Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 10 4 June 2020



Last Wednesday's Staff Meeting commenced with our IT Help Desk children demonstrating and helping the staff explore some of the various uses of STEAM equipment. Staff can be seen here trying out Co-Space Virtual Reality headsets, playing a banana piano made with 'Makey Makey', using robots, trying out a skill tester, and also playing 'Pac Man' with 'Makey Makey'

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

I hope you all enjoyed your long weekend and especially the stunning weather! However, as the weather has made a significant turn, I would like to remind parents and caregivers that due to extreme adverse weather conditions, the school may start later in the morning, or a decision is made for all schools not to open at all. This decision is not made lightly and a number of representatives from the Otago Primary Principals' Association, after consultation with police and other agencies, make this decision for all primary schools. This is made in the best interests of safety for all. In these instances, we will contact you as soon as possible via text message and email, but please also listen to 97.4 More FM if you believe the school may be affected in this way. Please also remember to drive particularly safely around our school environs during inclement winter weather, and to not park over driveways or on the yellow 'No Parking' lines; safety of all is most important.

Also, with the colder weather, a lot more illnesses will be around, therefore it is timely to remind you to please keep your children home while they are unwell. Children do not concentrate or learn well when they are sick, and so resting them at home is the best option for them. This will also help minimise the 'passing on' of these bugs to other children or staff. Please note if your child has a vomiting or diarrhoea bug, they are to be away from school for at least a further 48 hours from the last event. Please also remember to email your child's teacher and the office also to advise of your child's absence, or alternatively ring the office before 9am to let us know (there is a 24 hr answerphone available).

The country will be anticipating an announcement on Monday as to when we will be moving to Alert Level 1. I will provide you all with the information on what this looks like in a school setting as soon as possible.

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



ICAS EXAMS

2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

For over 20 years ICAS has taken place each year in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific region and South Africa.

This is voluntary and children in Year 4-6 are invited to take part. ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 4-13 children to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. The entry fee per student has increased considerably this year and is now \$16 per subject, or all three for \$48.00. Payment and permission can be made through the KINDO system.

For more information visit www.eaa.unsw.edu.au (past tests can be purchased here If you would like practice ones or a limited amount are available by asking Gaylene at the office).

ALL FEES AND PERMISSIONS NEED TO BE IN BY FRIDAY 19 JUNE.

Dates for the Exams are as follows -

Science: Tuesday 18 August 2020 English: Tuesday 25 August 2020

Mathematics: Tuesday I September 2020







DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 15 June - BOT Meeting, 7.30pm

Monday 29 June - Teacher Only Day

Friday 3 July - Last day of term

Monday 20 July - First day of Term 3

Wed 16 December - last day of school year

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.

₩SCHOLASTIC

BOOK CLUB Brochures went home with all the children on Tuesday. All orders need to be in to the office by 9am on Friday 12 June.

CAN YOU HELP 'FOSTER HELP OTAGO'?

After another mammoth weekend of backpacks/flatpacks going out, Foster Help Otago are in super urgent need of the following items please:

- * Baby wipes
- * Baby Powder 3 left and 10 baby packs to make this week
- * Ladies deodorants none left at all please, we cannot use sprays in our packs so roll on only please
- * Blankets we have absolutely none left
- * Hairbrushes we are completely out of these also and they are really important to have in our packs

If you are able to help them out you can do so via the following avenues:

- * Purchase and Drop off to 43 Clyde Street, Kinmont (there is a white container at the gate if you want to do contactless drop offs.
- * Order direct from The Warehouse and have them delivered to the same address.
- * Donate via their Bank account Foster Hope Charitable Trust 03 0123 0527961 07 (if you require a receipt for your donation, please email otago@fosterhope.org.nz)
- * Donate via their funky new website, click on donations and select Otago (the money goes straight to them) www.fosterhope.org.nz

They are unable to complete some urgently needed packs until they have these items.

Thanks for any support you are able to offer.

INTO THE WILD

ONLINE FUNDRAISING QUIZ

The Dunedin Wildlife Hospital is the only facility of it's kind in the South Island that treats many of our native wildlife friends. Although the hospital is operating successfully, it is the ongoing donations and volunteering of others that help keep the hospital running. As a team of 3rd year Polytechnic students working on their Event Project paper, they have decided this would be an awesome opportunity for them to put on a fun online event while helping out a deserving cause!

This event is perfect for families and will be kid-friendly. The Facebook page link is -

https://www.facebook.com/IntoTheWildQuiz/

Key Quiz Information includes:

- -Interactive Online Wildlife Quiz
- -Tickets are \$25 per team (\$20 of each ticket sale goes directly to Dunedin Wildlife Hospital)
- -1 ticket = 1 team (2-6 people)
- -Friday 12th June 6:30pm 8:30pm
- -Family-friendly -Very cool prizes
- -All information on accessing the online platforms will be emailed once you purchase tickets!



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