Grant's Braes School

137 Belford Street Waverley Dunedin 9013

Ph 03 454-4717 email: office@grantsbraes.school.nz www.grantsbraes.school.nz

Newsletter No. 14

27 May 2021



Seven of our Kā Manu students went to the Chess Power Tournament held last Thursday at Dunedin North Intermediate. The children all played very well, and a special mention goes to Mark from Piwakawaka who was placed 2nd in his division. Our thanks to Adrian Seconi for his coaching of the team over recent weeks.

PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

Kia tūtura, kia kite, kia mahi katahi - To explore, discover, and learn together
Mahia te mahi o tō ake kākau - Do things from the heart
E kumanau ana - We care
E āhei ana - We Can
E mahi katahi ana - We are

Kia ora koutou

I would like to congratulate Mataī and Tawa tamariki for their thoroughly enjoyable assembly last Friday! It was wonderful to see the learning that has been taking place throughout the year so far.

The Teacher Only Day on Monday was extremely beneficial. Our whole teaching staff, including our Learning Assistants, received a wealth of knowledge around the science of reading and Structured Literacy. I would like to thank Desiree Wispinski, Sara Carr, Susan Tait and Jen Stevenson who lead the professional development.

I would also like to welcome Michelle Wong who started with us as a Learning Assistant this week.

Last week, I accompanied seven chess players to the ChessPower Regional Tournament. I was so proud of each of them for being such exemplary ambassadors for our school. They all did so well and I would like to make mention of Mark (Year 6) who placed second in his division! I would also like to thank Adrian Seconi who accompanied us and helped with supervision.

Lewis Howell and myself will be accompanying our Whānau Leaders to the annual National Young Leaders Day on Monday. Our Whānau Leaders will be inspired listening to the range of speakers and reflect and build on their own leadership.

We also have two EPRO8 teams who have qualified for the semi-finals, being held at Tahuna Intermediate next Thursday. We have had teams competing in the EPRO8 annual event for the last 5 years and students are required to work in a team to achieve technological challenges. I would like to thank Rebecca McKeever for the work she has done in preparing the students for this.

Toys and Sharing of Food

Currently we are seeing more and more toys being brought from home and played with at school. It has always been a school rule that toys are not to come to school, unless they have prior permission. Also, we are hearing that some children are sharing and swapping food at break times, specifically a product called "Fruit Oddities". Please have a talk with your child about both of these issues - the importance of eating their own food and also not bringing toys to school.

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

Board of Trustees Update

Kia ora koutou. The Board would like to advise our whānau that we have made the difficult decision to change our uniform provider.

We would firstly like to sincerely thank Jo and Rob Renton and Kathryn Cullen, past and present franchise owners, of EmbroidMe in Dunedin. Jo, Rob and Kathryn have all provided an excellent service to our school over the past nine years since the introduction of our uniform. They have also supported many of our fundraising ventures (such as School Fairs) and we have been fortunate to have them as part of our community. This change is in no way a reflection of the great service and working relationship we have with EmbroidMe, but has to do with difficulties EmbroidMe encountered with being able to consistently supply some of our uniform items, due to situations outside of their control.

Over the last 6 months we have considered various options and made the decision to change our uniform provider to NZ Uniforms – all of our uniform items will be available for purchase at NZ Uniforms from next Thursday (3 June). This obviously represents another change, in that our uniform will no longer be available for purchase from the school office. We anticipate this will have some benefits, including that the school will no longer hold large stocks of clothing, and it will help free up some of Gaylene's time (and cupboard space!). We acknowledge it won't be as easy, but hope that the location of NZ Uniforms is still reasonably convenient for our families.

NZ Uniforms is located at 324 Moray Place, and its opening hours are Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm and Saturday 9am-4pm. We are in the midst of transitioning, but hope to have some more information available to share with you soon.

Please note that second hand uniform sales can still be purchased from school by contacting Andrea Luthar on 021 08200287.

