Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 07

21 March 2019



The children in Matai and Tawa visited the Orokonui Eco-Sanctuary last Thursday and had a great learning outside the classroom experience, related to their current study for the Living World strand of the Science Curriculum.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

Our <u>school value</u>, <u>E kumanu ana</u>, <u>We care</u>, has been the main focus within our classes this week. Teachers and students have been using this value to focus on how we can be kind, accepting of others, showing respect and consideration to all, and being inclusive. We have decided to join the many schools and businesses throughout the country to hold a <u>Multi-colour Mufti-day tomorrow</u> (<u>Friday 22</u>) to raise money for the <u>Muslim Community</u> impacted by last Friday's tragedy. A minute of silence will be held at 1:40pm as part of this, where I will be asking the students to reflect on how they can use our school value E kumanu ana, We care. I do hope the information that was shared with you over the weekend helped you support your children. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or me directly if you require any further support. The scheduled Paid Union Meetings have been cancelled as the union did not want to take the teachers away from their students this week. An online ballot will be undertaken for primary teachers and principals to vote on the latest offer.

What has filled me with joy this week were the two school trips I went on. Kōhanga visited the <u>Art Gallery</u> on Tuesday with a focus on how we can look after our environment by making good choices around our rubbish and recycling. Both classes produced an amazing mural and Kiwi's can be seen in their classroom, whilst Kea's has been displayed in Gaylene's office. I also accompanied Rata and Kowhai on their <u>Orokonui Eco-sanctuary visit</u> yesterday and it was a real treat walking around this local treasure with the students. Once again, I would like to thank all of the parents who gave up their time and helped with supervision on these trips.

I am pleased to report that we sold out for our <u>Nigel Latta</u> fundraiser on Monday night. This was a fantastic night filled with laughter and common sense information. Nigel Latta was incredibly generous offering this evening for Grant's Braes School for no fee, which has resulted in a large amount of money being raised. I would like to thank the members of the PTA and Board of Trustees, as well as the many businesses that helped us through sponsorship, to make this event such a success.

We continue to have to contact some parents/caregivers to remind them about <u>road safety around our school</u>. This ranges from not using the crossing patrols properly, crossing the roads in unsafe areas to parking over driveways. We also regularly witness parents/caregivers still parking on the yellow lines outside of the school to pick up or drop off their children, even though the "Parking here could endanger a child's life - Think…." sandwich boards are out. All of these actions put the safety of others at risk, so please always consider our students and families - parking a wee bit further away, with your child walking a few minutes to the closest gate is a great option.

Also a reminder that the <u>school will be closed next Monday</u>, <u>25 March</u> to observe Otago Anniversary Day. I hope you all enjoy your long weekend.

Hei kona mai I roto I ngā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks.





We look forward to seeing your children wearing 'bright splashes of colour' tomorrow, but please note, please avoid having your child wear red as we have been advised red is inappropriate to the Muslim community.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK 2019/2020 PRESALES ARE OPEN!!

Please support the school and click on the link below to order your new Entertainment Book for 2019 (now) / 2020 (1 June).

If you order now you will receive some exciting bonus offers



Purchase either a digital version for your phone or a hard copy book – details on the link

Makes a great gift and great to use on eating out, coffees, activities, rental cars, hotels, travel etc

Feel free to get Friends and Family on board – all Regions (NZ, Australia, Bali) are available for purchase, not just Dunedin, Invercargill & Queenstown!!

Browsing options are available also by copying and pasting the link below !!

www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/26014m9

BLACK OUT MUFTI DAY RAISED \$388.30 FOR THE BRAIN INJURY TRUST Thank You!

Board of Trustees Update

Kia ora koutou. Following the tragic events that unfolded in Christchurch last week, we would like to pass on our thoughts to those whānau who have been affected, and our Muslim community in our school and within Dunedin. Thank you to Gareth and our staff for their kindness and care of our children and families, not only over the past week, but throughout the school term (and year).

School Picnic: Thank you to everyone who came along earlier in March – it was really nice to see so many people enjoying each other's company alongside the brilliant, sunny Dunedin weather!

Nigel Latta: We are most appreciative of the support we received for our PTA fundraising event, both from our families, sponsors and everyone who came along on the night (we did manage to sell all 470 tickets!). Nigel's "Adventures in Parentland" talk was very well received, and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to raise money that will benefit our children and school.

Board of Trustee Elections: These are coming up with the election date set for 7 June 2019. We have included some information and resources about boards of trustees, received from the New Zealand Schools Trustees Association (NZSTA).

- 1. The Kōrari programme is for parents and people in the community who would like to learn more about the role of school trustees. The session in Dunedin will be held on *Tuesday 9 April, 6pm* at the *Edgar Centre* (attendance is free, and all are welcome). If you are interested in attending please RSVP to: lshelley@nzsta.org.nz
- 2. What a board of trustees is, and how to become a trustee: https://www.nzsta.org.nz/advice-and-support/ information-for-parents/
- 3. An interactive sign-up for the learning management system which enables access to on-line training modules and other information: https://www.nzsta.org.nz/assets/Information-for-parents/Korari-programme-form-Interactive-090119.pdf

Also, if you would like to discuss the roles of a trustee please don't hesitate to speak to Gareth, myself or any of our current trustees (Paul Stevenson, Jean Sutherland, Rachel Brown, Nicola Wall and Desiree Wispinski).

Nga mihi,

Steph Woodley, on behalf of the Board of Trustees



These children, along with others, enjoy coming to read with Meg, Kate and Maggie (the dogs pictured) every Monday morning. Both the dogs, their owners (Barbara and Judith) and the children enjoy this special time together.



The children enjoyed the visit from 'Mr Science' on Tuesday, participating in some science experiments and also making Slime!!!



