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Thursday 2 March 2017



NEWSLETTER 3

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa
Greetings to you all

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

A special greeting to the children and their families who have started at our school over the past fortnight. We have 449 students today (which is 'roll return day' for schools). Our newest enrolments are:

Kaydice Birch, Charlie Richards, Sayde Birch, Quinn Healey and Spencer Simkin.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

It is less than a week until our parent interviews. We value creating strong communication with all our families, and an interview early in the year is one of the ways we do so.

At the moment we have more than 350 interviews scheduled. There are still plenty of spaces for those families who have not yet booked. The teachers want to see whanau from every child in their class, so please make sure you book a time. This also includes pupils who have started at the beginning of this year and in the past few weeks.

You can book using the school website www.gms.school.nz and going to the 'Parent Interviews' tab. If you have difficulties doing this, make contact with the school office and they can easily book a time for you.

Extra information:

- school will end at 2.00pm on Monday and Tuesday
- children who need to stay at school between 2.00pm and 3.00pm will be supervised on Monday and Tuesday until 3.00pm on the school field
- bells will signal the start and end of each interview. Please be punctual and stick to the scheduled time, otherwise it can interfere with the interviews for those following. If you need extra time and the bell has sounded, feel free to make an additional appointment to continue at a later date.
- interviews on Thursday for Maths teachers are five minutes long. There are also interviews for students in Room 18 on Thursday afternoon.

CANDIDATE TEACHERS

This week we have had start with us six candidate teachers involved in the Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) programme from EIT. They will be based at our school for a couple of days per week over much of the year, so they will become very familiar to the *GMS* scene. A very warm welcome to (left to right from top) Paula Rowell, Mackenzie King, John Rowlands, Asher Nichol, Brody Freemantle and Sean Boston.



TEACHER ONLY DAY

A reminder that there will be a Teacher Only Day on Monday 3 April. The school will not be open this day. Teachers will be visiting schools in the Manawatu that day.

PRINCIPAL AWARDS – WEEK 4 TERM 1 2017

Room 1	Sofia Dine	Room 2	Summer Peters
Room 3	n/a	Room 4	n/a
Room 5	Sophie Bailey	Room 6	Annabella Wilson Reanna Robson
Room 7	Dora Zang	Room 8	Ruby Heywood
Room 9	Ava Webber	Room 10	Paulina Fegai-Kingi
Room 11	Dylan Steyn	Room 12	Aaliyah Mitchell
Room 13	Lennox Burton	Room 14	Cohen Worsnop
Room 15	Kruz Single	Room 16	Bayle Smith
Room 17	Jayden Brinkworth	Room 18	Tori Gibbs Room 18 Riley Teikamata



BUILDING NEWS

By now many of you will have heard the news that GMS has been given an impressive amount of money to build new classrooms to cope with the roll growth at our school. This figure was announced as \$800,000. There has been considerable work and discussion over a long period of time trying to deal with the issue of the lack of space at our school. At last, this has brought a result. The press release from Associate Minister of Education Nikki Kaye mentioned building two new classrooms for the school. The GMS Board of Trustees will be putting together a proposal where this amount is used to create more than two rooms ... so watch this space!

In the coming weeks we are also due to get three relocatable classrooms put on our school grounds to help take the pressure off our current lack of space. We are still working through the details on this ... but it will allow us to have more room to accommodate New Entrant pupils as they arrive at school during the course of the year. It should also allow us to have an indoor space to meet - yes, like a Hall!!! We will keep you updated as more information becomes clear.

The builders working converting Rooms 3 and 4 into one space are making excellent progress. This space should be ready for the classes in Rooms 1 and 2 to move in by the end of this month - exciting stuff!

STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs Helen Harvey is due to commence her study leave next week. We wish her well with all the assignments and reading she has in front of her! Helen is due to return to school for the start of Term 3.

Mrs Shari McKay has been employed to teach our New Entrants and she will start officially next week. Shari worked in our junior school last year, and we are thrilled to have her back with the team. Welcome back to Shari!

SPORTS TEAMS AND UNIFORMS

Sport is booming at GMS!

Check out this statistic - there are thirty-three teams representing GMS during Term 1 in a whole range of sports. That is an amazing number and that means hundreds of our children are involved. Thank you to everyone who is helping coach, manage or support our teams; this is such a wonderful thing to see. Ka mau te wehi! Awesome!

