

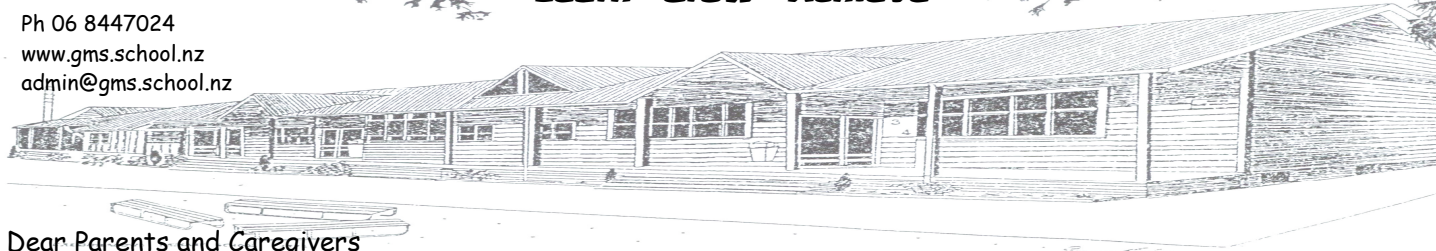
# GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

Newsletter-No. 14

Tuesday 18 August 2009

Learn - Grow - Achieve

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Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tena koutou katoa,

We have a jumbo newsletter this week—there is certainly plenty happening here at Greenmeadows School at the moment. A reminder to look on the school's website if you misplace your newsletter.

## FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES—2009 EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE REPORT

*The school has received the final copy of our report from the Education Review Office. A brief summary of the report is prepared by ERO to share with our community — and this is attached to this newsletter. The school and Board were very pleased with the whole review process, which has highlighted many of the strengths of our school. We were especially pleased by the positive aspects of the report looking towards the future of the school and the way we are all committed to ongoing improvement.*

- Carolyn Neville Chairperson Board of Trustees

- Mark Johnson Principal

## 'PEOPLE IN THE PAST' THEME—SHARING DAY MONDAY 24 AUGUST

To finish our school-wide theme of 'people in the past' all classes will be involved in an opportunity to find out what other classes in the school have been learning about. The timetable for Monday 24 August is as follows:

12:30 to 1:30pm

- Early lunch—shared lunch with each classroom
- Children dressing in costume of their own study group (if they have not already come in costume for the day)

1:30 to 1:45pm—Assembly outside Rooms 14 and 15; Historical costume fashion parade

1:45 to 2:40pm—Visiting classrooms with class groups

2:40pm—Tidying up

Parents are most welcome to join in the afternoon programme and have the opportunity to look through the classrooms as well—there have been some impressive classroom environments created.

## SPOONER SHIELD—GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL TRIUMPH!!!

Most of our community will be aware of Greenmeadows School taking home the Spooner Shield last week—for the first time since 1993.

This was a great effort by all our teams who were involved and performed very well. Our team placings in their competitions were:

Netball—1st equal      Girl's Soccer—2nd      Hockey—2nd

Boy's Soccer—2nd equal      Rugby 5th

The overall Spooner Shield totals were:

1st Greenmeadows School—60 points      2nd Taradale—57 points

3rd Porritt—54 points

A special thank you to all our coaches who helped prepare the teams for the day: Kim Cook, Rebecca Price, Tanya Dearn, Andrew Dine, Julie Herbert and Simon Dooney. What a result! The photo shows the whole team after they marched back from Bledisloe School and were greeted by the rest of the school at the gate (Mr Bloor had phoned ahead ...you see!).



## SCHOOL BANKING

Our school has a number of students enrolled for banking—remember it is banking day tomorrow Wednesday 19 August. Books can be left at the school office.

## SWIMMING POOL REMOVAL

We are still on target for the demolition of our school pool in the coming school holidays. In our old swimming pool sheds we have a lot of stored furniture that we no longer require, including a lot of desks and chairs. If you would

like to buy a desk and chair set then you can get the pair for \$10. Just perfect for doing 'homework' ... If you want them, be in quick!!

### GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME — NAPIER AQUATIC CENTRE

Last year all families were informed about the week of swimming lessons for all children that were to be held in 2009. At that time it was calculated that each child would have to provide a fee of \$15 to assist with transport to the pool and back. Well here is some **great** news — the school has been able to reduce that amount to \$5 for each child, and this will cover the five days of swimming. The Board of Trustees will meet all other costs associated with swimming programme.

The programme involves two classes swimming each afternoon in a particular week. They depart school at 1.10pm and return by 2.50pm. The schedule for those swimming is:

|                            |                 |                      |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| * 31 August to 4 September | Rooms 15 and 16 | * 7 to 11 September  | Rooms 14 and 17 |
| * 14 to 18 September       | Rooms 1 and 2   | * 21 to 25 September | Rooms 3 and 4   |

All junior classes will get the opportunity to do their learn to swim programmes later in Term 4, when more New Entrant children have started school. We urge as many children as possible to be involved in getting instruction from the qualified swimming teachers.

