Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 02

18 February 2021



PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

Wow! What a rollercoaster this week has been, but I welcome the move back down to Alert Level 1. Please keep vigilant and use the NZ COVID Tracing App whenever you enter our school site.

What's the Buzz - Parent/Teacher discussion - Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 February 2021 - RESCHEDULED

As we have moved back down to Alert Level 1, we re-invite you all to book a time to meet with your child's teacher for the 'What's the Buzz?' Interviews. You will need to rebook these as the previous booking were deleted. Bookings have been reopened to select a time to meet with your child's classroom teacher. This meeting gives you the opportunity to share vital information about your child with their teacher and a 'blue' form was sent home last week for you to complete, fill in and bring to discuss at this meeting. Interviews can be booked by going to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and use our school's code - bsfyu.

PTA AGM - Tuesday 16 February, 7 pm

The PTA Annual General Meeting, followed by a regular PTA meeting, was held on Tuesday evening. I would like to congratulate the following people who have been elected as office bearers: Dee Isaacs - President, Narelle Jakeway - Vice-President; Sonya Power - Treasurer; Barbara Reid - Secretary; Jen Stevenson - Staff Rep; Jolene Cochrane and Michelle Lightfoot - Executive Members. I know they will work extremely hard alongside you, our parent community, to raise much needed funds for our school.

Concerns and Complaints

From time to time situations occur where parents/caregivers need to raise a concern with the school. Grant's Braes School has the responsibility to ensure that concerns or complaints are handled correctly and responsibly. If you have any concerns, in the first instance, see your child's teacher. If you feel that your concern was not resolved, our school has a clear policy and set of procedures to help seek a resolution. Included in this week's newsletter (on the back page) is a copy of the Concerns and Complaints Flowchart. Also, all of our policies and procedures can be accessed through School Docs (see information within this newsletter on how you can access this website).

Parent/Caregivers Code of Conduct

Also attached to this newsletter is a Parent/Caregiver's Code of Conduct. Please read through this and do not hesitate to contact me if you would like anything clarified. This is an important document and by following these procedures, problems will be solved as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results come from working together.

Summer Sports

With the start of this term's sporting season, I would like to thank all of the parents and caregivers who have put their name forward to manage or coach. Once again, we have a huge number of children playing the various sports we offer and this co-ordination has been expertly done by Jen Stevenson. I know all of the children participating are going to have a lot of sporting fun!

Hei kona mai i roto i kā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks. GARETH TAYLOR



"WHAT'S THE BUZZ"

Interviews are now being held next Wednesday 24th/Thursday 25th February



Interviews will be of **10 minutes duration** and these can be booked using the School Interviews website www.schoolinterviews.co.nz - School Code: bsfyu. Bookings open @ 2.00pm today, Thursday 18th February.

Bookings close at 3.30pm on Tuesday 23rd February.

If you are unable to book on the website, please contact Gaylene and she will book the times you require.

'What's the Buzz' sheets (blue!) for you to complete and bring with you to your child's interview were sent home with **EVERY CHILD LAST WEEK!!**



CONGRATULATIONS TO VALERIO

who had his work titled 'Jack's Mountain Adventure' written in 2020 published in this year's first issue of the EXTRA newspaper. This is a wonderful achievement Valerio!

LAUNCHPAD CHAMPIONS

Launchpad Champions is starting next Thursday morning - 22 Feb -and this is for Year 3-6 children
It is running from 8:30am-9am on Thursdays in the hall. Don't worry if your child is running late, they are welcome to arrive anytime between 8:30 and 9.

What is Launchpad Champions?

Launchpad Champions is a Christian Values Education programme.



