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Thursday 23 February 2012

# CHATTERBOX



## NEWSLETTER NO. 3

### Dear Parents and Caregivers - Tena koutou katoa

*Wow ... a third of the term gone already! The year is certainly up, running and moving along quickly. We have lots of interesting activities going around school at present. The classes in the Totara team have been visiting the Faraday Centre linked into their science-themed focus on 'Light'. Pohutukawa team have been involved in ongoing series of football coaching sessions un by Napier City Rovers,. Classes in the Kowhai team are preparing for their trip to the rocky shore in early March. Lots of activity and lots of learning and lots of fun for all.*

### WELCOME TO GMS!!!

Today our roll is 379. Since the last newsletter five children have started at our school. We extend a warm welcome to these students as they begin their time at Greenmeadows School:

- Courtney Clarke
- Bailey Greeks
- Adam Smith
- Noah Smith
- Hunter Harris

We also welcome Mrs. Karlene O'Dowda who has started teaching in Room 16. Lyndsey Starkey has been awarded study leave to work towards a university course related to teaching students with visual impairment. Karlene will take responsibility for Room 16 on the days in which Lyndsey off studying and reading text books.. A special welcome to Karlene.

### TERM DATES 2012

Term 1 — Ends Thursday 5 April

Term 2 — Starts Monday 23 April  
Ends Friday 29 June

Note: There will be a Teacher Only Day Friday 4 May

Term 3 — Starts Monday 16 July  
Ends 28 September

Note: There will be a mid-term break weekend with school closed on Friday 17 and Monday 20 August

Term 4 — Starts Monday 15 October  
Ends Thursday 20 December

### SCHOOL FEES AND ACCOUNTS

Many schools in New Zealand will charge hundreds of dollars per child as a school fee donation. Greenmeadows School aims to keep the school fees we ask families for as low as possible. Our fees will stay at the same amounts requested in 2011. As an incentive all fees received before the end of Term 1 will receive a 10% discount to make it even easier for families.

The amounts are:

1 child — \$50 for the year

(\$45 if paid by end of Term 1)

2 children — \$100 for the year

(\$90 if paid by the end of Term 1)

3 or more children — \$110 for the year

(\$100 if paid by the end of Term 1)

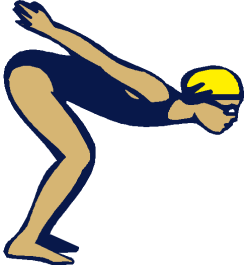
You can choose to wait to be invoiced for these amounts in the next few weeks or pay immediately by internet banking. The school's account number for internet banking has been circulated to all families on a pink slip (if you have not received one, please contact the office) and will be printed on each invoice sent out this year.

The first school accounts will be sent out soon. If you choose to pay by internet banking, please include your child's name, Room number and the activity e.g. 'Jan Smith R19 Bus to Swimming'.

Otherwise if you send cash to school please put the amount in an envelope that is clearly marked to make it easy to process. Many thanks.



## GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL SWIMMING



The swimming programme for the school is due to start later this term. Totara team classes are to be involved in the first series of lessons starting on Monday 19 March. Each class will have seven consecutive lessons at the Green-dale Pool at Taradale Primary School. Due to funding received by the NZ Water Safety Council to support the lessons our school been able to further subsidise the transport to and from the venue. The cost of the bus will only be \$8 per pupil for all students in 2012.

Please note that children need to pay for the bus before starting their swimming lessons.

The schedule for this term's swimming is:

Monday 19 March to Tuesday 27 March

— Rooms 12, 13 and 14

Wednesday 28 March to Thursday 5 April

- Rooms 15, 16 and 17

## GMS SWIMMING SPORTS

The students in Years 4 to 6 will be involved in their annual swimming sports on Thursday 15 March at the Napier Aquatic Centre in Onekawa. We will be holding championship races to determine our swimming champions for 2012. We will also be holding house competition races to determine our champion swimming house. The house competition will cater for the less able swimmers or those not wishing to enter the championship races.