### MRS HOLST AWAY

Mrs Holst has been granted leave from school to travel to Europe with her husband. She will return at the start of Term 4. Mrs Marilyn Dine will be teaching in Room 10 while she is away.

### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

It is starting to get close to the decision making time for our Year 6 students and their families. To help make decisions on selecting the school for Year 7 next year, these open events are scheduled:

Thursday 20 August — William Colenso College 6.45 to 8.15pm

Tuesday 1 September — Tamatea Intermediate School 6.00 to 7.30pm

Saturday 5 September — Taradale Intermediate School 11.30am to 1.00pm

Tuesday 8 September — Napier Intermediate School 5.30 to 7.00pm

Wednesday 9 September — St. Patrick's School 9.00 to 12.30pm (students); 7.30 to 8.30pm (parents)

### MEASLES OUTBREAKS

The school has been given the following information from the Ministry of Health:

*There has been a rapid rise in the number of measles case reported around the country, with the number of notified cases so far this year already seven times higher than the total number of cases last year. Measles is a highly infectious notifiable disease with serious complications. It is important to stop the spread of measles by keeping infected children at home. Immunisation is free, and is the best way to prevent measles. Parents and caregivers are asked to check that immunisations of their children are up to date. Once immunised, 90 to 95 percent of people are protected from measles.*

### GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL — PTA NEWS

With the support of the school community, the PTA has so far managed to raise \$17,000 to put towards the Heart of the School project which will provide a new outdoor seating area in place of the old school pool. We are all eager to see the pool demolished (scheduled for the coming holidays) so we can move forward with this project. Rest assured that it will happen and it will be worth the wait!

#### **General Information:**

1. **ICON Photography** - The PTA has booked the weekend of 19 and 20 September for these fantastic family portraits. Further details will be sent out soon but please keep these dates in mind. Please note these are not school photographs which will be taken in Term 4.
2. **NEW PARENT'S MORNING TEA** — The PTA will be hosting a morning tea on Wednesday 2 September starting at 9.10am. The venue for this will be the school staffroom. This is a great opportunity to get to know some of the key members of the Greenmeadows School teaching staff, as well as meet some of the other parents. All parents and whanau as well as families with pre-schoolers are most welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.
3. **CROSS COUNTRY COOL DOWN**—The PTA will be selling Juicie iceblocks at Anderson Park after the Cross Country. The Juicies will need to be **pre-ordered** by **Wednesday** the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September so we know how many to bring down to the park. Please write your **child's name** and **classroom number** on an

envelope and send it to school, along with the **\$1 for the Juicie**.

**CANTEEN NEWS** - The canteen is open every **Wednesday** and **Friday** for morning tea and lunch. Hot chocolate is still available at morning tea time for just \$1!

The canteen is again struggling to cover its own costs. Although the canteen is run as a service to our school families, it can only continue if it does not run at a loss. We realise that times are tough out there but, it really is a case of 'use it or lose it'.

To help Kim in the canteen, especially with younger children buying goods, putting money in a labelled envelope would be very useful.

If you have any suggestions about food options or ideas to make the canteen more user-friendly we would love to hear them. Please write your ideas on the slip below and take them to the office where there is a drawer labelled 'Canteen Competition'. All suggestions will go into the draw to win a \$5 canteen voucher.

### **TEACHER TRAINEES**

This Friday we farewell Mrs Baird and Mr Winkley, as they both conclude their second teaching postings at our school. We have all enjoyed having them as part of our school, and wish them both well for the remainder of their training.

Another teacher trainee, Mrs Nicola Barker, has commenced a posting in Room 1 with Mrs Starkey and her class. Nicky will be with us for the remainder of Term 3, which finishes on 25 September.

### **GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT and MOTTO**

Our school has a great motto 'Learn—Grow—Achieve' which also forms part of our school's vision and mission statement, that we want to retain as it is an excellent summary of what we aim to provide here at Greenmeadows School.

We also want to utilise a translation to Maori to support this motto. By itself, the three worded motto's literal translation is 'Ako - Tipu - Taea'. However a suggestion is that the translated phrase be extended to a more of a sentence 'Ma te ako ka tipu ka taea' or 'Through learning we grow and achieve' to give more meaning in Maori. This will **not change** the three worded phrase that is our motto, but it may help explain it to our children. Your feedback would be welcomed before any final decisions are made by the Board of Trustees.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS (for more details look under 'School Events' on [www.gms.school.nz](http://www.gms.school.nz))**

