



P:06 844 7024 | E: admin@gms.school.nz | www.gms.school.nz



Dear Parents and Caregivers – Tena Koutou Katoa

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TAMARIKI

There have been three new students enroll at GMS over the past week. They are Cooper Teikamata, Khartel Hungahunga-Bartlett and Ruby Hall. Welcome to this trio - great to have you with us!

REMINDER - SCHOOL WELCOME FOR NEW FAMILIES AND WHANAU

We are having a mihi whakatau welcome for new families who have started with us this year. This will be held this Thursday 1 March at 9.10am in the Heart of the School (please note it is not on 'Friday' as in the invitation letters).

PARENT INTERVIEWS – MONDAY 5 AND TUESDAY 6 MARCH

Parent Interviews are coming up next week - we have more than three hundred interviews booked already. There are still places available if you haven't already booked an interview time with your child's teacher. You will find all the instructions you need to make a booking under the tab 'Parent Teacher Interviews 2018'.

Remember school will close early at 2.00 pm on both Monday 5th March and Tuesday 6th March.

GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL APP

Our school app is a very helpful tool for our parents to keep in touch with what's going on at school. We regularly send out reminder alerts on the app and in the case of a school emergency this is how we would communicate this to parents.

If you haven't already downloaded the app, go to the 'App Store' or the Android Play Store and search for Greenmeadows School and select install, easy as that!

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL GATHERING AREAS

A note for parents :

BEFORE SCHOOL: People are free to come into school before 8.30am if your arrangements require this. We ask that all children and parents who enter the school before the bell rings stay in the concrete area in front of the Library until 8.30am. When parents take their children to their rooms, or move outside the gathering place, that then encourages other children to start moving around the school. As we do not have teachers supervising around the area at that time we want everyone in the one place. I note many other schools do not let children enter the grounds - we want to be a little more understanding and flexible around this.

AFTER SCHOOL - a notice for Kowhai parents: we want to try and keep the area outside our junior rooms and new deck area clear up to 3.00pm. Increasing numbers of our wonderful whanau are arriving before the end of the day. While it is neat to have you here, it is proving to be a distraction to our students (many think the day is all done when they see parents outside!). If you could wait on the concrete outside the Library or by the dental clinic and let your children come to you that would be a great help.

Many thanks for your assistance.

GMS SCHOOL FOCUS 2018 READING!!!!

Now that the year is up and running we are looking at our school focus areas for the year: one of the major ones is READING! We want our children reading - totally loving it and developing their skills in literacy as a result. We want them enthusiastic and actively engaged in reading. Reading is something we want to be the main focus for our homework this year.

Parents can help by encouraging your tamariki to talk about the books they read, reading to them regularly and being positive about listening to them read to you.

EIT CANDIDATE TEACHERS TO BE BASED AT GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

We have had six Candidate Teachers from EIT start with us today. They are:

Larissa Aberhart AJ Bowden Caitlin Devonshire
Amy Kockelbergh Natalie Palleson Brooke Pearson

A warm welcome to this group who are with us for the rest of the school year. We look forward to their involvement in our school during 2018.

FRIDAY 23 MARCH 4.30PM TO 6.30PM GMS PTA FOOD FAIR

We are now less than four weeks away from the super exciting Food Fair.

Keep those food fair donations coming in - remember the class with the most donations will be awarded a prize.

Remember this week we are taking donations for the lucky dip prizes.

The PTA are meeting tomorrow night in the staffroom at 7.30pm - all welcome, we are always looking for new members!

GMS CANTEEN

The canteen will be open again tomorrow for lunches. Make sure your child's lunch order is in the box in their classroom before 9am.

ABSENCES

A reminder that when your child is absent please ensure you contact the school office prior to 9.00am. We also need to know the reason why your child is away so please leave that information. If your child is absent you can:

- * phone and leave a message on the answerphone,
- * send a text to 0279 264 452 or
- * list your child's absence via the app under the tab "Absentee".

TARADALE AND NAPIER PIRATES JAB RUGBY INFORMATION

A] Taradale Rugby is now taking junior player registrations for the 2018 season (from 4 years - end of Year 8). For more details please message Paula on 027 360 2358.

B] **Pirates Open Days** Saturday 3 March - 9am to 12 pm Sunday 4 March - 1pm to 4pm **Official**

Weigh-ins: All players are required to register on www.sporty.co.nz and officially weigh-in.

Our 'OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN' is on Monday 12th March from 5 - 7 pm at our Clubrooms.

New Players must bring a copy of their Birth Certificate for the weigh master.

FREE VIOLIN LESSONS

The Ministry of Education is offering free violin lessons for Year 3 to 6 students in 2018. It is not necessary for students to have their own violin as they can be hired at a fee of \$50 per year.

The weekly lessons are held on a Monday at Taradale Intermediate. This year the teacher is Hannah Hales.

To enrol contact Charlotte van Asch either by email charvanasch@gmail.com or text on 027 677 8118.

MARILYN SWAN ACADEMY OF DANCE

Ballet lessons - special offer for children 4 to 7 years - buy one get one free. Sign up and pay for term 1. Bring a paying friend with you and your money will be refunded. Inquiries to Marilyn Swan 8355491 or 0273365263 or visit her webpage www.marilynswanacademyofdance.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS Check the school App or www.gms.school.nz website for more details:

1 March	GMS mihi whakatau for new families and whanau		
5 and 6 March	Parent interviews (2.00pm finish)	23 March	GMS PTA Food Fair
15, 16 and 19 March	Kowhai classes trip to Estuary		
13 April	Term 1 ends		
30 April	Term 2 commences		

Have a great week. Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson

Principal