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Monday 10 June 2013



NEWSLETTER NO. 8

Dear Parents and Caregivers - Tena koutou katoa

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

The latest arrivals at our school are Year 1 students Stella Watts and Ava Webber. A special welcome to you both. They have joined the newly established Room 7 class with Miss Christina Withey, which officially opened today.

The school roll today — 407 students.

YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

Tomorrow (Tuesday 11 June) twenty-three Year 6 students get out of bed earlier than usual and head to Palmerston North for the Young Leaders day. This is a one day conference that features a number of speakers and special guests who inspire and challenge the audience. Scheduled to appear are speaker Billy Graham, founder of the Student Volunteer Army Sam Johnson and singer Jamie McDell. This promises to be yet another great day for our school leaders.

TOTARA SYNDICATE TRIP — OTATARA PA

The classes in the Totara syndicate are to visit Otatara Pa on Wednesday 12 June. This links into the theme they have been studying linked to 'early settlers in New Zealand'. Rooms 13, 14 and 15 will go in the morning from 10.30 to 12.00pm, while the classes from Rooms 12, 16 and 17 will be there from 1.00pm until 2.30pm.

HENRY HILL SCHOOL SPORTS EXCHANGE

Earlier this year Henry Hill School hosted teams from Greenmeadows School in softball and T-ball. This Thursday they visit us to play in two football games on the school field. The 30 minute games start at 1.30pm and 2.00pm. Parents are most welcome to come and support the teams.

THE ONSET OF ILLNESS AND SICK CHILDREN

The arrival of winter has seen a definite increase in the numbers of sick children. Today we have fifty children away unwell (which equals two full classes of children absent) ... and during the course of the day have lost more.

Chicken pox appears to be claiming a number of victims lately, especially in the junior school. Please remember if your child has had chicken pox, they need to remain away from school until the 'last blister has got a crust on it'. Coughs, colds and upset stomachs are also featuring regularly in the absence lists as well.

The number of children away over the past few days puts a lot of pressure on our school office during the morning. We are committed to accounting for every child who is not at school. Thanks to those parents who ring school and leave a clear message each day their child is not going to attend, prior to the school day starting. This saves so much time for us and we have all accounted for.

SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

We have started the process to appoint a new school librarian to replace Mrs. Goodgame who left earlier this term. If you are interested in finding out more about the role, information regarding the vacancy is found on our school website www.gms.school.nz under 'Vacancies at GMS' page.

MID YEAR REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS

Teachers are now preparing the mid-year reports for distribution later this term. Part of the reporting process also includes the parent interview that we encourage all parents to be part of. Interviews will be able to be booked from Monday 17 June. A separate notice sent home that day will outline how interviews can be booked.

We are aiming for 100% participation for our students and their families this year in the interview process.



MATHS EVENING FOR PARENTS

Thursday 20 June — 5.30 to 7.00pm.

Do you want to find out about Maths learning and teaching for your child? We will hold an information evening in the school hall for parents to inform and inspire about one of our priority areas of the curriculum — Mathematics.

Topics we will cover include:

- The Numeracy ladder — how does it work? What are we trying to achieve?
- What should I look for in my child's report about Maths?
- Numeracy teaching — what is all this 'new maths' stuff?
- Using modern technologies to help children learn maths skills?
- Some activities your children do to learn at school.
- Times tables — do children have to learn them?
- Maths for junior pupils — what does that involve?

If you need to bring your children along they will be entertained in a designated classroom. We would love to see you there.

NUMERACY LADDER BADGES

The numbers of students receiving maths badges has started to accelerate—fantastic! Check out this list who have received a badge over the past fortnight:

Summer Campbell, Jessica Pyott, Casey Thompson, Aaliyah Mitchell, Lachlan Richards, Caleb Carlisle, Rylan O'Shea, Maia Chernyshev, Brooke Ells, Sara Petuha, Clara Newman, Calais Terry-Moore, Maddie Day, Joshua Ratcliffe, Rylee Moore, Sharn Gliddon, Brad Single-Owen, Emma Anderson, Nathan Kinsey, James Symon, Tayla Tierney, Luke Hawkins, Cohen Worsnop, Hannah Thompson, Emily Carson, Liam Santo, Georgina Hunuhunu, Unique Tonihi, Tupara Harrison, Holly Ireland, Kaitlyn Barra, Madeline Sayer, Olivia McKay, Phoebe Johnson, Ella Herekiuha, Nathan Stone, Jack Lawson, Amber Single-Owens, Connor Le Quesne, George Fellowes, Tavian Roberts, Saffron Barnett, Amelia Weekley, Jack Bowers Devlin Petuha, Matthew Harrison, Liam Tane-Foulds, Cohen Batterham, Cooper Fox, Alex Manning, Bella Crawshaw, Abbey Pascoe, Devyn Summersby, Giana Weeks, Riele Jackson, Braxton Bell, Jessica Joe-Harrison, Makaylah Jack, Blake fryer, Judge Jury, Hayley Gerken, Lydia Wilkins, ZhiHeng Zhou, Katie Donnelly, BJ Bloomfield.

