



**WELCOME TO
JACKIE
WHO STARTED IN
ROOM KEA ON MONDAY**



PRE-SCHOOL BEARS



Our Pre-School Bear children enjoy their Wednesday afternoon sessions and yesterday was no exception. The children are shown here at the various activity tables, with the highlight being making their 'Hairy Maclary' faces!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

At this week's Board Meeting the BOT received a letter of resignation from Helen Day. Helen has been on leave from her Deputy Principal role within our school this year and has now made the decision to not retire from education completely, but to pursue other opportunities, and we wish her well. I would like to recognise her wealth of knowledge, her love of teaching and the many incredible connections she has made with both parent/caregivers and students alike. She has had a stellar 24 years at Grant's Braes School where she has touched the lives of so many. Helen will be sorely missed by staff, parents, and the hundreds of students she has taught over the years. I will keep the community informed as to what will be arranged to celebrate the time we have been so fortunate to have had her within our school. This position will be advertised this week and the Board will seek to make an appointment as soon as possible.

Our school is lucky to be a part of the Peninsula Cluster of School's STEAM project. The acronym 'STEAM' stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. The STEAM programme's main aim is to teach students innovation, to think critically and use engineering or technology in imaginative designs or creative approaches to real-world problems, while building on students' mathematics and science base. The Community Trust of Otago has significantly invested in this by providing funds which has enabled schools to get underway quickly with a set of necessary resources and exciting technologies. Our school now has sets of robots which can be used for coding across the school, a laser cutter and access to conferencing equipment which will be used for students to collaborate with other students in other schools. Having this equipment is one thing, but gaining the knowledge of how these can be used effectively is another. As part of the funding, many workshops are being provided to teachers on how to use these exciting new technologies. I would like to acknowledge Rebecca Barrow and Rebecca McKeever, who have been appointed as our school's STEAM Lead teachers, with the support of Iain Cook-Bonney, on the work that has been undertaken so far.

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

GARETH TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL

KŌHANGA CATCH-UP



Kōhanga children are really enjoying learning during Wā Puawai (Discovery Time) on Friday mornings. Last week, the focus was on books written by NZ Authors including 'Greedy Cat', 'Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy', and 'Willbee the Bumblebee' and the children explored follow-up activities as part of this. A highlight for the tamariki was a visit from Barbara and Judith with their three dogs - Meg, Kate and Maggie.

Board of Trustees Update

Kia ora koutou.

Thank you Jean! At our board meeting on Monday night we formally farewelled Jean Sutherland, who has decided not to re-stand in the upcoming board elections. Jean has been responsible for overseeing our financial functions for the last five years – not only has she done a fantastic job in this role, but her contributions to general board activities have been invaluable. Thank you Jean for everything you have done for our school and for ensuring the best for our children. We will miss you, but know you will enjoy your new found “spare time”!



Welcome Trudie! As Gareth has mentioned in a recent newsletter, we welcome Trudie Evans to the board – Trudie has been co-opted as part of succession planning for financial function to provide specialist support, and attended her first official meeting on Monday.

Nigel Latta: We can confirm that our Nigel Latta evening raised \$13,655 for our school, which is a fantastic outcome. This money will be used to reinstate some of our funds that were used to purchase and install our new playground equipment and undertake the Nga manu renovations. We are most appreciative of the support we received from our PTA, our families, sponsors and everyone who came along to listen to Nigel’s talk.

Strike action: Primary and secondary teachers and principals across New Zealand are taking joint strike action on Wednesday 29 March, meaning schools will be closed. We acknowledge the disruption that this will cause for parents and caregivers, and further information supplied by NZEI Te Riu Roa can be found here: https://www.nzei.org.nz/NZEI/Media/Releases/2019/05/Teachers_vote_for_joint_strike_on_29_May.aspx

Board of Trustees elections: A reminder that nominations for the upcoming elections close this Friday (24 May). Please contact Gaylene for any further information, and 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.

As a final note, I would like to sincerely thank the members of our current board - Paul Stevenson, Jean Sutherland, Rachel Brown, Nicola Wall, Gareth Taylor and Desiree Wispinski - for the time and expertise they have provided during the past three year term to ensure the best outcomes for our children. It has been an exciting time, with many highlights, but two that stand out are the major review of our school charter (2017-2018), and completion of significant building projects. Thank you!

