Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 12

13 May 2021

WELCOME TO Lily WHO JOINED KĀKĀPŌ THIS WEEK





Over the past two weeks, our four Kā Manu classes have visited Olveston as part of their inquiry unit on how technology looked back in the 1900's and the changes that have happened over the years. The children also got the opportunity to make their own butter from scratch, and they then used this to spread on a piece of bread, covered it with sprinkles and enjoyed eating it as fairy bread.

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

Last Friday, I had the pleasure of accompanying our Whānau Captains to the <u>World Vision Youth</u> <u>Conference</u>. This was the first time we have attended this and it was very thought provoking and informative. The students looked at the inequities within our world and what could be done to reduce this. The Whānau Captains will reflect and look at an action that our school can be involved in.

A new <u>bell system</u> has been put in to replace the aged and temperamental system. Traditional bell sounds can be used, but it also gives us the ability to play music when it is time for the students to return to class. I have seen this being used in local schools which has resulted in students, especially students with sensory needs, returning to class calm.

As we are entering the winter months, 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 is made by a number of representatives from the Otago Primary Principals' Association after consultation with police and other agencies. This is made in the best interests of safety for all. A number of our staff travel to our school from all areas of town, including many hill suburbs, therefore making driving on the roads very dangerous. In these instances, we will endeavour to 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. 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 when they are unwell. Children do not concentrate or learn well when they are sick, and so resting 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 <u>vomiting or diarrhea bug</u>, they are to be away from school for at least a <u>further 48 hours from the last event</u>.

A huge <u>thank you</u> needs to be expressed to the <u>incredible team of parents</u>, <u>university students</u> and <u>wider whānau</u> who tirelessly filled the cheese roll orders last Friday night. Thank you to the <u>PTA</u>, especially <u>Narelle Jakeway</u> who expertly organised and manned this very successful fundraiser. Also, thank you to the children and families who supported the Mother's Day Raffle - the PTA also arranged 65 prizes that were won by children to give to their very deserving Mums! I would like to remind you all that the next PTA meeting is next Tuesday (18/05/21), 7 pm in the school staffroom. It would be wonderful to see you there to support this incredible team. Hei kona mai i roto i kā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks. GARETH TAYLOR

REMINDER - Teacher Only Days coming up!

- Monday 24 May Professional learning and development (around Structured Literacy - linked to the Strategic Plan)
- Monday 14 June report writing



Over 16,000 cheese rolls were made last Friday night by our PTA, university students, parents and wider whānau as a fundraiser for our school! This was an awesome effort and our school appreciates all the hard work put in. There were a few loaves of bread left over and these were donated to the Community Pantry in South Dunedin for families in need to pick up.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) LAST DAY TO REGISTER - TOMORROW

(FRIDAY 14 MAY)

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.

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. It is a good tool for children performing at the top of their field to get a picture of how they compare nationally.

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 from the school office).

The entry fee per student is as follows

- □ Science (23 August 2021) \$18.40c
- English (16 August 2021) \$18.40c
- Mathematics (30 August 2021) \$18.40c

Please pay via KIndo before the 14th May (closing date for enrolling)

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.

SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION School Docs Access

Visit the website http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/ 1893.htm Enter the username (grantsbraes) and password (gbparents).

SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ISSUE 3 brochures went home with all children last week . Final date for orders to be in is 9am, Friday, 28 May.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 17 May - Kohanga to Art Gallery Mon 24 May - Teacher Only Day (Structured Literacy) Fri 28 May - Sausage Sizzle & Mufti Day for Ronald McDonald House Mon 14 June - Teacher Only Day (Report Writing) Mon 21 - Fri 25 June - Book Fair Fri 2 July - Pizza Day and Mufti Day for Dunedin Hospice Fri 9 July - Last day of school term Mon 26 July - First day of Term 3 Mon 29 Nov - Teacher Only Day Tues 14 Dec - Last day of school year Wed 15 Dec - Teacher Only Day



DYSCALCULIA

ŌTEPOTI KI TE RAKI

A Keynote by Sarah Sharpe

An informative session for whānau on neurodiversity and how dyscalculia might affect your child's math capabilities

MAY 20, 2021 | 6:00 - 7:00PM GEORGE STREET NORMAL SCHOOL

RSVP via the link: bit.ly/2PnbCkc

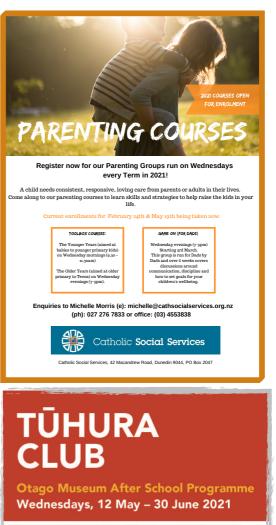
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OTAGO MUSEUM