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Wednesday 2 November 2011



NEWSLETTER NO. 19

Dear Parents and Caregivers - Tena koutou katoa

Tena koutou katoa — here is our final newsletter of the term, and what a busy term it has been for our school. The activities over the past week have been very successful in allowing the community to see a number of the aspects of our school. We have had one enrolment since the last newsletter — Ava Humphrey. Being the youngest student at school at the time of the centenary meant Ava played a role in the cutting of the centennial cake with ninety-two year old Roy Fuller (the oldest former pupil attending the reunion). Ava performed her role perfectly — and her confident skipping up to the stage was one of the highlights of the day. The coming holiday gives all an opportunity to rest and relax before the often hectic Term 4. On behalf of all at school we wish you all a safe and happy holiday break with your children.

HEART OF THE SCHOOL PROJECT

The clock was ticking last week as the centennial drew closer and the gardens needed planting to make things look complete. Right when needed, up stepped a tremendous team of parents who worked in an amazing effort from Tuesday afternoon right through to Friday. What an impact their energies made as well — the planted gardens of the Heart of the School look fantastic! Enormous thanks to all who came along to assist with the planting project.

The sandpit is now open for 'business' and is proving very popular with the children. Its popularity may reduce over time, but at the moment in every spare moment the area looks similar to an overcrowded beach in Europe in the height of summer ...! The last part of the project to be finished is the outdoor stage, with the final steps in the laying of the astro-turf still to be completed. The completed project certainly creates an effective 'heart of the school' which was the intention of the Board of Trustees more than three years ago.

PMP CONCLUDES

This week marks the end of the PMP programme which has run throughout Terms 2 and 3. The programme plays an important role in developing coordination and physical motor-skills for junior children. Kirsten Martin and her team of dedicated parent helpers have been a wonderful support for our children. Many thanks for your continued support of the children at Greenmeadows School.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

To end the school term we will have assembly at 2.30pm this Friday. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us, and we can get outside to make first use of our outdoor assembly area. Children will be released from the area to start their holidays.

If wet/cold/too windy then this assembly will be back in the Hall area.

SOME WRITING FROM THE YEAR 1 CHILDREN IN ROOM 8

Here are some examples of writing that seem to capture the main current events of late:

The All Blacks won against Canada. Woodcock got hurt by the captain of Canada. Dan Carter hurt his leg. Richie McCaw scored a try. Sonny Bill Williams tried his best but he did not score.

- Ethan Sullivan-Christie

At the beginning of the year our playground had monkey bars and a sandpit. Then the diggers came to our school and they were very noisy! Now the playground that we have has got a flying fox and a new sandpit and a thing to run around on. It is orange and green.

- Brianna Boyce

The trucks and the diggers took away the concrete.

- Ricky Ferguson

ICT SHARING EVENING —THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

Another activity in the very busy last week was the sharing by each class of just some of the applications of ICT in learning that have been going on in the school lately.

There was a wide range of examples on show throughout the school. Thanks to those parents and grandparents who were able to make it along to the evening. The children love being able to share with their families, and this was also a good experience for staff to go through and communicate developments in ICT.

NAPIER PRIMARY SCHOOLS CROSS-COUNTRY

The children selected in the interschool cross-country gave a very good account of themselves in the event at Park Island last week.

Greenmeadows School placings in the top twenty of their events were:

Josh Keating	2nd in Year 6 boys
Callum Berriman	5th in Year 6 boys
Giana Cornelius-Beets	6th in Year 6 girls
Adam Barron	7th in Year 4 boys
Jacob Driver	9th in Year 4 boys
Tiaki Fabish	12th in Year 6 boys
Tessa Cotter	16th in Year 6 girls
Elliott Hendry	20th in Year 6 boys

We also received two team awards. The Year 6 boys won their competition with four finishers in the top twenty, and the Year 3 and 4 boys team finished third overall. Well done to the runners—there was some very tough competition this year. Thanks also to Mrs. Duncan for taking our team down to Park Island in her bus for two practise runs

Thanks to those who helped run the PTA food stall on the day. We raised well over \$500 following an intensive two hours of food and drink selling. Another great effort!



FAREWELLS

Jess Richards has been on placement in Room 8 with Mrs. Currie and her Year 1 class for the past three weeks. Her teaching experience is due to conclude at the end of this week. Jess is a former student of Greenmeadows School, so it has been great to welcome her back to familiar surroundings (they may have changed a little in that time though). We wish her all the very best for the remainder of her training.

This week has also seen the resignation of Natasha Burkett from the Board of Trustees. Natasha and her family are relocating to the Nelson area over the holiday break. She has made a very valuable contribution as a member of our school's Board. We wish them well for the move.

GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

This week the accounts for this term are being sent home. Please check over the invoices (and go looking for them if you do not see them come out of school bags!) If at all possible please aim to make payment by the end of this month if you have money owing. We want to have as many payments made prior to next term, as we have a very busy 'shortened' term to deal with to end the year. Any assistance you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

Note that school camps for Year 5 and 6 students need to be paid for before the trip starts. If you feel this may be a challenge for your family please make contact with the office to make alternative arrangements.

Please note that the preferred method of payment is by internet banking. This is much easier for us to process at our end with the accounting software used by the school.

Have a great time over the next couple of weeks. And ... we will all know who holds the RWC by the time we get back to start Term 4. The tournament is now starting to get exciting. Come on New Zealand!

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal

SCHOOL EVENTS COMING UP:

7 Oct — End of Term 3

24 Oct—Labour Day (Monday)

25 Oct — Start of Term 4 (Tuesday)

1 Nov Swimming resumes: Rooms 3 and 4

21 Nov — Year 5 and 6 camp week

15 Dec — end of Term 4 2011

Refer to www.gms.school.nz for additional events and information

GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL WALKING BUS

The walking bus tomorrow will be moving for the 100th time that we have walked from Park Road to Greenmeadows School since the start of 2009. Come along and join in the centennial celebration to mark the occasion.

2012 TERM DATES

A number of you are asking about the dates for next year (impressive forward planning ...):

Term 1

Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 5 April

Term 2

23 April to 29 June

Term 3

16 July to 28 September

Term 4

15 October to 19 December 2012

