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Thursday 13 November 2013

CHATTERBOX



NEWSLETTER NO.17

Dear Parents and Caregivers - *Tena koutou katoa*

WELCOME TO GMS

Our school roll keeps on growing. We now have 441 students enrolled (this equals our peak of 2013, which in itself was the highest for at least twenty years). We have had three new arrivals in the last two weeks. Dillon Hepburn, John Knowles and Oscar Hayes have started in Room 18 and Shaelin Johnson who has joined Room 14. We welcome you to our school.

GIVE IT UP FOR GMS!

What an amazing success this has been to date! We have had 58% of the sponsorship sheets returned and have already taken in more than \$6200. Please keep the amounts coming back — and thanks children and your sponsors for all this wonderful support. Could all money and sponsorship forms be returned by Friday.

GMS ATHLETICS DAY

We made it through the 'iffy' weather yesterday to complete the school athletics sports. Despite it being a little cold, the children gave it their all, showing real perseverance and competed to a very high standard. A couple of showers briefly disrupted our programmed. The only events we didn't get to were the interhouse relays, which we will hold on Friday. We will announce individual championship winners at assembly on Friday.

BOOK AMNESTY!!!

As we approach the end of the school year we ask a very big favour. Now is the time we start thinking about purchasing new books for 2014, and looking at the gaps we have in our resources. We know that there are lots of library books, school journals and individual readers not where they should be ... instead they will be in school bags, bedrooms, under cupboards, in wardrobes, just to name a few places. Could you please lead a hunt for books belonging to the school? No questions asked: we just want them back, and not have to spend money replacing books that could easily be returned. Thanks for your help.

INVOICE STATEMENTS

Today invoice statements have been sent home to those families with outstanding payments due. Each child in the family will have their own envelope. Payment can be made in cash or cheque at the Office or by internet banking as per the statement details.

It is important that we get as many of the accounts settled as quickly as possible before the end of the school year. Please help us by getting these payments in as soon as possible.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

We get our school photographs taken towards the end of the year, and we now have a date set. Tuesday 26 November is the day we have set for the class and individual photos to be taken this year. Tomorrow afternoon families will be given an envelope to order the types of photos they require. Please understand that this can be very complicated and at times hectic process at the school end — so whanau can help by making sure :

- the correct money is included
- orders are placed on time (and not the morning we are taking them!)
- everyone is at school on the day photographs are to be taken!

SCHOOL SWIMMING

Today is the final day for swimming lessons for our school this year. The lessons have been very successful and so many of our children have made wonderful progress over the course of this year. Our thanks to the Greendale pool facility for the great instructors and facilities that they provide. Also thanks to Mrs Marion Duncan for driving the bus so reliably and carefully — and giving such lovely feedback on how much she enjoys our children and staff as passengers! Thanks too to parents and children for being so organized this year — the numbers forgetting togs and towels were at an all time low. It was great to have so many children participating at such a high ratio.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF GMS – THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2013

Last Thursday was one very active day with so much going on at school. We had Year 4 children away for the first of their two EOTC days at Stoney Creek Ranch, Cricket coaching, football coaching, swimming for the Juniors and Optimist yachting for Year 6 students at Pandora Pond. All this and some neat things going on in classrooms that are just 'normal' learning stuff!!!

Check out these images showing just some of the things hap-



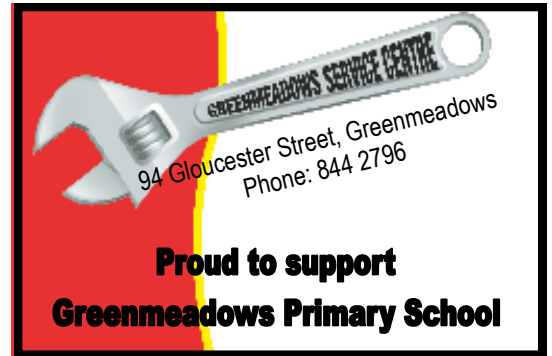
GMS DUATHLON COMING SOON

Keep an eye for the notice about the GMS Duathlon scheduled for the next weeks. We held a very successful event at Anderson park last year and are looking to do it all again in 2013.



PRINCIPAL AWARDS WEEK 3 TERM 4

Room 1	Logan Sharp	Room 2	Sachleen Bedi
Room 3	Garrett Chan	Room 4	Nathan Kinsey
Room 5	Tegan McKnight	Room 6	Ezekiel Ferguson
Room 7	Luca Greville-Jones	Room 8	Jessica Pyott
Room 9	Luka Jones	Room 10	Tayah King
Room 11	Brylee Pugh	Room 12	Ellie Harding
Room 13	Erik Bloomfield	Room 14	Olivia Rowley
Room 15	Chaz Heke	Room 16	Charlotte Hatchard
Room 17	Rylee Ashton		



GMS VALUES MEDALS

Congratulations to these children who were presented with our medals in Week 3 of Term 4 at school assembly:

Respect	Alizae Corby	Room 7
Perseverance	Courtney Roff	Room 15
Excellence	Maddie Day	Room 6

Well done to you three!

PTA NEWS

PTA Meeting this evening — in our school staff room starting at 7.30pm. It would be neat to see some new faces, especially if your children are younger students at school. See you there!

NUMERACY LADDER BADGES

Congratulations to these students who earned maths badges over the two weeks: Tayla David, Cole Dallimore, Leila Weeks Brooke Ells, Ivy Wu, Ellie Meynell, Raven Howse, Aiden Soloman, Kaden Johns, Piper McKnight, Jordan Simpson, Emmanuel Thomas, Molly King, Grace Henricksen, Nicole He, Angelyn Zeng, Logan Ide, Emma Anderson, Kruz Single, Mitchell Simes and Connor Le Quesne.

Well done to you all keep up the great work.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (JUST SOME OF THEM ...!)

- 13 Nov PTA Meeting 7.30pm in Staff Room
- 13 Nov Athletics for Year 6 students TIS
- 18 Nov Year 6 camp starts
- 19 Nov Interschool Athletics
- 21 Nov Interschool Athletics Postponement
- 26 Nov Class Photographs
- 27 Nov Class Photographs postponement day
- 10 Dec Interschool Triathlon
- 11 Dec School Talent Quest
- 12 Dec Year 6 Social
- 16 Dec School Reports sent home
- 17 Dec School Prize-giving and breakup
- 19 December End of Term 4 12.00pm finish
- 3 February 2014 Term 1 commences

Have a great week. Remember those hats!

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal