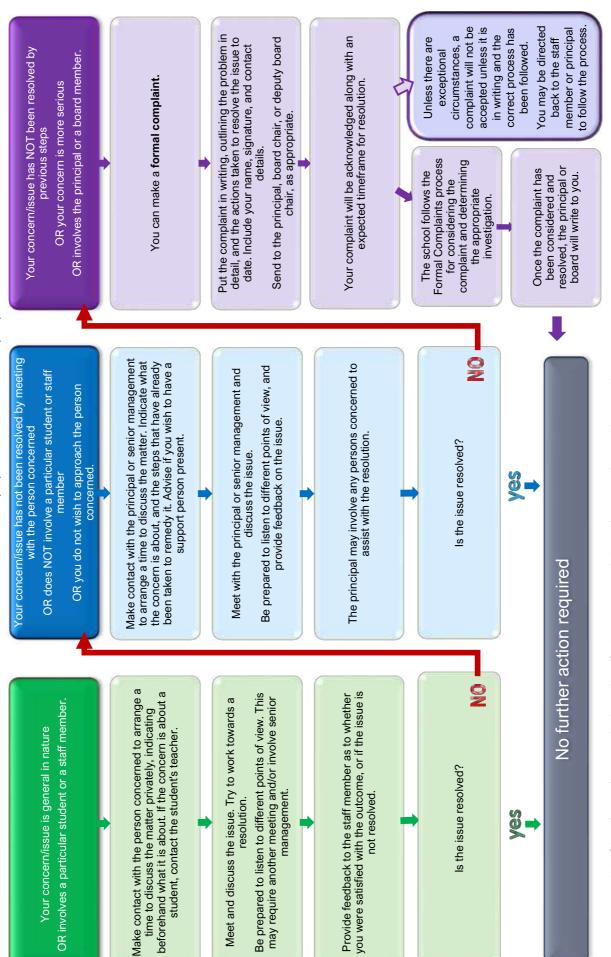
The programme is a fun 30-minute session that encourages students to make positive life choices and grow their sense of mana, self-worth and character. Stories are presented from the Bible, NZ Māori History and stories from around the world that are relevant and inspiring to tamariki. The programme is presented through the art of story-telling, multimedia, interactive games and activities.

Great values form a launchpad for children to overcome challenges and help reach their potential. Launchpad Champions lessons encourage tamariki to be courageous, have respect and be helpful. Children are given opportunity to consider applying positive values to their own lives in situations such as: being a good friend, working together, having self-control and overcoming challenges.

This is an opt-in programme. If your child would like to attend please email your classroom teacher.

Concerns and Complaints Process

Most concerns can be resolved informally by discussions with the people concerned.



This flowchart aligns with the school's Concerns and Complaints policy and procedures.

Grant's Braes School Code of Conduct Parents/Caregivers



A code of conduct for parents/caregivers and visitors ensures that everyone who visits the school site is able to do so in a safe and harmonious manner and to ensure that students, staff, and parents/caregivers are not subjected to aggressive, hostile or violent behaviours.

From time to time parents/caregivers or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to:

- Discuss the progress or welfare of your own child/or other children
- Express concern about the actions of other students
- Enquire about school policy or practice

On occasion, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

No parent will directly approach another person's child at school to discuss issues/concerns about that child's behaviour. The school will deal with issues between students as part of the school's Behaviour and Wellbeing policy.

If you have a concern about anything to do with someone else's child, you must organise a time to talk with school staff about it.

Parents/caregivers and visitors are expected to:

- Treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy
- Make appointments in advance to discuss concerns
- Allow staff to supervise, investigate and manage students without interference

Behaviour in the presence of students, staff, and parents/caregivers to the school that causes alarm or concern includes:

- Use of offensive language (ie swearing or put-downs, name calling) in the presence of students
- Accusing someone else's child of something when their parent is not there
- Speaking angrily to the child of another parent/adult/staff member

By following these procedures, problems will be solved as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results come from working together.

Gareth Taylor **Principal**



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 22 Feb - BOT Meeting, 7pm

Tues 23 Feb - PALS Training Day at Edgar Centre
Wed 24/Thurs 25 Feb - What's The Buzz?