The past few weeks has also seen the first appearances of the new GMS sports shirts provided by the school. We aim to keep costs to whanau as low as possible, and providing playing uniforms for our teams is one way we attempt to do this. These shirts look fantastic, and it is neat to see them being worn with such pride. We are in the process of applying for funding for more shirts to spread them through more of our teams.



Pictured: The GMS A cricket team proudly wearing their uniform last Saturday. They had a victory in their first official game in the Napier A grade. This is the first time we have had a team in the A grade for at least ten years. Congratulations team!



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.



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KOWHAI CLASS VISITS TO HARDINGE ROAD

Thanks to everyone who was able to come along and be part of the junior trips to the 'rocky shore' over the past week. These were such successful opportunities for learning - magnificent to see so many parents supporting the children and teachers.



IMPORTANT NOTE

One of our students at Greenmeadows School is currently having treatment for cancer. This treatment results in a lowered immune system. As he has siblings at the school also it is crucial that we are vigilant with keeping the risk of infection as low as possible. Tummy bugs are extremely contagious and could result in hospitalisation if the family are infected. Measles and chicken pox in particular present as being dangerous, so we ask that if your child comes into contact with, or is diagnosed with either of these, you inform the school immediately.

It is a timely reminder that if your child is unwell it is important they stay at home until they are better. Thank you for your support in this.

GMS VALUES MEDALS

Congratulations to these fantastic students who were presented with the GMS Values medals in the last assembly:

Respect	Tavian Roberts
Perseverance	Harrison Campbell
Excellence	Ava Geenty

EPROB CHALLENGE

Yesterday sixteen Totara syndicate students took part in an interschool technology challenge competition. The venue was at Tamatea Intermediate. The students were given a range of construction challenges to select from for which they received points for, depending on the degree of difficulty. Not only did they have a fantastic time—but one of our teams finished first equal!!! They go to the Hawkes Bay regional finals later this term.



CHAMPIONS PROGRAMME

The Champions programme began at our school last year. This is a values-based Christian education programme for students in Years 3 to 6. It operates on Friday lunchtimes. At present they meet with their lunch in the Library, although this will change next term once some more classrooms arrive on site. They are led by Emma and a team of helpers.

Any children are welcome to join. If you wish your child to be involved you can get a consent form from the school office.

POHUTUKAWA SWIMMING

Swimming starts for the Pohutukawa classes on Monday 13 March. All children in the classes involved will have received a notice today with details of the swimming programme. As we have six classes swimming each day we will be using two buses to get to the Napier Aquatic Centre. Children don't swim every day due to pool availability, so take care with those dates when togs are needed.



GMS PTA FOOD FAIR

Twenty three days until the GMS PTA Food Fair ... keep Friday 24 March free as a night to support our school and be entertained!!!!!!

Fun, food and fundraising all rolled into one! Our PTA are putting together the biggest and best Food Fair yet, so if you can help please let us know. We always have plenty of helpers for the evening, but could always do with more. You will be receiving a notice asking for helpers on the night, so please let us know if you can assist. Also start thinking about your contribution to the famous GMS Cake Stall that we run at the Food Fair. This is always an amazing part of the Food Fair and is very popular with the customers.

All profits from the Food Fair will go towards new ICT equipment for the school. New iPads and Chromebooks will be purchased - so please support this great cause.

TARADALE JUNIOR RUGBY NEEDS YOU!

All grades, all ages, girls and boys. Last chance to register this Sunday 5th March between 11am and 1pm at the clubrooms. You can check us out on www.sporty.co.nz/taradalerugby or on Facebook.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Check the school App or www.gms.school.nz website for details on the events coming up.

- 6 March Parent interviews 2.00pm finish
- 6 March Totara trips commence to Napier cemetery (daily for the week)
- 7 March Parent interviews 2.00pm finish
- 9 March Additional Interviews Room 18 and Maths classes 3.00pm finish
- 9 March Footsteps Dance Company in school working with Years 2 to 6
- 13 March Pohutukawa classes swimming begins
- 15 March ANZAC Day speech finals
- 24 March GMS PTA Food Fair
- 13 April Taradale and Districts ANZAC Day service
- 13 April Term 1 ends

Another lot of news ... school is a busy place. Look forward to seeing you all next week at Parent Interviews!

This edition of the newsletter has been printed in colour thanks to the support of our sponsors Debbie Dudding from Tremains and Greenmeadows Service Centre

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal