



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



Dear Parents and Caregivers – Tena Koutou Katoa

END OF THE YEAR CLOSES IN ...

Here we are in December ...! Where has this year gone??? This will be our last school newsletter for the 2019 year. There may still be GMS app alerts and notices on Facebook or through Seesaw if things crop up between now and our final day on 19th December. Our PTA will also send out a notice next week to end their year.

This has been a great year with so many things happening at our kura. You can be very proud of your children - we certainly are here of the many achievements over the last four terms.

2020 SCHOOL ORGANISATION

We have a number of changes to our school organisation for 2020. We farewell three teachers from our staff at the end of this year: they are Mrs Renee Jackson, Mrs Christy Turner and Miss Hayley Prue. Renee has secured a job at Reignier Catholic School for next year while Christy and Hayley's contracts have come to an end. All three have made a wonderful contribution to our school over the course of this year. While sad to lose them we wish them all the best for 2020. These members of staff will be farewelled at our assembly on the final day - Thursday 19 December from 11.15am. There is one new appointment to the teaching staff - Mr Dan Ball (who taught here in 2014 and 2015) is returning to Greenmeadows School and will teach one of our Totara classes. Mrs Shona Millner is returning to classroom teaching duties after spending this year delivering the Reading Recovery programme.

The school structure for 2020 will be as follows:

Year 1 and 2 Kowhai (Junior) Syndicate

Team 1a Shari Mackay (Year 1)

Team 2a Rebecca Start (Years 1 and 2)

Room 3a Pixie Bryan (Year 2)

Room 5 Anna Murphy (Year 1)

Team 1b Paula Kinsey (Year 1)

Team 2b Leah Hambleton (Year 1)

Room 3b Helen Harvey (Year 2)

Year 3 and 4 Pohutukawa (Middle) Syndicate

Room 8 Ceirwyn Ware (Year 4)

Room 10 Jane McCosh (Year 3)

Room 14a Leah Haronga (Year 3)

Room 9 Toni Smith (Year 4)

Room 11 Monique Cowie (Year 3)

Room 14b Sarah Groenveld (Year 4)

Year 5 and 6 Totara (Senior) Syndicate

Room 6 Jane Carter (Years 4 and 5)

Room 12 Greg Bain (Year 6)

Room 15a Shona Millner (Year 5)

Room 7 Marty Gibbs (Year 6)

Room 13 Chris Sullivan (Year 6)

Room 15b Dan Ball (Year 5)



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 school trip, the new playground equipment - it could be on us! Give me a call today, I would love to hear from you.



Debbie Dudding
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2019 PRIZE-GIVING AND BREAKUP

All children are expected to attend. They need to be lined up in class groups on the school field by 6.20pm. Parking gets difficult with the large numbers of vehicles a school of our size seems to require, so please plan to get here with time to spare.

All children need to wear school uniform to the prize-giving, but do not need their hats for the evening.

If the weather does not allow the prize-giving to go ahead on Tuesday, we will communicate it in the following ways:

* via the GMS Facebook page * an alert on the GMS App

If the prize-giving does get postponed, then it will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 6.30pm.

Please note that school will start at 9.30am, and not 9.00am, the day after the breakup.

SCHOOL REPORTS OUT TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER

End of year reports will be sent home on Tuesday 17 December. Our teachers have put an incredible amount of time and care into the preparation of these reports. We hope they can give you a very clear summary of how each child has progressed over 2019. I also love to read the children's summaries of their year which give great insight too.

Also on that afternoon, the children get the chance to visit their classroom for 2020. At that time all children will get a stationery list for the coming year when they visit their new room. Please note the arrangements for purchasing stationery in 2020 – it should be obtained from Hawkes Bay Office Products in Wakefield Street, Onekawa. Copies of these stationery lists are also to be found on our school website.

SCHOOL FEES GONE!

Our school is very fortunate to be included in the scheme starting next year - schools in Deciles 1 to 7 can opt into this and we just sneak in because we are decile 7! This means that next year families will not be asked for a school fee/donation or transport money for your children to go swimming. This helps our school immensely because we have always paid for subscriptions for your children such as Seesaw and Athletics (many other schools pass these costs directly onto families).

School camps and visiting performers will still require money to be paid as will any sports team involvement. Apart from that GMS is fee free in 2020.

SCHOOL READER & LIBRARY BOOK AMNESTY

Please check under beds, behind couches and in your bookcases - school readers and Library books are out there in Greenmeadows... there are still a number of valuable books not where they should be!!!!

These are the books that come home every night for home reading, especially in the junior school. They cost between \$10-12 each so it is vitally important we get as many back as possible, ASAP. Please return all books, no questions asked - we just need them back. We want to spend our school funds on buying new books, not simply replacing the missing ones.



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ASSEMBLY

There is no assembly this Friday as we still have swimming for Kowhai and the road patrollers are going to Splash Planet.

KOWHAI SWIMMING

The last day for swimming for the Kowhai Syndicate is Tuesday 10th December.

GMS PTA XMAS RAFFLE

Raffle tickets, sold or unsold, are to be returned to the school office tomorrow. The raffle will be drawn at school on Monday 16th December.

WHANAU HELPERS MORNING TEA

Each year we have a morning tea to say thanks to all the wonderful members of our school community for the help that they give us, this will be held 10.30am next Tuesday in the staffroom.

CANTEEN

The last day for the canteen this year is Friday 13th December. The canteen is closed the last week of school. Thankyou for all your support.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

10 th December	Last session swimming for Kowhai
12 th December	Year 6 Social
17 th December	Breakup and Prizegiving 6.30pm start; Reports sent home
19 th December	Last Day of Term 4 - 12pm finish

This has been a fantastic year. I want to thank everyone who has helped make this such a successful time for Greenmeadows School.

To all those families who are finishing their association with our school at the end of the term, we say thank you for all you have contributed over the months or years your children have been part of the community. Enjoy the new challenges ahead. And please keep in touch!

I want to wish you all the very best for the festive season and summer holiday period. Be safe, happy and cherish this beautiful part of the world we live in.

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal



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