Nga mihi,

Steph Woodley, on behalf of the Board of Trustees
stephaniew@grantsbraes.school.nz

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

The Board Elections are coming up and letters and nomination forms have been sent out to all parents and caregivers. The information is all self-explanatory; however if you have any queries, Gaylene is the Returning Officer for our School for these Elections so please contact her. Also, there is some very good information on the School Trustee Elections website - www.trustee-election.co.nz ; click on the 'Becoming a Trustee' section and it provides a lot of relevant, up to date information.



Dates to note are -

24 May : Nominations close

There are five available positions on the Board and if there are more than five nominations, voting will take place, and voting papers will be sent out.

7 June : Voting closes

13 June : Votes counted and results declared

A copy of the full Electoral Roll is available in the Office Reception area, above 'Milly the Mailbox' and you are welcome to call in to view this if you wish.

As nominations for Candidates come in, the names of these people will be displayed.

REMINDER - STRIKE NOTICE

Next **Wednesday, 29 May 2019**, Gareth and our teaching staff are joining with other teachers and principals throughout NZ, along with their secondary school counterparts for a combined strike. Therefore as a result, our **school will be closed on this day**.

There is a public event planned locally, likely to be from mid-day and it would be great to see our parents/caregivers and children standing with us. Further information will be sent out to you once we have this.

Should you need childcare next Wednesday, the following two options have been made available to us and we pass them on to you should you wish to book them in.



29th May – Teacher Strike

We will be offering programmes at
Bathgate, Fairfield and Taieri (Silverstream) sites.

If you require care, please contact

Tracy

admin@magickidsclub.co.nz

03433266 or 0224665227

Or you can book through your Aimy parent portal under

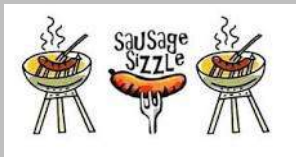
"special day" booking

'PINK' MUFTI DAY AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE FRIDAY 31 MAY 2019



In support of anti-bullying, our school are holding our **"PINK SHIRT DAY"** next Friday 31 May and we are asking for all children to please come wearing **"PINK", or a touch of pink** and to give a donation (at least a gold coin) in support of this very worthwhile cause.

The PTA are also having a **Sausage Sizzle** this day, with the usual Sausages (\$2.00) and Ice Blocks (\$1.00) available to be ordered via our KINDO system. KINDO is now available for orders and will close @ **9.00am next Wednesday 29th May.** There will be no late orders as we need to have a sufficient time frame for food orders to be in to our suppliers.



Year 6 Students visit Grant's Braes Kindergarten



Yesterday, a group of our Year 6 students went down to the Grant's Braes Kindergarten and read to the children. We are looking forward to continuing this every Wednesday and to a strong relationship forming between our students and the pre-school children.

WINTER SPORTS DRAWS

To quickly and easily access the draws for hockey, netball and miniball each week, go direct to our school website link as below -

<https://www.grantsbraes.school.nz/our-learning/sports-draws-winter>

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER 2019/2020

The 2018/2019 Books are about to run out on 1 June 2019!!

Get in now and support the school by purchasing a 2019/2020 version – available in printed books, or digital (use on up to 5 devices).

Buy the local version for Dunedin, Invercargill & Queenstown, or purchase additional copies or gifts for other regions in NZ, Australia or Bali.

Buy online from www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/26014m9

We are going to close off our school sales at the end of this Term.



PLAYER OF THE DAY

Netball - Diamonds - Rebecca (Toroa)

Hockey (15/5) - Kiwisticks - Dominic (Toroa)
- Kiwisticks - Liam (Piwakawaka)

SAVE THE DATE School Ski Weekend - Cardrona, Wanaka



Saturday 31 August/
Sunday 1 September

Forms will be available later this term for completion.

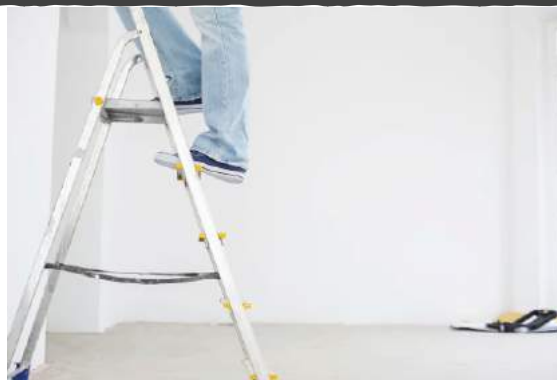
Any questions, please contact Bridget Dickson on 021 606773 or email -

bridget.dickson20@gmail.com.