160 badges have been awarded so far this year!

MEET UP WITH MR J

Thanks to those parent who came along for our first parent meeting where we talked about ways of getting communications out to our community. One method we are about to trial is the use of texting, and we are in the process of loading a mobile phone account with all school contacts so we can send out bulk messages quickly and efficiently. We will let you know when we are ready to test this system so you can check to see whether the text got through.

We also talked about the ways we use our school website to include more information. Are there any members in community who have experience with website construction that may have some time to help us with maintaining updates? Please let the office know if you are interested?

We will hold another of these meetings in the coming weeks. This will be advised in a forthcoming newsletter.

GMS CLOTHING SUPPLY

The school keeps a supply of clothing for children who get wet, muddy or have a range of other situations where they require a change of what they are wearing. We have handed out a lot of items of clothing lately with the wetter weather, BUT we are not getting all these supplies back. Could any school clothing please be washed and returned immediately — we are running desperately low in some sizes. Many thanks.



As can be seen in the clothing being worn by these active sports people, the Year 5 and 6 Kiwi Sport Field Day was held in fine, but bitterly cold conditions recently. The low temperatures did not deter the keen competition and the children got very involved in their events.

Barely recognizable due to the (necessary) jackets is one of our GMS teams playing Taradale Primary School at hockey. Dedication to the cause was definitely shown on the day!

Room 1	Cohen Batterham	Room 2	Amelia Burgess Rowan O'Kane
Room 3	Jessica Joe-Harrison Braxton Bell	Room 4	Jorja McIntyre Brad Single-Owens
Room 5	Mila Wishnowsky Tayla David	Room 6	Connor Morris Maddie Day
Room 8	Kayden Johns Holly Stewart	Room 9	Khadynce Miringaorangi- Turua Luka Jones
Room 10	Teaghan Jackson Joanne Li	Room 11	Amy Cairns Aaliyah Mitchell
Room 12	Clayton Terry-Moore Angelyn Zeng	Room 13	Amber Single-Owens Riley Johnston
Room 14	Ashley Bayley	Room 15	Zara McDonald Courtney Roff
Room 16	Jack Bowers	Room 17	Xavier Kirby Reuben Davies

PRINCIPAL AWARDS WEEKS 3 AND 4 TERM 2 2013



GMS VALUES MEDALS

Congratulations to these children who were presented with our medals in Weeks 3, 4 and 5 Term 2 at school assembly

Respect	Jaime Kinder Room 17 Joshua Ratcliffe Room 6 Calais Terry-Moore Room 5
Perseverance	Lennox Burton Room 9 Isabel Harris Room 16 Maia Bosman Room 8
Excellence	Eva MacKirdy Room 2 Maddison Leipst Room 11 Shae Watts Room 12

Well done all. These are some very worthy recipients of the medals.

Have a great week everyone.

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

Term 2

11 June	Young leaders Day
12 June	Totara syndicate — Otatara Pa visit
13 June	Henry Hill Sports Exchange
18 June	PTA Lunch Treat
20 June	Parents Maths Evening 5.30pm
25 June	Junior Gymnastics Festival
27 June	Senior Gymnastics Festival
2 July	Soccer Field Day 1.00 — 2.45pm Years 5 and 6
4 July	Soccer Field Day Postponement Day
5 July	Reports Home
8 July	Technology Challenge Napier Intermediate School
8 July	Parent Interviews
9 July	Parent Interviews
12 July	End of Term 2

Term 3

29 July	Term Starts
17 September	Combined Choir Festival 6.30—7.30
18 September	Combined Choir Festival 6.30—7.30



Pizza and Brownie Lunch Treat Tuesday 18th June 2013

For a special winter lunch treat the PTA is planning a Pizza and Brownie Lunch Day.

For \$4 your child will receive two slices of pizza and one piece of choc brownie. The children are able to choose from 3 Dominos Pizza flavours.

Please write your child's name, room number and pizza flavour on the order form below and send it back to school with your pizza money by **Monday 17th June**. No late orders can be accepted.

Thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts!

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Child's name _____ Room number _____

The children have a choice of 3 pizza flavours. Please choose **one flavour only**.

*** Hawaiian*

*Gluten-free pizza/brownie available on request (**Hawaiian only**)

*** Meat Lovers

*** Vegetarian

** My child will require gluten-free pizza and brownie

We will require parent help on the day to distribute food. If you are able to assist please complete the reply slip below and send it back to school with your child's pizza order. Thank you in advance for your offer of help.

Yes I am able to help on the day:

Name: _____ Ph: _____

