Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 07

19 March 2020

WELCOME TO LUKE AND DHRUV WHO BOTH STARTED IN ROOM KEA THIS WEEK





Last Friday we saw a 'sea of orange' about the school as our children and staff dressed in orange in support of the 'Light It Orange' campaign. Many of the children enjoyed the sausage sizzle as well, so it was a great way to finish the week!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

As you are aware, there are now multiple reported cases in NZ and a large number of people being tested for COVID-19 in Dunedin, with Logan Park High School currently closed. As a school and staff we need a calm, measured but pro-active approach to this ever-changing situation. Over the last 36 hours, our Board of Trustees have met and I have also worked with my Management Team and staff to put in place a set of procedures that sit within the Ministry of Education Guidelines. This procedure is included in this newsletter but also published on our Website -

(https://www.grantsbraes.school.nz/our-school/important-information).

As this is a procedure, this can be modified at any time and I will always ensure an updated version is published online. Whilst we are trying to keep school as 'business as usual', we have had to make some tough decisions to ensure we are keeping our tamariki and staff as safe as possible and working within the MOE guidelines. We have had to cancel all assemblies, kapa haka practises, and other mass gathering situations until further notice. We are not undertaking any education outside of the classroom trips, which has meant we have cancelled Kōhanga's trip to the Art Gallery next Tuesday and Kā Manu will not be attending the Bayfield Show (which has also been postponed by Bayfield). As we are not able to guarantee how long the restrictions will last regarding mass gatherings, the school production has been deferred to 2021. Also, all sports associations have postponed weekly sports. We are continuing to discuss the importance of general hygiene and handwashing with the students and have put visual aides around the school to support these messages.

We do need parents and caregivers to keep children away from school if they are unwell. This not only protects them but also protects our staff and the other students. You will read in the procedures that as a school we can preclude any student who attends school showing symptoms of a communicable disease or is not following the Ministry of Health guidelines of mandatory self isolation (Section 19 Education Act).

We have also increased the cleaning regime around the school with Mr Harris focusing more on the cleaning aspect than the caretaking.

All important information will be given out through email and put on the school's website. Please read these notices thoroughly and ensure you abide by the information provided.

As stated earlier, we do wish to keep school as normal as possible, maintaining our well children learning at school. However, we have heard, for a variety of reasons, parents deciding to self-isolate, which is purely a parental decision. At this time, staff are discussing in their teams various opportunities for distance learning in order to be prepared of the event of our school being required to close.

Further information can be found on our school website with COVID-19 information sheets posted. The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health websites have up-to-date information; however, if you have any further queries, do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher or email me principal@grantsbraes.school.nz.

The following is a link for you as parents on how to talk to children about COVID-19, which you may find useful - https://education.govt.nz/school/health-safety-and-wellbeing/pastoral-care-and-wellbeing/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-coronavirus/

Next Monday is Otago Anniversary Day, and therefore school will not be open in observance of this. I wish you all a relaxing day with your families.

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

GARETH TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL



DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT CONTACT DETAILS?



EG - CELLPHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

In light of the current situation around the COVID-19 virus; in regards to information we have on file in order for us to urgently contact you, if necessary, can you please advise via

return email of any recent changes of <u>phone numbers and email addresses</u> for both <u>parents, and also for the emergency contact people</u> that we have here on file at school.

This is **most important** as with almost 250 children here, we would not have time in the event of an emergency, to keep trying to get in touch if we don't have the correct information on file.

Please ensure for the health and safety of all - i.e., our staff as well as your children, that you keep your children at home if they are unwell in any way - and DAILY, PLEASE EMAIL OR RING THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERPHONE IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE NOT COMING TO SCHOOL. By doing this saves office staff an awful lot of time trying to contact everyone to ascertain where 'missing children' are as we do need to know where they are from a safety aspect.



Learning Assistant/Teacher Aide Jobs at Grant's Braes School

An opportunity exists for motivated people interested in supporting teaching and learning at Grant's Braes School, as Learning Assistants/Teacher Aides. Most support will be in a classroom based environment working with ORS, ESOL and High Health needs students. You would be expected to establish good relationships with students and respect their individual needs and cultural backgrounds, act in a manner that is consistent with our school values and be a collaborative team member. Previous school experience is an advantage.

