Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 03

20 February 2020

WELCOME TO

137 Belford Street

Dunedin 9013

Waverley

TOBI & EVGENY

WHO BOTH STARTED IN ROOM KEA THIS WEEK



EXCITING PLAY BASED LEARNING



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

Our 'What's the Buzz?" parent interviews concluded yesterday and I would like to thank all of those who took the opportunity to attend these. One of the Board's Strategic Aims is "to continue to enhance and nurture positive relationships with whānau" with an aspirational outcome of "increasing whānau/caregiver participation in parent interviews aiming for 100%." 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.

On Tuesday night I attended the PTA Annual General Meeting and subsequent meeting afterwards. I would like to thank those who were able to attend these meetings. Many of the office bearers positions are still yet to confirmed but I would like to thank Sonya Power who will be continuing in the Treasurer position. The office bearer's positions will be confirmed with the parent community once the PTA executive has met to discuss these.

Next week is a very busy and exciting week with Walk'n'Wheels and the Beach Education Day for Matai and Tawa. Also the Ngā Manu teachers and myself will be starting Te Ahu o te reo Māori, which is a programme to inspire and aspire for improved te reo Māori proficiency, acquisition and use across the education sector. We will be staying at the Ōtākou Marae Thursday and Friday and relief teachers will be in classes during this time. This is the first of four noho (three of which are during the term), which are spread between Term 1 and 2.

I would like to thank parents and caregivers for their patience whilst the new road safety layout is being completed. The final curb is being worked on at the moment and should not be too far away from being finished. This will dramatically help road safety around this busy area outside our school.

On Monday night the Board approved Belinda Collins' application to return to Grant's Braes School in a parttime role from Term 2 until the end of the 2020 school year. It is going to be wonderful to have Belinda back with us and she will be working in Rata for 3 days a week to release Desiree Wispinski for Management and Intervention programmes. This will then allow us to employ a full-time fixed-term teacher for Matai and this position has been advertised.

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

'KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE' PARENT MEETINGS

TODAY - Thursday 20 February

3.20pm OR 7.00pm in our School Hall

(Two time frames to choose from to attend identical meetings)

Emily Plew, the NZ Police Education Officer will be conducting an information session on this programme that is shortly to be taught to ALL the children in our school. All parents/ guardians are encouraged to attend one of the meetings as they cover the content that will be taught, plus Emily will answer any questions parents may have.

Board of Trustees Update

Kia ora koutou. A warm (well, perhaps not on the weather front!) welcome to the beginning of the 2020 school year, and we hope all of your children have settled well into their new classrooms.

ERO report

As you will remember we welcomed the team from the Educational Review Office (ERO) to Grant's Braes in early November 2019. The objective of ERO is to ensure that all learners in our school are successful, and a range of different methods are used to measure this. We are very pleased and proud to be able to share the final ERO report with our whanau and wider school community. The overall evaluation judgement of Grants Braes School's performance in achieving valued outcomes for its students is strong – which is the best outcome possible. The final report and recommendations can be read here: https://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/grants-braes-school-28-01-2020/

We would like to sincerely thank Gareth, the management team and all of the staff at Grant's Braes for the many hours of work that went into planning and preparing for this review. Of course, this doesn't mean we stop here, and we are currently finalising our 2020-2024 Strategic Plan to ensure that we continue to provide the best possible learning for all of our children!

Board members

A quick reminder of our board members – Gareth Taylor (principal), Rachel Brown, Amie Curtis, Trudie Evans, Paul Stevenson, Nicola Wall and Desiree Wispinski (teacher representative), with secretarial support from Gaylene O'Brien. As always, we value the input and support that we receive from our community, and if you have any suggestions you would like us to consider, please let one of us know.

Nga mihi,

Steph Woodley Chairperson Board of Trustees



This is an updated photo of our 2020 PAL's! Unfortunately, there were two children who were away last week when the first photo was taken so this is a photo of the full group.



Our fabulous transition-to-school programme 'Pre-School Bears' is back underway on Wednesday afternoons for children 4-1/2 and over. These children are pictured here receiving their own wee pre-school bear from Gareth Taylor (Principal), and also enjoying some nice time in the library.



Earlier this week, Kowhai and Rata children enjoyed a special visit by local author and singer/song writer 'Shelley J'. She entertained the children with songs and stories about New Zealand birds. The children also listened to her new book 'Will you fly with me' about a little bird learning to make friends. Following her visit the children wrote stories about their favourite parts of her show.







Info in regards to what is planned for Walk'n'Wheel Week (Mon 24-Fri 28th Feb) was sent home <u>via paper copy yesterday (Wednesday</u>). This letter includes a <u>map of the</u> <u>meeting points for Wednesday 27th February's</u> "Walk/Wheel to School Together" on the reverse side. Please make sure you read this so as you know the plans for the week.