- 19 August Kiwi Golf— Middle classes
- 20 August Barefoot 7s tournament at Hastings Boys High School;  
Science Road show for Year 6 students
- 21 August Graham Braddock Art Workshop for **all** classes in the school
- 24 August 'People in the Past' whole school sharing day
- 25 August Kiwi Golf — Middle classes
- 26 August Kiwi Golf — Senior classes
- 31 August Swimming instruction commences for Rooms 15 and 16
- 2 Sept New Parent's Morning tea—Greenmeadows School staffroom
- 3 Sept Greenmeadows School Cross-country event—Anderson Park. Start time 11.30am
- 7 Sept Swimming instruction commences for Rooms 14 and 17
- 9 Sept Kapa Haka festival—Taradale Intermediate  
Board of Trustees meeting 5.30pm; PTA meeting 7.30pm
- 10 Sept Kapa Haka festival—Day 2
- 14 Sept Swimming instruction commences for Rooms 1 and 2
- 15 Sept Interschool Cross-country—Park Island
- 19-20 Sept Icon Photography taking family portraits in the Greenmeadows School hall
- 21 Sept Swimming instruction commences for Rooms 3 and 4
- 25 Sept End of Term 3

**JUDO CLUB**

Any children interested in learning judo are able to attend lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.00 until 7.00pm The venue is the hall on Peddie Street at the entrance to Bledisloe Park.

Finally — great performance from our Kapa haka group last week at assembly. They looked great in their new uniforms too! Have a great week.

Ka kite ano.

Mark Johnson  
**Principal**

**PRINCIPAL AWARDS**

|         |                                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Room 1  | Danika Withell<br>Zoe Palmer         |
| Room 2  | Paige Jeffares<br>Faith Lethbridge   |
| Room 3  | Joshua Black<br>Levi Rice            |
| Room 4  | Kaytie Owen<br>Emma Symons           |
| Room 5  | Maddison McIntyre<br>Shanae Harris   |
| Room 6  | Jordan Peninsula<br>Holly Kinzett    |
| Room 7  | Lochlan Collins<br>Chaz Heke         |
| Room 8  | Tegan Knowles<br>Phoebe Johnson      |
| Room 9  | Jared Kinsey<br>Michael Lobb         |
| Room 10 | Finn Exeter<br>Hayden Simpson        |
| Room 11 | Molly King<br>Ivy Wu                 |
| Room 12 | Morgan Wilkins<br>Blayze Pomare      |
| Room 14 | Carl Coombe<br>Jaydi Taylor-Chaffey  |
| Room 15 | Hamish Smith<br>Shannon McKinley     |
| Room 16 | Bayley Austin<br>Matthew Durrant     |
| Room 17 | Madeline Houston<br>Brearna Jeffares |

Weeks 3 and 4 —Term 2



**SCHOOL MOTTO**—Translation to Maori  
'Ma te ako ka tipu ka taea' or 'Through learning we grow and achieve'

Your thoughts:

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**CANTEEN RETURN SLIP**

**Child's name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Room number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Suggestions:**

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Be in the draw for a \$5 Canteen voucher—return to school by August 25th.

**DESK AND CHAIR SET SALE** Room of eldest child: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to purchase a school desk and chair set. Enclosed is \$10.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**17 July 2009**

## **To the Parents and Community of Greenmeadows School**

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on **Greenmeadows School**.

Greenmeadows School is situated in a suburb of Napier. At the time of the review in May 2009 it had a roll of 339 students, of whom 23 are Māori. A new principal was appointed in February 2009. The February 2007 ERO report affirmed expectations that students would experience high quality teaching and learning. ERO confirms that high expectations and high standards still encompass board and school operations.

Standardised achievement results show that most students are achieving in literacy above levels expected for their age. Testing of students at age six, in 2008, showed that 63% were reading above the school's expectations (Level 11) for six year olds. The Supplementary Test of Achievement in Reading (STAR) indicates that 72% of Year 4 students, 80% of Year 5 students and 84% of Year 6 students achieved above nationally expected levels.

Underachievement is successfully addressed. The special education needs team follows a systematic approach for academic intervention. Student achievement is regularly identified and the team prioritises targeted programmes based on the needs and resources available.

Students are enthusiastic and generally highly focused on their learning. Relationships between students and with their teachers are mutually respectful. Behaviour is well managed in all classrooms. Students are provided with numerous opportunities to show responsibility and leadership. They report that teachers set high standards and that they enjoy learning in a friendly, fun environment.

Teachers are highly reflective. They care about students and their achievements. A collegial and collaborative approach among staff provides the basis for sound teamwork. Teachers are ready and willing to encompass change that benefits learning.

The board governs the school effectively. Most trustees are experienced, fully understand their roles and responsibilities, and willingly attend all available training. A strong strategic focus, involving board and senior management, sets direction for the board's operations. Trustees consider Greenmeadows School a self improving school.

### ***Future Action***

ERO is confident that the board of trustees can govern the school in the interests of the students and the Crown and bring about the improvements outlined in this report. ERO is likely to carry out the next review of the school in three years.

### ***Review Coverage***

ERO reviews do not cover every aspect of school performance and each ERO report may cover different issues. The aim is to provide information on aspects that are central to student achievement and useful to this school.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website, <http://www.ero.govt.nz>.

Dr Graham Stoop  
**Chief Review Officer**