Kā mihi, Steph Woodley Chairperson Board of Trustees



The NZ Playhouse's performance of 'Rumpelstiltskin' last Friday was thoroughly enjoyed by the children. This company tours the South Island every year, and they always put on a great show aimed at primary school age children.



MUFTI DAY TOMORROW!

Tomorrow is Mufti Day raising money for Ronald McDonald House - this is the charity that our Whānau leaders have chosen to raise money for on this occasion.

Your support of this is appreciated - please send a gold coin (or more!) along to your child's class teacher tomorrow!

CONGRATULATIONS

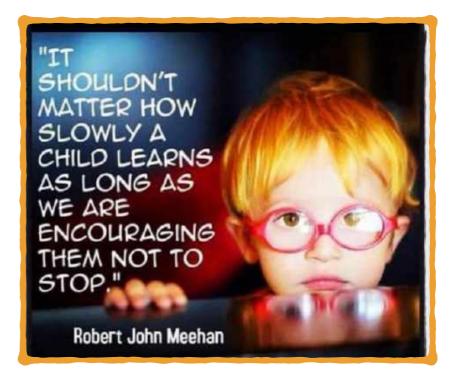


Last Sunday, Valerio competed in the Canterbury Open Judo Championships, junior boys, under 32Kg section in Christchurch and gained 3rd place. Well done Valerio!

PLAYERS OF THE DAY

Miniball
Aces - Alex (Tawa)
Rockets - Claudia (Pukeko)

<u>Hockey</u> Sharks - Mikl**ō**s (Toroa)



AMAZING AUTO-BIOGRAPHIES BY TAREWAI CHILDREN

John Hancock Scott

John, known as Jack, was born on the 30th December 1915. He was born in Wallacetown, and served 4 years in the RAF during WW2.

Early life

Jack's parents were Ellen and John Scott, they were farmers, and spent hours in their farm in Wallacetown. Jack was the second-eldest of 5 children, and he went to a school called Southland technical and he swore he was the cleverest child there. In year 10, when Jack was 15, he left school to help his parents on their farm, and soon after he joined the local freezing works, and earned some more money for himself, and his family.

Adult life

In 1939, when Jack was 24, Britain declared war on Germany. And in early 1941, Jack joined the RNZAF, not because of the better pay, bjut because he didn't like the rough collar on the army uniform, and he liked the uniform in the Air-force better. From July to November 1941 Jack trained in Levin (near wellington). And There he trained on Tigermoth and Harvard aircraft until march 1941, when one of Jacks assessments arrived, it described him as "Average with "Nil" Defaults (The Air-force weren't big on praise). And after training in March, he left for England.

To England

Jack travelled on Ex-south-African mail boat, the "Stirling Castle" to Liverpool,6 weeks by boat, and he then joined the RAF.He trained on Anson aircraft, with 62 OUT squadron at Usworth where he remained until December 1942. After training with OuThe trained on Blenheim bombers until February 1943, when he started flying Beaufighters.One day at training, they were doing "Air-Drogue fighting" where a plane would tow a fake one behind it and they had to shoot them down, jack shot down 3 and he said it was "Quite good fun".

Night-Fighters

In March 1943, Jack was posted to 488 Night fighter squadron, the pilots were mainly New Zealanders-they would fly Beaufighters, up and down the english channel at night. They would fly in the dark for 4 hours at a time. One night, on patrol, the radio people put him on an enemy plane and he shot it down, it was one of his down, with a tear in his eye he said only I of 2 got out.

Mosquitos'

Now Jack was flying Mosquitos', he said flying them on one engine was like "flying a battleship". One night he was on Operation "Bullseye".

He was to export a Danish flying boat back to england.

Well, he got blown 100 miles off course and never saw the flying boat.

To India

Jack became a test pilot. He joined a maintenance unit, and he was to test new and improved fighters for the RAF.In December 1944, he had to bail out of a spitfire MK.8, the engine stopped running and he nearly landed on top of his hut on the aerodrome. The parachute company gave him a "Golden Caterpillar brooch" as a result.