Children have also been given **Progress Cards** to note down the days they walked or 'wheeled' to school. These are then collected by your child's teacher at the end of the week, and will be included in the draw for some of the prizes available.

Also, every child will bring home this Friday a **high vis vest** which is to be worn to and from school each day your child walks or wheels. These will be issued by their classroom teacher, and need to be **washed and returned to your child's classroom teacher early the next week.** All vests are numbered and teachers will mark them off the list as they are returned.

OTAGO PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 4 April 2020 : Moana Pool



If your child is interested in entering this, please contact Jen Stevenson for further information, especially in regards to qualifying times. Email : jennies@grantsbraes.school.nz REMINDER Payment of all Sports Fees are due by next Friday, 28 February Please pay by cash or EFTPOS at the office, or by internet

at the office, or by internet banking -03 0905 0914747 00 or via KINDO

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL.....

Already there have been some tummy bugs, and sore throats about!



Please keep your child at home when they are

unwell for two reasons - firstly, they do not learn or focus well when they are feeling 'under par', and secondly, to avoid bugs being spread to both our staff and other class members.

If your child has been vomiting or had diarrhea, it is important that they are kept away from school for **at least 48 hours from the last event!**

Our school has a 24 hour answer phone so please ring and leave a message to let us know if your child is not coming to school, or send an email to the office and to the class teacher.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Thurs 20th Feb - Keeping Ourselves Safe Parent Meetings: 3.20pm & 7.00pm Mon 24th Feb - Matai/Tawa Beach Ed Day 'Walk and Wheel Week' commences Wed 26th Feb - Full school 'Walk to School' Day Mon 9th March - Literacy Quiz Mon 16th March - BOT Meeting, 7.00pm Fri 20th March - Rata/Kowhai Assembly, 2.10pm Mon 23rd March - Otago Anniversary Day observance Fri 3rd April - Piwakawaka/Toroa Assembly, 2.10pm Thurs 9th April - last day of Term 1 Tuesday 28 April - First day of Term 2 Wed 16 Dec - last day of the year!

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience for the whole family.

Host families needed 2020, students arriving May and July for 3, 5 or 10 months.

Students have a wide range of interests and hobbies. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact 0800 440079 or info@studentexchange.org.nz



LAINIE SCOTT HAIRSTYLIST Lainie has moved to Russo Professional Salon at 144 Lamach Road, Waverley. To welcome new clients from the area please feel free to quote the offer below when booking your first appointment with Lainie.

Grants Braes Offer

10% off your first appointment booked with Lainie

Mob: 021 966 314 FB Messenger: Lainie Scott

144 Larnach Road, Waverley 9013

SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION 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. Current policy for review is 'Recognition of Cultural Diversity'.

<u>MISSING SIZE 6 JACKET</u> - named Ethan Pan. Please check the name on your child's soft-shell jacket as it seems it has been mistakenly taken home from school or Magic. Please return to the school office if located.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SPARE SIZE 8,10 or 12 SCHOOL UNIFORM SHORTS OR TROUSERS THAT YOUR CHILD NO LONGER WEARS?

If so, please drop into the office to enable us to replenish our stock of 'spares' held here at school.Thanks.



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OUR PROVINCE | OUR COMMUNITY | OUR GAME



2020 Registrations

We welcome all new and returning players to the upcoming season!

Registration Days Thurs 13 Feb 5pm-7pm Sat 29 Feb 11am-1pm

Sat 14 March 11am-1pm Pirates Clubrooms, John Wilson Dr, Dn.

Subs: U5 \$30, 1 player \$55, 2 players \$90





WE'RE AFTER PLAYERS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS FOR OUR CLUB!

"A fun and an enjoyable environment for young football players"



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

MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY Pompom kiwi

MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY Cool cutlery pouches

MONDAY 2 MARCH Yarn ball ornaments

MONDAY 16 MARCH CD spinners

MONDAY 30 MARCH Easter fun

FREE



dunedin public libi Kii Kate Watnake o Okepot



SPORT OTAGO Otago Daily Times



What Tantrums Don't Mean:

- I hate you.
- You are mean.
- You are a bad parent.
- · I'm a bad child.

- I'm manipulating you.
- I need you to meet every demand that I'm yelling.
- I need you to punish me.

What Tantrums Do Mean:

- I'm overwhelmed.
- · I'm trying to tell you about a need I have.
- I'm possibly hungry, tired, overwhelmed, lonely, or angry and I don't know how to handle that yet.
- · I need to learn a new way to ask you for this need when I am calm.
- · I'm new at figuring out big feelings.
- · My brain can't understand you when I'm feeling this much emotion.
- · I need you to be calm so I can figure out these feelings.
- I don't want to be acting this way.
- I'm watching how you respond to my big feelings so I know how to respond next time.
- I love you and feel safe with you.