Our focus last week was Relating to Others, and the following children are our Stars: Gus, Mia, Coco, Theo, Callan, Harry L, Martyna, Hugo I, Cooper, Alexis, Lucy S, Lilly, Juno, Evie, Ashton, Josie, Alex, Liam T, Nick W, Patrick, Ollie, George M, Grace M, Cole Brown, Ben C, Cole Berry, Cole McCann, Adriana, William

SUMMER SPORTS UPDATE

The Rippa and Teeball seasons have drawn to a close and we make special mention to the parents who have coached and supported the teams. Thank you for giving our children the opportunity to play! We hope all of the children have had an enjoyable season.

Congratulations to the GB Dodgers Teeball team for winning the post-Christmas competition! Last game of Touch is scheduled for Thursday 4th April

Last games of Futsal are Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th April.



This is what we love to hear!

"Hi Jen,

Well that was a fantastic last game of rippa. All the kids played well & fair & to top it off I got a group photo of both teams.

Thanks for letting me work with these wonderful young people.

Cheers Tammy"

WINTER SPORTS INFORMATION

Information about Winter Sports is being emailed out today to ALL FAMILIES in regards to the sports offered at Grant's Braes School during Terms 2 and 3. Please read it all carefully as it contains a lot of important information to ensure your child is registered correctly. Registrations will only be accepted through KINDO.

We offer HOCKEY, NETBALL and MINIBALL/KIWIHOOPS (Basketball) for children in YEARS 3-6 ONLY.

If your child wishes to play in a school team this Winter season, you must fill in the registration on Kindo by 5pm on FRIDAY 5th APRIL. Late entries will not be accepted after this date.

PLAYERS OF THE DAY

Rippa Red - Theo (Matai) - Sebastian (Tawa)

Futsal

Hurricanes - Mouhammad Ali (Piwakawaka)

Stars - Alex (Tawa)

Flyers - Marlon (Ruru)

- Ashton (Pukeko)

Tigers - Tian Tian (Matai)

Sparks - Luca (Kowhai) Dolphins - Nathan (Tawa)

LATE TO SCHOOL

School starts at 9.00am, and the roll is taken within the first 2-3 minutes so the lessons can then get underway.

We have a legal requirement to ensure all children are accounted for at the commencement of the school day.

It is important for children to try and be here at least 10 minutes prior to the 9.00am bell to get themselves sorted, and settled for the day ahead.

If your child is running late to school, please have them come to the office to sign in, and collect a Late Pass to take to their teacher.

Your co-operation with this is appreciated.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS 2019

The total amount requested from families for 2019 is the same as previous years (\$200 per child, with a \$10 reduction per additional sibling). The total amount is notated as a "donation" and will cover swimming, school trips, visiting performers, and also assistance towards the many aspects that make our school 'tick', all of which provide such a great learning environment for the children. For children attending camps, we will be requesting a contribution and therefore this is also notated as a "donation".

The good news for families is that upon receiving a receipt for payment, you are now be able to claim **one third of this donation** back in tax, therefore receiving approx \$66 back from IRD, per child.

We appreciate payment of these contributions; however do realize this is a large amount for some families to pay in one lump sum. Therefore, we are happy for automatic payments for smaller, more manageable regular amounts to be set up and receipts duly provided.

KINDO is also a great way to pay these contributions -If you **haven't used Kindo before**, click this link to get started, or paste into your browser - (all you need is the email address we have on record)

https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/handshake.shtml?shop=Grant's %20Braes%20School

If you are an **existing user**, just click on this link or paste into your browser:

https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/q2.shtml?session=false&shop=Grant %27s%20Braes%20School

₩SCHOLASTIC

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

ISSUE 1 brochures went home with all children last week. Final date for orders to be in is <u>9am</u>, <u>TOMORROW Friday</u>, <u>22 March</u>.

School Docs Access

Visit the website -

http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/ 1893.htm

Enter the username (grantsbraes) and password (gbparents).

Follow the link to the relevant Policy.

ASSISTANT NEEDED FOR SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP CAN YOU HELP?

If you would be able to offer help with the running of the 2nd Hand Uniform Shop, please contact Gaylene in the first instance.

We have only one person at the moment running this, and to help ease the load, and to also provide assistance at busy times, it would be good to have someone else able to help.

HEADPHONES FOR SALE

We have been able to secure headphones at a great price. We have a limited number available for sale @ \$20 each. If you would like to purchase these for your child, please drop into the office to pay cash, EFTPOS or internet banking (03 0905 0914747 00).





DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon Mar 25th - Otago Anniversary Day Tues Mar 26th - BOT Meeting April 12 - Last day of school Term April 29 - First day of Term 2

GRANTS BRAES AFC JUNIOR CLUB MEMBERS

We are looking for Boys and Girls to fill our 6TH, 7TH, 8TH and 10TH Grade teams. We just need a couple more in each grade to complete the squads. Please contact David Creed, Grants Braes AFC Jnr Rep, 0212124068

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GO GO THE HIGHLANDERS



Available only on CD

On-line sales and more info at: www.ritchiepetersenmusic.com All proceeds to:
OTAGO
NORTH OTAGO
SOUTHLAND

Rugby Unions for the sponsorship of school rugby.

Limited number available from the School Office. Only \$5.00 each. Please bring CASH for payment.

HELPLINE FOR KIWI CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

In light of the Christchurch tragedy, we have been advised there is a free national helpline for children and teenagers called 0800 WHATS UP. There's a phone line and a webchat, and also a website with resources - all run by professional counselors. www.whatsup.co.nz



OTAGO BASKETBALL

are offering Holiday Camps,
Basketball Academy, plus the
Diggers and Miners Programmes
(run through terms)
For further info and registrations
go to the Pathways section on
www.otago.basketball



