



# Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 3

15 February 2024

## Te Kura Tuatahi o Te Koau Grant's Braes School

2024 FIRST AID BUDDYS - FABs



Noah, Gaia, Frankie, Maddy, Molly, Cameron  
Oszkár, Coraline, Freya, Valentina, Phoebe, Mikayla, Charlotte

## Te Kura Tuatahi o Te Koau Grant's Braes School

2024 LIBRARIANS



Donovan, Hector, Millie, Cameron, Maddy  
Ethan, Alistair, Ryan, Manu, Heba

## Te Kura Tuatahi o Te Koau Grant's Braes School

2024 JUNIOR HELPERS



Maddy, Ariana, Lucy, Danielle, Molly, Keira

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia tūtura, kia kite, kia mahi katahi - To explore, discover, and learn together  
Mahia te mahi o tō ake kākau - Do things from the heart

E kumanu ana - We care

E āhei ana - We Can

E ako ana - We learn

E mahi kātahi ana - We are

## Kia ora koutou

Our 'What's the Buzz?' parent/caregiver interviews conclude this afternoon and I would like to thank all of those who have taken the opportunity to attend these. These are a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child and share with their teacher important information that will assist them throughout the year. If you were not able to make a time, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher and make a time that is mutually suitable.

In the last round of Principals Collective bargaining, a Principal's Coaching and Wellness fund was included. This can be used for a variety of aspects around principal's leadership. On Tuesday, I am travelling to Auckland to visit schools and also attend a seminar on welcoming former refugee families to schools. At the school visits, I am going to see localised curriculum in action, including community connections, how this is implemented and reviewed, as well as seeing a rejuvenation project a kura has undertaken in their local environment. I know this will all be very beneficial for my mahi at our kura.

With my senior leadership team, I met with Kelly Macknight (Director) and Chelsea Rhyne-Slijkerman (Counsellor) to discuss the implementation of the Be Heard counselling services that they are providing to our kura. I feel extremely grateful that we have been able to get this free service at our school and know that this will make a huge difference for some of our tamariki. Please read through the information on page 4 of this newsletter.

We are seeing quite a bit of sickness in the school at the moment, and there are a number of children who are away with Covid also. Please continue to test for Covid, and if your child is positive, keep them home until returning a negative result, and they are also feeling a lot better in themselves. A reminder that if a child is vomiting or has diarrhoea, Public Health South rules for schools are that children stay at home until 48 hours from 'the last event'. Children struggle to learn when they are not well, so please do keep them home when they are not feeling 100%, and this also helps minimise the spread to other children and staff. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

**Hei kona mai i roto i kā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks.**

**GARETH TAYLOR**

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE**

Dear Grant's Braes School Community,

Another school year has well and truly begun! It gives me immense pleasure to extend a warm welcome to our extended school whānau, both our new and returning families. We hope everyone had a restful break and are ready to dive into the wonderful opportunities that await us in 2024.

We are thrilled to extend a warm welcome to Whaea Anni, who joins us this year. We wish her all the best for a successful and fulfilling year ahead. A warm welcome also to all our returning teachers and support staff; your dedication and commitment to our tamariki are much appreciated.

Exciting news is on the horizon as the construction of our new school hall continues to progress steadily. Anticipated completion is early in Term 2, and we can't wait to unveil this fantastic addition to our school community.

Finally, I wish to thank everyone who participated in our community consultation process at the end of last year. Your valuable contributions and suggestions have been carefully analysed and integrated into our Strategic Plan. We encourage you to review our strategic direction ([see attached document](#)), and if you have any comments, queries, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, via email before Tuesday, 27 February 2024 so we can take your suggestions on board prior to finalising our Strategic Plan.

Here's to a fantastic year filled with growth, learning, and memorable experiences for all!

Warm regards,

Nicola Wall

Presiding Member, Board of Trustees

Email: [nicolaw@grantsbraes.school.nz](mailto:nicolaw@grantsbraes.school.nz)





Be Heard Children's Counselling Trust is a charity that offers free one to one counselling to children in selected Dunedin primary and intermediate schools.

Chelsea will be coming to Grants Braes on Thursdays to provide a safe space for children with low to moderate difficulties to talk about their thoughts and feelings, and develop some frontline coping strategies. A referral form can be completed by the student, parent/caregiver or teacher, and after an initial meeting, if the child is accepted into the service, they will be offered several 30-45 minute sessions depending on their need. Be Heard's scope is to provide a safe space to talk, so if a child requires more significant support, they will be referred on to a more appropriate service.

