



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 has been one new student enroll at GMS since our last newsletter. Harry Wilkins is the latest learner to join our school. Welcome to you Harry – great to have you with us!

STAFFING UPDATE

There have been some changes in the staffing at our school to make you all aware of:

- Mrs Christina Tareha has decided to resign from her full-time position. Christina is currently on maternity leave and has taught here since 2012. Christina has made a wonderful contribution to our school and been a caring and first teacher for many students. We are sure to see her at school doing relief teaching, so she won't be lost to us.
- We have a new Deputy Principal who will be Mr Darren Holloway. Darren previously taught at GMS in 2014 before taking a position at Bledisloe School (incidentally to replace Mr Papuni when he left to come here ...). He will take up the role at the start of Term 2 and we look forward to welcoming Darren back to our school.
- Mrs Shona Millner's back injury is improving all the time and the indications are that she will be fit enough to return to school in Term 2. She will take over in Team Tahī (Rooms 1a & 1b) with Mrs Shari Mackay and the New Entrants.
- Mr Chris Sullivan will stay on for the duration of the year in Room 6 with the Year 4 and 5 class.

NZEI PAID UNION MEETINGS

Over the next few weeks teachers will attend meetings regarding a range of issues. This will not cause any disruption to school and we will be remaining open throughout this time. Classes will work with their buddy classes on the afternoons of the meetings.

GMS FUNDRAISING FOCUS FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS



One of the main issues with our school is a lack of an adequate sized hall. The current one cannot fit all our children in at the same time, and is much smaller than halls many other schools have. Unfortunately we have had it confirmed by the Ministry of Education that construction of a new hall for GMS is very unlikely to feature for many years. We desperately need a covered area that we can gather in outside, protected by the rain and sun. The Heart of the School could be this place, but it is not really big enough.

Our Board of Trustees and PTA have now set a goal of creating a covered court area between the senior playground and

Rooms 8 to 11, similar to the one in the picture. This will serve as a multipurpose area. A sheltered assembly spot (with sides and lighting) is one function. Also this space will have astroturf court markings for tennis, netball, basketball, volleyball and a small hockey training space – it will be a fantastic resource. Think about a way to host visiting performers, dance groups, concerts ... you name it – this will be able to do it! This year's Food Fair funds will go towards this project.

NEW CLASSROOM NUMBERS

You may or may not have noticed that some of the classrooms have been re-numbered this year and we are in the process of having new signage made up reflecting that. The classrooms that have been changed are as follows:-

- | | |
|---|--|
| Room 1a & Room 1b – originally Rooms 1 and 2 – Mrs Mackay, Mrs Furlong & Mrs Murphy (Mrs Millner in Term 2) | |
| Room 2a and Room 2b – originally Team 3 and 4 – Mrs Geange, Mrs Young & Mrs Carter | |
| Room 3a – previously Room 18 – Miss Nikolaison | Room 3b – previously Room 19 – Mrs Harvey |
| Room 4 – previously Room 20 – Mrs Martin | Room 14a – originally Room 14 – Mrs Kinsey |
| Room 14b – originally Room 15 – Mrs Groenveld | Room 15a – originally Room 16 – Mrs Davidson |
| Room 15b – originally Room 17 – Mr Bain | |

SCHOOLTEX WEBSITE – UNIFORMS ONLINE

The Greenmeadows school uniform is now available online through The Warehouse website. A convenient option for busy parents. Here is a link to the website:- <https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/c/schools/greenmeadows-school>

SCHOLASTIC LUCKY BOOK CLUB

Lucky Book Club brochures are coming home today, orders need to be back by Friday 23rd March.

PARENT HELPERS FOR GMS FOOD FAIR

HELP!! HELP!!! We need more parent helpers, **FIFTY-FIVE** to be exact.... Please help us, we only need 30 minutes of your time. Please complete and return one of the parent helper slips or text Kerri Burgess on 02102747591.

PTA FOOD FAIR RAFFLE

The PTA are selling tickets for their Food Fair raffle with some awesome prizes of a Stihl chainsaw valued at \$300, a Pandora bracelet and a \$50 Te Awa Winery voucher. You can purchase tickets at the school office for \$2 a ticket or \$5 for 3 tickets.

GMS CANTEEN

The canteen will be closed Friday 23rd March 2018.

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".

OSCAR – NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Oscar are holding their Annual General Meeting in the Oscar Building on Monday 9th April at 6pm. All welcome to attend.

A NOTICE FROM STUDENTS ON ROAD PATROL

Hi, we are Casey and Chloe. We do Road Patrol on a Wednesday on Osier Road. We do Road Patrol to keep the children safe. Some days it gets really busy!

Some things make it harder for us.

- *If people park on the yellow lines - it is hard for us to see*
- *If people don't indicate that they are turning in the car parks*
- *When people stop right in the driveway, it blocks up all the other traffic*
- *When people park on the ends of the car parks in the church car park it makes it harder for other cars to get around and this blocks the flow of cars in and out*
- *Adults who ignore us when we put up our barrier arms to stop*
- *People who do U-turns right in front of the crossing*

Things that would make our road patrol easier:

- *Crossing straight across the actual crossing*
- *Don't ignore when we have our arms out to stop*
- *Wait for 'Cross Now'*
- *Please do not let your children get into the cars unless you are in a car park - it is really dangerous*
- *A suggestion might be park further down the road*
- *Try using the Walking Bus*
- *Walking together with friends instead of going in the car.*

All these things keep the GMS kids safe and make the Road Patrollers job easier.

Thank you.

Chloe Skilton and Casey Thompson



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

23 March	GMS PTA Food Fair 4.30pm to 6.30pm
30 March	Good Friday - school closed, Easter Monday & Easter Tuesday - school closed
13 April	Term 1 ends
30 April	Term 2 commences

Have a great week. Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson

Principal