Mon 1 - Fri 5 March - Walk'n'Wheels Week
Fri 5 March - 'Peter and the Wolf'
Mon 22 Mar - Otago Anniversary Day
Fri 2nd, Mon 5th and Tues 6th April - Easter
Fri 16 April - Term 1 finishes

Walk n'
Wheel &
To School
Week

This is to be held Monday 1st

March - Friday 5 March.

Keep an eye out for information in both paper format, and in your emails letting you know what is happening that week!

₩SCHOLASTIC

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ISSUE 1

brochures went home with all children the first week back at school. Final date for orders to be in is **9am, TOMORROW Friday, 19 February.**

TUESDAY LUNCH ORDERS

Please note the change of close off time for ordering Tuesdays - online lunch ordering - a variety of yummy food options, through www.lunchorders.co.nz. Ordering to be done by 8.30am on a Tuesday and food delivered to school just before 12.30pm. Children are to come to the office to collect.

Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon

Our school has registered as a **school group** for the Dunedin Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon to be held on **Sunday 7th March 2021 at Memorial Park, Mosgiel.** The Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is for Kiwi kids of all sporting abilities who are aged between 6 and 15yrs. Children can enter as individuals and do all three legs of the TRYathlon (swim, bike and run) by themselves or in a team of two and do either the swim/run or bike/



run with a friend. There is a 'Splash and Dash' section for 6 year olds where they swim and run.

If you are interested in registering your child or want to find out more information go to https://tryathlon.co.nz/

When you go to <u>register your child, there is the option to 'link to your school group'.</u> Make sure you tick this box and find Grant's Braes School on the drop down menu to get reduced registration fee and help the school qualify for prizes on the day.

Grant's Braes Year 6 students who have moved to another school are welcome to register under Grant's Braes as Tahuna and the other intermediate schools don't usually have teams. The more kids we can get registering under Grant's Braes is great for us!

If you have any questions please email rebeccam@grantsbraes.school.nz.

If any children who received free passes from the school last year **DO NOT** wish to go ahead with their entry, please get in touch with Rebecca McKeever (above email address) **ASAP** so that this can be given to another child.



Do you want to...

- have fun?
- make new friends?
- learn new skills?
- earn badges?

Come and join us:



Hillside Youth Division **Hillside Penguins** (for 6-8 year olds)



Mondays (during school terms, except public holidays)

5.30pm-6.30pm **Caversham Baptist Church hall**

(corner of Surrey Street and South Road)

For further information please contact:

Youth Leader Hillside Penguins ph.027 247 8500
Divisional Manager Hillside Youth Division ph.027 747 3776

youth.stjohn.org.nz



Hillside Youth Division **Hillside Cadets**





Mondays (during school terms, except public holidays)

6.30pm-8.00pm **Caversham Baptist Church hall**

(corner of Surrey Street and South Road)

For further information please contact:
Gill Divisional Manager Hillside Youth Division ph.027 747 3776

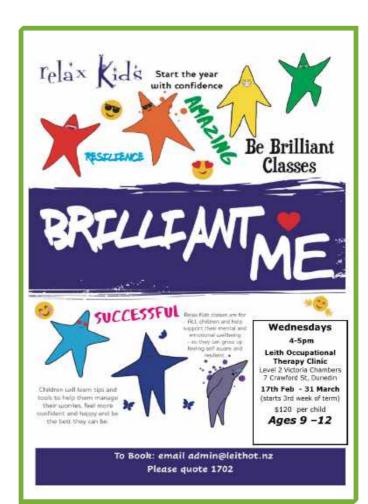
youth.stjohn.org.nz

LUNCHONLINE - Sushi Ordering

Please ensure you update the classroom name/number for your child when ordering their Sushi. Log on to www.lunchonline.co.nz and click on Members.



If any of our Year 5 or 6 children wish to participate in this, parents will be required to attend for supervision. Please contact Jen Stevenson - jennies@grantsbraes.school.nz if your child is interested in entering.