WĀ TUHURA - WEEK 3



Last week's focus in Wā Tuhura time was 'E ako ana - We Care' and the Stars were - Harry, Kaden, Sami, Juno, Xavier, Akein, Yolanda, Sienna, Miklos, Kayla, Marlon, Callan, Theo, Paige, Kahu, Nick R, Daniel H, Conan, Charlie G, Delilah, Miller, Taylor and Yash.



You are accountable for your decisions, words, actions and inactions.

The following wise words are from Darren and the Journal Surf team

This is the beginning of wisdom.

Accountability.

Personal accountability.

I am accountable for what I say. I am accountable for what I do. I am accountable for what I fail to say or do.

This is the first rung on the ladder of wisdom. You have to get to here, before you can progress.

To be accountable is to take responsibility for yourself and your words and actions. It is to hold yourself accountable. It is to be responsible.

To fail in this area is to live in unreality. It is to somehow believe that it doesn't matter what you do. It doesn't matter what you say, or believe. That this has nothing to do with you. That your actions are someone else's problem.

To fail in this area is to live as a victim. To live as one who has no power. No say. No ability to change what they say or do.

After all, its their fault isn't it?

And so those who fail to take responsibility find themselves playing the 'blame game'. They are forever blaming others. Casting the blame. Shifting the blame. Looking for their scapegoat. The person responsible for their mess.

And you cannot have it both ways.

To climb the ladder of wisdom you must start with the first rung. And this first rung starts with a hard look in the mirror. It starts with acknowledging that I am responsible for how I am acting or reacting. That ultimately it is up to me.

So where are you at? Still playing the blame game? Happy to avoid personal responsibility?

Or sick and tired of playing the victim. Ready to embrace personal responsibility and accountability?

Ready to grow in wisdom?



DATES TO REMEMBER

Thurs 23 May - Chess Power Tournament
Fri 24 May - Rata/Kowhai Assembly, 2.10pm
Wed 29 May - Teachers Strike, NO SCHOOL
Fri 31 May - **Pink** Anti-Bullying Muffi Day and Sausage Sizzle
- Kohanga Assembly, 2.10pm
Mon 3 June - Queens Birthday
Mon 17 - Thurs 20 June - Scholastic Book Fair
Thurs 20 June - Book Character Dress Up Day and Sausage Sizzle
Sat 22 June - Otago Primary School Chess Championships
Fri 28 June - School Reports home
Fri 5 July - Last day of Term 2

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.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

ISSUE 3 - Orders to be in by 9am **TOMORROW**, Friday 24 May.

WHAT KIND OF ADVENTURE ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Girls love adventure! It's a great way to make friends, build confidence, boost self-esteem and learn new skills.

0800 22 22 92
GIRLGUIDINGNZ.ORG.NZ



YOU BE THE GUIDE



Did you know that there are children in New Zealand who have never worn a new pair of pyjamas in their lives.

Foster Hope are again running their annual new pyjama drive leading up to winter. One of the reasons that Foster Hope specifically ask for new summer or winter pyjamas (aged 0-18 years) is that many of these children have never had a brand new pair of their very own and knowing that someone has shopped especially for them is a huge boost to their self-esteem. We want this to be a positive experience as some foster children tend to feel like a bit like second hand kids themselves. Anything we can do to help them feel loved and valued is a huge part of what we do. Postie and The Warehouse currently have pyjamas at really good prices so please consider buying one pair, two pair or maybe even three pair and pop into the box in the foyer to support this great cause.



Craft, fun and games for primary/intermediate age kids. Held at 4pm on the 2nd Floor, City Library every second Thursday.

THURSDAY 2 MAY

Cool key rings

THURSDAY 16 MAY

Stories from your neighbourhood

THURSDAY 30 MAY

Fabulous frames

THURSDAY 13 JUNE

Crafting with the Moomins

THURSDAY 27 JUNE

Midwinter chills

FREE


dunedin public libraries
Kai Kaiti Whānau o Te Whānau

CITY MOSGEL BLUESKIN BAY WAKOLAJITI PORT CHALMERS SOUTH BOOKBUS