



Dear Parents and Caregivers – Tena Koutou Katoa

The final term is upon us - welcome back everyone! Our first couple of days back have had such a positive vibe. This is one of those JUMBO newsletters that appear from time to time with plenty of information ...

WELCOME TO GMS!!

There are some new faces who have started with us this term. The latest arrivals at Greenmeadows School are: Draven Kireka, Madeline Lincoln and Guneet Kaur. We extend a very warm welcome to you all as you start your years at school. Our roll is currently 491.

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER – ‘EVACUATION DRILL’

Nationwide there is a 'Shake Out Day' this coming Thursday 15th October - we will have our own earthquake drill practise that day at 9.30am along with the thousands of others participating.

We will then have our own Shake Out Day a week later to prepare for a potential tsunami alert. We are going to hold our tsunami evacuation drill for Greenmeadows School next **Thursday 22 October**. This is going to be a major exercise, and is part of a New Zealand wide focus on being prepared for an earthquake and tsunami.

The GMS tsunami hikoi to Church Road Winery - Thursday 22nd October:

- At 1.15pm we will start our tsunami hikoi - via the crossing at Gloucester Street and up Osier Road.
- Our evacuation point is the grassed area immediately north of Church Road Winery.
- This is a walk of 1.7km from our school via Osier Road and through Knightsbridge.
- As part of the drill we want practice releasing children to their parents, if they are available and want to pick them up. They will then be released for the remainder of the day and do not need to return to school.
- We anticipate our drill will finish just after 2.00pm on Thursday 22nd October.
- All those children who are not picked up will return to school for the remainder of the afternoon.

If parents are going to pick up their children please park on Church Road. Please do not park in the winery carpark. Be aware that Tironui Drive is very narrow and turning around is very difficult.



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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SCHOOL UNIFORM/SUN HATS

Term 4 is the time when we need to have all children wearing sunhats. Although it has not been sun burn weather as yet, it is neat to see so many children arriving with their pōtae (hat). Hats are available from The Warehouse. We expect all children to be wearing their wide brimmed hats once we return after Labour weekend.

It is also impressive to see how proud so many of our children are looking, turning out in our full uniform. There are few who are not quite in the uniform as agreed by our community. We do not want to have to turn into the uniform inspectors ... so we ask that parents and whānau help us if your child starts attempting to wear clothing or footwear that is not GMS uniform. This includes socks (which need to be navy blue) and footwear (black). Your assistance would be fantastic.

2020 SPOONER SHIELD RESULTS

It does seem like quite a while ago now, but the Spooner Shield was held on the last day of the third term. The six different squads from Greenmeadows School went to Bledisloe School determined to give their best, and they certainly did. It was a really tight competition with a mere three points separating the top three schools (and each one win earned four points ...).

The overall results were:

1st Porritt School 79 points 2nd Taradale Primary 77 points 3rd Greenmeadows 76 points

We also had some great results in the individual sports including:

Netball Hazel Gillies Shield (combined Year 5 and 6 scores) GMS 2nd with 29 points

Boys Football - L.E. Nicholson Trophy - GMS 2nd with 17 points

Hockey - GMS 3rd with 15 points

Our girls football side also won the Fair Play Award for their grade.

Many thanks are extended to all our supporters, umpires/referees and team coaches who were part of our efforts - it was a fantastic day.

PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES POLICY

A number of schools our size are experiencing children bringing expensive devices to school. Our recent survey had a 99% support for our school limiting the presence of these technologies at school during the day. This includes mobile phones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, handheld PCs and consoles, portable music players, e-readers, and other similar devices. As a result, the GMS Board of Trustees have introduced a policy to help this situation:

Greenmeadows School does not recommend that students bring personal digital devices to school. These are not necessary to have during the day. However, we understand that some parents like their children to have a device to communicate with them after school.

If a student does bring a personal digital device to school, the following guidelines apply:

- *The school does not accept responsibility for lost, damaged, or stolen personal digital devices.*
- *Students must hand in their device to the office at the beginning of the day, and can collect the device at the end of the day.*

Personal digital devices may not be taken on EOTC events.

If a parent needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the office.

Inappropriate use

If a student is observed using a personal digital device inappropriately, the student must hand it to a staff member immediately when asked. If possible, students should lock their device before handing it to staff. The device will be kept in the office and can be collected by the student at the end of the day.



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOOL ELECTION

The Greenmeadows School Board of Trustees, is about to hold its mid term elections. Our board has an election every 18 months, with three of the six parent representative spots coming up at each election. By holding elections every eighteen months, this ensures that we have continuity on our board. Nominations for the upcoming election close on 1st November. We are an open and friendly board who meet two to three times each school term. The role of the Board is to set the school's overall strategic direction. It is important the board members reflect the overall diversity of the school to ensure a bright future for all our students. If you are thinking about becoming involved in our BOT now is the time to put your name forward.

Under the new legislation we were able to email out nomination forms this year. If there is only one email address held on our database, only one email with the nomination form would have been received. If you did not receive a nomination form due to an incorrect email address or no email address held, and would like to nominate someone, please contact the school office.



SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

“Schools need us all to step forward”

Find out more at www.trustee-election.co.nz

Step forward for our schools ✓

SCHOLASTIC LUCKY BOOK CLUB

Book Club



Scholastic Book Club is coming home this week. Orders are due back to school by **Friday 30th October**. Please ensure you include your child's name and class number and the correct cash. Or you may prefer to order online via LOOP (Linked Online Ordering for Parents). Go to: <https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz>

Your order will automatically attach to the School Order which will be forwarded to Scholastic on the closing date. All orders earn Scholastic Rewards for the School. Happy Reading Everyone!

GMS FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

The weather is not looking that friendly, but at this stage we are planning on having a long-awaited GMS school assembly this Friday. Start time is set for 11.30am - weather permitting ...

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

19 October	Year 6 Opti Yachting week commences
22 October	Evacuation drill to Church Road Winery
23 -26 October	Hawkes Bay Anniversary - School CLOSED
12 November	Parents Transition to School Meeting
17 December	Last day of school - 12.00pm finish

Have a great week ahead! Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal



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