In 1945 Jack went home, and he never flew again.

Later life

When Jack came back from the war, as a result of serving New Zealand, the government gave him a farm at Gropers bush. He had multiple farms over the years and in 1961, he adopted Patricia, who became his daughter, but in the mid-60's Jack divorced and in 1968 he married again to a lady named Lena. Jack was an excellent bridge player and ruled the bar in tow with an iron fist. In 1984 Jack moved to a small house in Invercargill and lived there to the day he died in 2010. Jack will be remembered as a passionate person who served his country with pride, and his legacy will live on.

Written by Callan Power.

Dame Norma Restieaux

Norma Restieaux was a cardiologist. She was one of three children. Norma was born in Dunedin in 1934. She was damed at the age of 60.

Early life

As a kid, Norma spent lots of time camping in Wanaka with her cousins. She grew up in Dunedin with her sister, brother and parents, Frank and Jean. Norma went to school during World War 2. At school she had to have practices in case of an air raid. As a child, her interests were music, singing, tramping and piano. Norma was in hospital at age 11 with kidney problems. Norma went to Macandrew Intermediate which was one of the first intermediates introduced. Before that, it was 8 years of primary school.

Adult life

Norma went to Otago University and studied to be a doctor. There were not many women in her class, there were 10 out of 120 women. Studying to be a doctor took 6 years of training. Norma did not flat at University as it was too expensive.

Norma did an extra degree called B.Med.Sc - it was on eels and dogfish looking at how nerves function. So she was I year behind the rest of the class.

Norma still had to complete the training to be a cardiologist which took her overseas to London. It took 3 weeks by boat. She spent 3 years in London, then moved to Boston for 3 years.

In her spare time, Norma travelled to Paris, Italy, Canada and Mexico. Norma wrote letters to her siblings and parents to stay in contact.

She worked in Dunedin Hospital with kids and adults with heart problems and one part of her job was teaching students. Both of Norma's parents died from strokes . Norma inherited her parents' holiday home, A few years later she brought her own house.

Later life

Norma was damed at the age of 60 for her service to the medical field. When the Queen came to Dunedin, Norma was invited to lunch because she was a Dame. Norma retired at 72. Even after Norma had retired, she still continued to learn by going to U3A [University of the 3rd age.] talks on general topics.

A biography by Frankie Seconi

ROTARY PARK KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN VISITED KOHANGA LAST FRIDAY











DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 28 May - Sausage Sizzle & Mufti Day for Ronald McDonald House Mon 7 June - Queens Birthday holiday Mon 14 June - Teacher Only Day (Report Writing)

Mon 21 - Fri 25 June - Book Fair Fri 2 July - Pizza Day and Muffi Day for Dunedin Hospice

Fri 9 July - Last day of school term
Mon 26 July - First day of Term 3
Mon 13- Fri 17 Sept - Polyfest Week
Mon 29 Nov - Teacher Only Day
Tues 14 Dec - Last day of school year
Wed 15 Dec - Teacher Only Day

SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION School Docs Access

Visit the website -

http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/ 1893.htm

Enter the username (grantsbraes) and password (gbparents).

CAN YOU HELP?

One of our Kā Manu students is teaching children how to make soft toys in Wa Tuhura time and he would be grateful for some Bargain Box wool insulation if any families had some to spare. Please just drop into the office and this will be passed on. Thanks

DO YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR CELLPHONE NUMBER?

It is most important that we have your most up to date details on our system in case of an emergency for your child.



If you have <u>changed your home</u> <u>address, or cellphone number, please email</u> the office as soon as possible to let Gaylene know.

Or - if you have changed your <u>Doctor</u>, or wish to change the people we have listed as <u>Emergency Contacts</u>, please also email the office to provide these new details.



₩SCHOLASTIC

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ISSUE 3

Final date for orders to be in is **9am**, **TOMORROW Friday**, **28 May**.

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 on school days to meet with you to come and purchase 2nd hand items.



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