The positions are fixed term for Term 2, 2020.

Position one is for Monday/Tuesday for 9 hours a week.

Position two is Wednesday/Thursday/Friday for 11 hours.

Additional relieving hours may also be available.

Please email your interest to appointments@grantsbraes.school.nz by 12:30 pm Wednesday 1st April.

Each Tuesday, Kelly and her team from **Kelly Sports** come in and work with both our staff and children on new physical education and health initiatives. The staff and children have already learnt some new skills and played new games, and are thoroughly enjoying this programme.



PLAYERS OF THE DAY

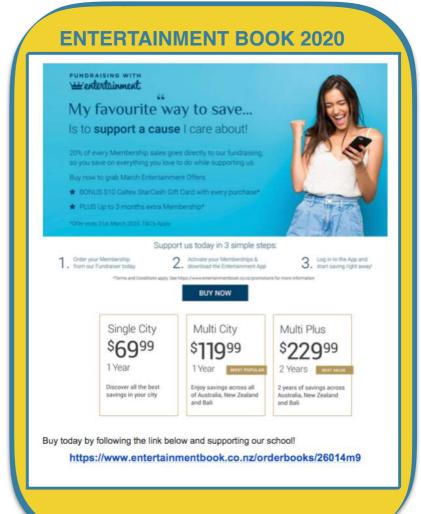
Rippa

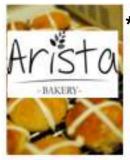
Yellow - Thomas (Tawa) Blue - Ben (PW) Red - Callan (PW)

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

For any inquiries about 2nd hand uniform items, please text Andrea on 021 08200287.

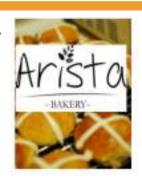
She is happy to make arrangements for a suitable time to meet with you to come and purchase 2nd hand items.





HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

Forms on Yellow Paper went home with all eldest children on Tuesday. The form is for your individual use - to write orders on, and to keep for distribution following pick-up.



Cost - \$5.00 per half dozen pack (including new Fruit Free option)

Total up the orders on your form, collect the money and make your payment via <u>Kindo</u> (No cash please)

Orders definitely close <u>9am on Monday 6th April</u>
(NO LATE ORDERS AS THE BAKERY NEEDS OUR TOTAL NUMBER ON THIS DATE)

<u>Pick up from School Hall – From 2.30pm Wednesday 8th April</u>
Ph Jolene Cochrane 027 2396788 with any inquiries



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 23rd March - Otago Anniversary Day observance

Wed 1st April - Whanau Hui Fri 3rd April - Piwakawaka/Toroa Assembly, 2.10pm

Wed 8th April - Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle

Thurs 9th April - last day of Term 1

Tuesday 28 April - First day of Term 2

Wed 16 December - last day of school year



Rotary Park Kindergarten 289 Highcliff Road, Waverley



SPACES ARE AVAILABLE NOW 8.30am - 12.30pm and/or 8.30am - 2.30pm

2-year olds can attend for \$2.75 an hour 3-5+ years are eligible for up to 30 hours free



Enrolment forms are available from the kindergarten or online at www.dk.org.nz/enrol

Phone us for more information 03-454-4238 or email rotarypark@dk.org.nz

Check out our Facebook page on https://www.facebook.com/rotaryparkkindergarten

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'.

₩SCHOLASTIC

BOOK

CLUB ISSUE 2 brochures went home a couple of weeks back with all children. Final date for orders to be in is **9am, TOMORROW Friday, 20 February.**

Iced Delightz for Easter!

Custom Gingerbred for SALE...



Great as Easter gifts or treats for the kids

\$7 per set (#1 = 7.5cm, #2 = 5.5cm, #3,4,5 = 9cm cookies)

Gluten free alternatives available (\$8)

– text your orders in to Fi Simpson on 021.11137742 by Mon 23rd March (orders are binding), pick up & pay at Grants Braes School 3pm Monday 6th April or by alt. arrangement [Instagram @Iced.Delightz]



LAINIE SCOTT HAIRSTYLIST

Lainie has moved to Russo Professional Salon at 144 Lamach Road

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 Laini

Mob: 021 966 314

144 Larnach Road, Waverley 9013

Hi Grants Braes Families,

Are you based in Waverley and considering selling your house?