Knox Church Junior Choir

Does your child like to sing?

Who are we?

A choir of children from year 2 to year 8 who are interested in music, at Knox Church, 449 George Street, Dunedin. Knox welcomes people of all faiths as well as those of no faith.



What's it all abou

Knox Church is looking to grow our Junior Choir. The Knox Church Choir has a history of supporting young musicians to develop their talents. We welcome new members as we start the year.

What will we be doing?

Singing training, rehearsing choir music, dressing up as a chorister, learning about music, exploring the church.

Junior choristers sing in church on one Sunday morning each month, usually the third Sunday. The rehearsal for this starts at 9.15 am and the service starts at 10 am. Junior choristers are welcome to join in any other week they want to

The junior choristers work on a structured, internationally recognised education programme, Voice for Life, to earn badges and certificates

Our choristers have sung at the switching on of the Christmas tree lights in the Octagon. Many recorded for our church's worship during

lockdown.
Choristers

enjoy movie and pizza nights, storytelling at Matariki, and acting in Christmas pageant.

Who runs the programme?

Sara Brown, MA, PGCE, MusB (Hons), ATCL. Examiner for Trinity College, London. Sara is a music educator with extensive experience working with children and choirs.

Karen Knudson, MA, MusB (Hons), LTCL. Organist and director of the Knox Church Choir. Karen has a wealth of experience in choral music and has worked with many young choirs in Dunedin.

When and where?

Wednesdays from 5 pm to 6.30 pm. The Gathering Area Knox Church 449 George Street Dunedin

What to bring

A water bottle and warm, comfortable clothes your child can move about in. Afternoon tea will be provided, but if your child has particular dietary needs, please let

How much does it cost?

This music education programme is provided free of charge.

What to do next?

Fill in the relevant form

Choir Link:

https://forms.gle/4wzEfvJdB1JUSM877

Email Sara: <u>kelpiebrown@gmail.com</u> if you have any questions or want to register your child.





Each term we hold ART classes for Children 6-14yrs. The class is held for FIVE week blocks each term, Thursdays 4:00-5:30 at the Otago Pioneer Women's Building 362 Moray Place.

Your young artist will be working alongside two experienced teachers/art educators/artists Pamela Brown and Kerry Mackay. We keep our mixed age class small, max 16 children.

\$150 for 5 weeks, all art materials provided. Booking form: www.theartdept.org

TERM 1: DRAW, DRAW! 25Feb-25March

A series of drawing experiences including observational drawing, 'note taking' drawing, & drawing with scissors. We will work in an artist's journal and develop a personal drawing over two weeks. We will learn about different artists who love to draw in different ways to tell their stories.

TERM 2: SOFT SCULPTURE & Painting 13 May-10 June

We will create 'blueprint' paintings to develop a character for a soft sculpture. We will design and make our sculpture from fabric and draw with thread to add personality and detail to our soft sculpture. We will look at the work of artists who love to create art with found objects and fabric.

TERM 3: "Imagination is the Key!"- Book Illustration with small sculpture. 2Sept-30Sept.

We will tell a visual story using drawing, collage, and painting. We will learn about the art of Oliver Jeffers and other illustrator/artists.

TERM 4: 'Painted Circles' – Painting on Canvas 28 Oct-25 Nov.

Painting skills, colour, tone, shape, texture and pattern all celebrated on a circular canvas. We will learn about other artists and how they use paint.

More info and booking form www.theartdept.org



Come along and enjoy a day in our beautiful historic gardens....

A day of fun for the whole Family.For the kiddies there will be Gelato, Candy Floss, a Gnome Hunt, Colouring Competitions and a Games Garden.There will be music throughout the day, with hot food and beverages also available.

New New New Brewery will be there offering a blossoming range of fermented beverages

The Glenfalloch Garden Cafe and Restaurant will be open in the morning from 8am - 11am.

Resevations will not be taken for lunch after 11. BUT..... we will be serving a unique offering for the day!