The children will be travelling to the Napier Aquatic Centre on Tuesday 13 March for a practice swim and also to select children who will compete in the championship races at the swimming sports. Buses will provide the transport at no cost. On both days—the practise day and the event day—we depart from school at 12.20pm. The swimming sports will be a great opportunity for children to display the skills they learned during last year's swimming lessons. Parents and Caregivers are welcome to attend the swimming sports on Thursday 15 March. The first race will start at 12.50pm with the last race finishing before 2.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

## GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL PTA

Some exciting PTA events are coming up :

1. Dominoes Pizza Fundraiser Night—Wednesday 29 February. Each Pizza sold at Greenmeadows Dominoes Pizza between 5.00 to 7.00pm that night will raise \$1 for the PTA. Simple, tasty, fundraising!!!!
2. New Parents Morning tea — the PTA help organise this function we hold twice per year to welcome new families to our school. Have your children started Greenmeadows School for the first since September 2011? If so, you are most welcome to join us in the staffroom Thursday 1 March 9.15am for a relaxed chat and chance to find out more about the school.
3. GMS FOOD FAIR— this favourite returns ... on Friday 30 March from 4.30 to 6.30pm on our school field. We want to make this event bigger and more successful than last year's great night out. Mark it on your calendar — and parents let us know if you can help on the night. More details to follow.
4. Next Meeting of the PTA Tuesday 29 February
5. PTA AGM — 14 March 7.30pm

## TERM 1 REPORTS

On Monday 27 February each child will be sent home with a report on their start to the school year. Included in the report will be check boxes on how they have settled into learning, as well as some goals for them to work on in the coming weeks. Included in the report is an option for parents to request an interview with the class teacher, or vice versa, which we urge you to the opportunity to do if possible.

## GMS VALUES MEDALS

This week three medals were presented at assembly. They recognise efforts of three individual students each week that reflect and demonstrate our school values of 'respect', 'perseverance' and 'excellence'.

The awards this week were given to:  
Perseverance—Cedar Wairau Room 15  
Respect—Courtney Becker Room 10  
Excellence—Isabella Davidson-Payne

The children get to keep the medals for a week before they are awarded to the new recipients.



## PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Room 1	Rylee Moore Luke Johnston	Room 3	Cody Johns Holly Ireland
Room 2	Blake Fryer Joshua Pyatt	Room 5	Lia Sefton-Zachan Angelyn Zeng Isabella Davidson-Payne
Room 4	Sage Norris Dare'im Johnson	Room 8	Brooke Hansen
Room 6	Cameron Steed Jorja McIntyre	Room 10	Blake Haines Tegan McKnight
Room 9	Connor Morris	Room 12	Emilie Robb Paige Hughes
Room 11	Rylan O'Shea Caleb Hunt	Room 14	Bailey Wiig Oliver Burder
Room 13	Adam Barron Jessi Ireland	Room 16	Joshua Parslow Emmanuel Thomas
Room 15	Andrew Meybaum Danika Brown		
Room 17	Arnah Paton Jackson Haines		

Weeks 2 and 3 — Term 1 2011



### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS (FOR MORE DETAILS LOOK UNDER 'SCHOOL EVENTS' ON WWW.GMS.SCHOOL.NZ)**

- 27 Feb Term 1 reports sent home with children
- 29 Feb PTA Meeting (Food Fair planning) 7.30pm
- 6 Mar Kowhai team outing to Rocky Shore
- 8 Mar Cancellation date for Rocky Shore trip
- 13 Mar Year 4 to 6 swimming trials
- 15 Mar Year 4 to 6 swimming events
  
- 30 Mar GMS PTA FOOD FAIR!!!!

Have a great week.  
Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson  
Principal

### **CARWASH**

Supporting Greendale and Tamatea Cubs.  
When: 4 March 9.30 to 3.30pm  
Where: Duke of Gloucester Taradale  
Cost: \$5 per vehicle

### **GREENMEADOWS OSCAR**

We are currently taking bookings for the April school holidays. Included in the break are trips to Laser Force and St. Beads. Only six weeks away!!!!

We are also looking for someone to give 'voluntary advice on MYOB' from time to time. Can anyone help? Many thanks.