All sessions are confidential and held in a dedicated room on school grounds. Any information that Be Heard receives is stored securely in Cliniko, a patient management system. The sessions are confidential between the child and counsellor but children will generally be given resources to take home to share with parents/caregivers so they can also receive support in their home environment. If there is any concern the child is in danger of harm, parents/caregivers and the school will be immediately notified.

The referral form is attached with this newsletter and parents can email these to [chelsea@beheard.org.nz](mailto:chelsea@beheard.org.nz) or give it to the class teacher to pass on.

If you would like, there are paper copies of the referral form in the office.

### \*\*\*LUNCH REMINDERS\*\*\*

**Mondays (Kōhaka Nest and Te Kahere)**  
**and Fridays (Kā Manu)** - Heat'n'Eats (please put in tub in the office reception area)

**Tuesdays** - Txt My Lunch - order via text 020 40256004 and internet bank payment

**Wednesdays** - Subway - Go to Subway website.

**Thursdays** - Sushi - order via KINDO

### **SUMMER SPORTS** **PLAYERS OF THE DAY**

#### **Futsal**

Sparks - Hendrik (Mānuka)  
Hurricanes - Ethan (Tūī)



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### TERM 1

- Thurs 15 Feb - 'What's the Buzz'  
3.10pm - 5.30pm  
Mon 19 Feb - PTA AGM, 7.00pm  
Wed 28 Feb - BOT Meeting, 7.00pm  
Mon 11 & Tues 12 March - EPRO8  
Fri 15 March - Lit Quiz, DNI, 11-2.30pm  
Tues 19 March - BOT Meeting, 7.00pm  
Mon 25 March - Otago Anniversary Day  
Fri 29 March-Tues 2 April - Easter  
Wed 10 April - EPRO8, DNI, 10-2.30pm  
Fri 12 April - last day of Term 1

### TERM 2 2024

Mon 29 April- First day of Term 2  
**Fri 31 May - Teacher Only Day**  
Mon 3 June - King's Birthday

**Last day of school year 2024 -**  
Wed 18 December

## SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION

### School Docs Access

Visit the website - <http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.html>.  
Enter the username (grantsbraes) and p/wd (gbparents).



SCHOLASTIC

**ISSUE 1** catalogues went home in week one with the children. The closing date for orders to be in is **9am, TOMORROW - Friday, 16 February**

## GRANT'S BRAES SCHOOL AGM

(followed by regular Meeting)

**NEXT MONDAY, 19 FEBRUARY AT 7.00PM  
IN THE SCHOOL STAFFROOM**

Please come along and support this awesome group of parents who raise an incredible amount of money to support your children at our school!

It would be fabulous to see some new faces, and some new ideas to consider!!

## LAST DAY FOR ORDERS -TOMORROW : FRIDAY 16th

## \*\*\*JUICIE FUNDRAISER\*\*\*



See the information that went home in the first week of term for the ordering of these yummy juices!

This is the PTA's first fundraising initiative for 2024 and it would be great for all of our families to all get behind this. Your families and friends will also be very grateful too I'm sure as these are awesome to eat on these hot, sunny, summer days!

Please collate all your orders on the form, and put your total order and payment through via KINDO.

**Last day for orders on KINDO is TOMORROW Friday 16 February @ 3.00pm. Delivery will likely be at the end of February (tbc) and you will be sent a text/email when they are ready for collection.**

Fun & Educational

# CODING LESSONS



 **CODINGNZ**

Learn to code with expert tutors.

Gain the ability to create with technology (instead of just consuming it).

All skill levels welcome.

Grab a free trial lesson at [codingnz.com](https://codingnz.com)

Ages  
9 to 11  
12 & 13  
14 to 16

# GIRLS' BRIGADE

## Join us for 2024!


1st Dunedin  
Where: Downstairs  
at Caversham  
Baptist Church

When: Thursdays,  
6pm - 7.30pm

First Night: 15th Feb  
(Wear clothing you  
can get wet in)

For girls aged 5-18


Contact [otago@girlsbrigade.org.nz](mailto:otago@girlsbrigade.org.nz) for further information.  
We look forward to meeting you!




少林功夫學校

## The Kung Fu School

Experts In Martial Arts Education





### WHY TRAIN WITH US?

- Locations throughout NZ
- Traditional martial arts values
- Comprehensive approach including evasion, hand strikes, kicking, throwing, and submissions
- Famous Shaolin animal styles and Qi Gong breathing
- 18 traditional Chinese weapons

Our classes are designed to be productive and rewarding for all ages!

