warehouse from the 7th March. Postie is no longer selling the uniform.

We are still waiting on answers about sale days and specials from The Warehouse, and when we find out, will let you know.

Remember that our school uniform will be compulsory for all Year 1 to 4 students from the start of Term 2, and optional for all Year 5 and 6 pupils for the remainder of this year. Great to see so families already organised for next term.



Room 1	Ava Webber Tyler Parkinson	Room 2	Sophie Martin Tayah King
Room 3	<i>Opening in Term 2</i>	Room 4	Maia Bosman Zahra Jury
Room 5	Thomas Anderson Emma Blake	Room 6	Savannah-Rose Terry- Moore Nicole Carlisle
Room 7	Caitlin O'Shea Mak Hawkins	Room 8	Emma Anderson Asha Penn
Room 9	Brooke Ells Emily Hayes	Room 10	Rosie Goody Seth Watts
Room 11	Riley Bright Maia Moore	Room 12	Lydia Wilkins Connor Morris
Room 13	Olive Mudgway Upashna Sundar	Room 14	Charlie Mudgway Isabella Davidson-Payne
Room 15	Morgan Wilkins Jobe Kirby	Room 16	Angelyn Zeng Oliver Stewart
Room 17	Tom O'Shea Rylee Ashton		

PRINCIPAL AWARDS WEEK3&4 TERM 1



GMS VALUES MEDALS

Congratulations to these children who were presented with medals over the past two weeks at school assembly:-

Respect:	Aidan Soloman	Room 2
	Brylee Pugh	Room 4
Perseverance:	Ezekiel Ferguson	Room 12
	Nathan Kinsey	Room 8
Excellence:	Andrew Brown	Room 16
	Bryce Lott	Room 15

Well done everyone — keep up the great work.

GMS CRICKET DRAWS THIS WEEK

The cricket draw for this week:

Year 5 and 6 team v Port Ahuriri School at GMS

Friday teams playing at Nelson Park 3.30pm Friday

GMS Knights v AMS Pitch 7

GMS Tigers v Onekawa Pitch 8

INTERCITY JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH-IN INFO

An information flyer regarding registering your child for intercity junior rugby can be collected from the school office. Junior rugby is open to all primary and intermediate aged players (i.e. Years 1 to 6) up to 13 years of age and that fit within the intercity J.R.B age/weight structure for this 2014 season.

GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL PTA

Planning for the GMS PTA Food Fair is well underway. The PTA held a meeting last night and our Food Fair day (just over two weeks away) is coming together nicely.

The next step is now to get parent helpers to help run the stalls on the evening. The last few years we have had enough people assisting us to enable all helpers time to be rostered on, as well as being able to participate in the activities and purchasing food. In the next few days your child will bring home a notice calling for volunteers to help — please let us know if you can.

We will have another meeting next Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. All parent helpers are asked to come along to this meeting as well so we can talk about the different requirements of each stall and answer any questions. It should only be brief.

Our fundraising focus for the Food Fair this year is our Library. The GMS Library is looking fantastic and being used in so many ways at present — now we want to add to our book collections and learning resources in the Library. Please support this great cause!!!!

Clear Friday 21 March on your calendar ...



GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL FOOD FAIR!!!!

Friday 21st March 2014

4.30pm – 6.30pm

AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!!

Please support a great school event, relaxing while enjoying a yummy meal.

Everybody is welcome so invite your friends and family.

**Hooray! - have the night off cooking!
Food & Entertainment Galore**

Book this night in your diary

We will need your assistance so another notice will be sent home requesting your help (setting up, serving food, etc.). A roster will be compiled for each class.

If we all work together it will be a great evening!



INCLUDING ...

Pig On A Spit

Burgers

Steak Sandwiches

Curry

Spiders!!!

Candy Floss

SUSHI

American Hot Dogs

Inflatable Toys

Lollies

And so much more ...!!!!

PARENT EVENING

This is a free session ... Ian Grant will give a presentation on 'How to Grow Great Kids and Enjoy It'. This will be on Saturday 8 March at Napier Intermediate School. The event starts at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

MEASLES INFORMATION

As you are probably aware there has been a few cases of measles around New Zealand in the past months.

The best protection against measles is the MMR Vaccine, available free for all children at your doctor.

Measles symptoms to be aware of are:

- Fever,
- cough,
- red eyes and a runny nose,
- followed by a rash which tends to start on the face, before moving over the head and down the body.

The rash develops about 3 days after the other symptoms start.

KEYBOARD AND GUITAR LESSONS

Private lessons are available during school hours.

To enquire call David on 8769261.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

7 March	Farewell Assembly FOR Ms Garrett
9 March	Tremain Corporate Triathlon (two staff teams will be in action)
12 March	Kowhai Wacky Water Day
12 March	PTA meeting — Food Fair planning 7.30pm
18 March	Board of Trustees meeting 5.30pm
20 March	Totara team trip to Taradale Park
21 March	GMS PTA Food Fair
24 March	Room 8,10,12 Swimming Lessons Start
2 April	Room 5,9,13 Swimming Lessons Start
17 April	End of Term 1

Have a great week.

Ka kite ano,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Johnson'. The signature is stylized with loops and a long tail.

*Mark Johnson
Principal*

