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Thursday 11 August 2011



NEWSLETTER NO. 13

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

This week has seen a number of television advertisements screening as part of 'Speak up for Education' week. The campaign is designed to celebrate many of the positive aspects that are part of the New Zealand schooling system. Our country is not one of the richest in the developed world, yet international assessments show that New Zealand students consistently feature at the top of a whole range of studies. Some in the media would have the community think our education system is in a form of 'crisis', yet there are so many positive and encouraging elements to be being a student in our country. We are all aiming to keep improving, and thinking strategically – in the meantime let's be proud of our happy, engaged and motivated learners throughout our schools, especially here at Greenmeadows School.

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

Room 7 has two new students this week. We welcome Calais Terry-Moore and Fletcher Burch as New Entrant students. The start of school is an exciting time and we wish them well for the years ahead.

THIRD NEW ENTRANT CLASS

Our New Entrant roll continues to climb and the numbers in Room 7 have passed twenty and are fast approaching the maximum number we want to have in a junior class. As result we are currently advertising for a teacher to teach a third New Entrant class which will be opened from 5 September. This class will be housed in Room 6.

GMS CENTENNIAL SCHOOL FOCUS

With the school centenary now a matter of weeks away, we are planning on linking this celebration with a relevant opportunity for learning. Our school is focusing on a 'big idea' related to the passage of time: 'our school – how has it changed?'

We have a wide number of visual resources and the chance to talk to former students to help the children understand the concept of change over time. Our school has a fascinating history and provides an excellent theme for inquiry learning.

GMS PTA—QUIZ!!!!

HELP!!! We need more tickets to be sold for the quiz tomorrow evening. This promises to be a lot of fun – with a whole range of (pretty easy ...) questions, a relaxing atmosphere and great company.

It doesn't matter if you do not have enough to make up a team, there are a number of other people willing to make up teams for the night. Come along and support the PTA!

'HEART OF THE SCHOOL' UPDATE



The 'Heart of the School' project is moving ahead steadily. Much of the initial earthworks have been completed and construction of the sandpit, outdoor stage and raised boardwalks is now underway.

The Board of Trustees have taken the opportunity of having open space in the middle of the school to upgrade some of our services, including:

- security monitoring upgrade for the junior block of classrooms
- increasing the capacity of our internal computer network with more cabling options
- relocating our main water lines

The anticipated completion date is just prior to the centennial celebrations. Fingers crossed that the weather permits this ...!



PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Week 11 Term 3 and Term 1 Week 1

Room 1	Ashton Hannah-Morris Cody Johns	Room 2	Emily Watts Renee Payne
Room 3	Finn Exeter Noah Edwards-Wilkinson	Room 4	Leah McKay Jayden Cairns-Check
Room 5	Ethan Gilmour-Downes	Room 7	Tre' Arne Whakatope-Tahuri Caitlin Fisher
Room 8	Braxton Bell Acacia Cheer	Room 9	Devyn Summersby Nathan Kinsey
Room 10	Charlie Stewart Haley Gerken	Room 11	Asha Penn Joshua Wright
Room 12	Zack McPike Courtney Roff	Room 13	Jack Bennett Cade Williams
Room 14	Jacob Driver Kayla Heath	Room 15	Quin McPike Newton Chan
Room 16	Elliot Hendry	Room 17	Wendy Hiko Kamoe Fabish



ROAD PATROL

We still require a couple of parents to help with the Road patrol supervision duties. Greenmeadows School has two road crossings to supervise which doubles our load compared to most other schools, and at times we struggle to get sufficient numbers of parents to assist. Can you help?!?!? If so please let Mr. Bloor know.

LOOK WHO VISITED OUR SCHOOL LAST WEEK!!!

All Black superstars Izzy Dagg and Zac Guildford had a sneaky lunchtime visit to our school last Friday, which caused an incredible amount of excitement. WOW!!!



Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson

SCHOOL EVENTS COMING UP:

- 12 August — PTA Quiz evening
 - 16 August — Board of Trustees meeting 5.30pm
 - 30 August — Spooner Shield tournament
 - 1 September - Spooner Shield postponement
 - 13 September — GMS Cross country
 - 15 September — GMS Cross country postponement date
 - 28 September — Interschool cross-country (
 - 30 September — 100 Years Centennial Open Day
 - 1 October — Official Centennial Celebrations (Saturday)
 - 7 October—End of Term 3
 - 25 October—Start of Term 4
 - 21 November—start of Year 5 and 6 camp week
 - 15 December—end of Term 4 2011
- Refer to www.gms.school.nz for additional events and information