### DAYS & LOCATION

WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS  
Sacred Heart School  
63 North Rd, North East Valley

### CONTACT

KENNETH MITCHELL  
[dunedin@shaolinkungfu.co.nz](mailto:dunedin@shaolinkungfu.co.nz)  
0210 242 3891  
[www.ShaolinKungFu.co.nz](http://www.ShaolinKungFu.co.nz)

# Top Tips for Toothbrushing!

### How much Toothpaste?



0-6 years old,  
use **a half pea**  
sized amount



6+ years old,  
use **a small pea**  
sized amount

**Brush twice a day**, in the **morning** and especially at **night before bed**.  
Spit out toothpaste but **leave mouth unrinsed** as fluoride left on your child's teeth helps to keep them strong



Scan this code for more great tooth tips



Community Oral Health Service

**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand



**NumberWorks'nWords**  
English and Maths tuition  
brings out the best in  
Kiwi students by:

- boosting confidence and improving results
- tailoring lessons according to each individual's needs
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**ENGLISH & MATHS**  
Free assessment  
Book now!

**NumberWorks'nWords** TUITION CONFIDENCE RESULTS

"3 years ago my daughter was just trying to keep her head above water. Now she is doing extension work and is a completely different person."  
- KAREN I

New Entrant to Year 11

A MEMBER OF THE NEW ZEALAND TUTORING ASSOCIATION

## Knox Church Junior Choir

*Does your child like to sing?*

**Who are we?**  
A choir of children from year 2 to year 9 who are interested in music, at Knox Church, 449 George Street, Dunedin. Knox welcomes people of all faiths as well as those of no faith.

**What's it all about?**  
Knox Church is looking to grow our Junior Choir. The Knox Church Choir has a long history of supporting young musicians to develop their talents. We welcome new members as we start the year.

**What will we be doing?**  
Singing training, rehearsing choir music, dressing up as a chorister, learning about music, exploring the church.

Junior choristers sing in church on one Sunday morning each month, usually the third Sunday. The rehearsal for this starts at 9.15 am and the service starts at 10 am. Junior choristers are welcome to join in any other week they want to.

The junior choristers work on a structured, internationally recognised education programme, Voice for Life, to earn badges and ribbons. Some also sit for Trinity College London grade examinations with many achieving outstanding results.

Our choristers have performed at the switching on of the Christmas tree lights in the Octagon, busked in George Street and sung with the RSA choir.

Choristers enjoy movie and pizza nights, storytelling at Matariki, and joining in with the Christmas pageant.

**Who runs the programme?**  
Sara Brown, MA, PGCE, MusB (Hons), ATCL. Examiner for Trinity College, London. Sara is a music educator with extensive experience working with children and choirs.

Karen Knudson QSM, MA, MusB (Hons), LTCL. Organist and director of the Knox Church Choir. Karen has a wealth of experience in choral music and has worked with many young choirs in Dunedin.

**When and where?**  
Wednesdays from 5 pm to 6.30 pm.  
The Gathering Area  
Knox Church  
449 George Street  
Dunedin


**What to bring?**  
A water bottle and warm, comfortable clothes your child can move about in. Afternoon tea will be provided, but if your child has particular dietary needs, please let us know.

**How much does it cost?**  
This music education programme is provided free of charge.

**What to do next?**  
Fill in the relevant form at the link below:

**Choir Link:**  
<https://forms.gle/Z2zafkaDesTk3zt7>  
or  
Email Sara: [kelpiebrown@gmail.com](mailto:kelpiebrown@gmail.com) if you have any questions or want to register your child.

[myrent.co.nz/listings/7FGFUP](https://myrent.co.nz/listings/7FGFUP)



**House for rent Dunedin | 32 McKerrow Street, Shiel Hill**  
myrent.co.nz

If you require further info,  
contact Lucy, 027 2305829

# TOTS TO TEENS

## CHILDHOOD IN AOTEAROA

FOR YOUR PARENTS

*Out now!*

**MÖRENA,**  
Summer is upon us, and our latest issue is jam-packed with content to help Kiwi parents  
[issue2402.totstoteens.co.nz](https://issue2402.totstoteens.co.nz)

**What's in this issue for parents?**

- » The terrible twos
- » Getting the most out of Open Days
- » Gut health for young athletes
- » Tempting chocolate treats
- » Healthy eyes for a better future
- » What is your child's learning style?
- » 7 Tips for parents who have ADHD
- » How to talk about periods.
- » The ultimate party-planning guide
- » PLUS awesome giveaways