We are a fellow Grants Braes family and would like to move up to Waverley to be closer to school and Grants Braes Kindy.

We are looking for 3 or 4+ bedrooms.

Please feel free to txt or call me for a chat -Monique 0210555097



Grant's Braes School COMMUNICABLE DISEASE - COVID-19 PROCEDURE Updated 18 March 2020



RATIONALE

To prevent the spread of communicable diseases, specifically Coronavirus within the Grant's Braes School community.

GUIDELINES

Actions following diagnosis of Coronavirus

- Parents/caregivers notify the school if a child, or a member of the child's family, is diagnosed with Coronavirus or:
- If the child, or members of the child's family, are displaying symptoms of Coronavirus (outlined below)

Where the school is aware of these factors, the Principal exercises the right to keep that child (or staff member) away from school as per Ministry of Education guidelines:

Authority to prevent a student's attendance:

- If a student still attends school while showing symptoms, the Principal of a state school can preclude them if they believe on reasonable grounds they may have a communicable disease (Section 19 Education Act).
- The student has to stay away for the infectious period of the specific disease (14 days for COVID-19).

Authority to request a staff member not to attend:

- You can request that a staff member with an infectious disease or is suspected of having an infectious disease, does not attend.

Self-isolation

If the child, or members of the child's family in the same dwelling have returned from overseas travel and are in a self-isolation (for a period of two weeks from that return date):

- In this situation, the school will communicate closely with the family. It is preferred that children in this situation stay away from school for the duration of the isolation period
- A child infected with Coronavirus does not return to school until the time recommended by the health authorities
- If a teacher suspects that they, or a child, might be suffering symptoms of Coronavirus (outlined below), parents/caregivers be notified immediately, and that person is held in an isolated area until collected

Communication, monitoring and actions

Relevant information regarding Coronavirus is available within the school via the school website:

https://www.grantsbraes.school.nz/our-school/important-information

If the school is aware of a confirmed case of Coronavirus in the community, all Grant's Braes School parents/caregivers will be notified as soon as appropriate, and:

- Contact including hugging, handshaking, and hongi will be restricted during the period of heightened risk
- The school will cancel or postpone whole school assemblies or performances, until the heightened risks of Coronavirus spreading are over
- Overnight school trips will be effectively managed for this extra risk during the period of heightened risk, and Risk Management procedures for this are checked by school management and the Board of Trustees

Notifiable Disease

COVID-19 is now classified as a notifiable disease. This means for education providers there is no specific change of advice needed for schools and early learning services in regard to your own powers when responding to the risk of a communicable disease. Principals at state schools can already send a student home if they believe on reasonable grounds they may have a communicable disease (section 19, Education Act).

Education providers should continue to rely on support from the Ministry of Health, when a case or cases of a communicable disease arise in their school/service/institution and in their wider community.

As it is now a notifiable disease, this means health practitioners and laboratories are required to notify Medical Officers of Health of cases.

Medical Officers of Health then have powers to manage the disease on a case-by-case basis, including the ability to:

- Formally initiate contact tracing of contacts of cases of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)
- Issue mandatory directions such as restricting movement and travel
- Apply for court orders such as for treatment
- Issue administrative 72-hour detention orders (urgent public health orders).

Symptoms of COVID-19

- A cough
- High temperature (at least 38°C)
- Shortness of breath

These symptoms do not necessarily mean you have COVID-19. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu. However, infections with mild symptoms such as cold-like symptoms or no symptoms are likely, but it's not known how common this is.

Immediate actions to minimise risk at Grant's Braes School (in additional to above information) as at 18 March 2020:

- Suspend mass gatherings until further notice. This includes all assemblies, Kapa Haka practices and school productions
- Suspend school trips until further notice

How to protect yourself and others:

- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.
- Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately
- Wash your hands with soap and water often
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs
- Stay home if you feel unwell and call Healthline on 0800 358 5453

GRANT'S BRAES SCHOOL BOARD of TRUSTEES