



Welcome to  
**William**  
who joined Room Kea this week.



Rātā & Kōwhai children have been introduced to Play Based Learning. The children are given time and freedom to explore a wide range of 'loose-parts' to engage in authentic play. It is wonderful to see the children develop skills in turn taking, team work, problem solving, communication, creatively and challenge!



# PRINCIPAL'S 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 kumanu ana - We care**

**E ako ana - We learn**

**E āhei ana - We Can**

**E mahi kātahi ana - We are**

## **Kia ora koutou**

I hope you all had a wonderful Waitangi weekend and enjoyed time with your whānau. It is hard not to comment about the changeable weather we are having at this time! Let's hope for that more settled, warm weather is coming our way!

## **Mask Wearing**

Once again I would like to thank the Year 4-6 students for being so responsible for bringing and wearing their masks at school. Just a reminder the masks that students wear can be either surgical grade or reusable cloth masks. Sandra, one of our amazing Learning Assistants, is making a batch of child-size masks that will be for sale at the Office for \$5 with the proceeds going to the school.

## **What's the Buzz? - Whānau/Teacher discussion - Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 February 2022**

As we are at RED Level Setting we are unable to hold these in person, instead, we will be undertaking these via ZOOM. We would like you all to book a time to meet with your child's teacher for the What's the Buzz? Interviews. This meeting gives you the opportunity to share vital information about your child with their teacher and a 'blue' form was sent home for you to complete. Please keep this form with you and have it to talk about at your ZOOM Meeting. If you have returned these to school, they will be sent home again. Zoom Links will be shared with you via email from your child's teacher and a full list will be emailed from the office on Tuesday next week. Please also ensure that the label of your ZOOM account is your first and last name so that the teachers do not have any difficulty identifying you when it is time for your interview.

## **School Communication**

By now you will have received weekly emails from your child's teacher. From the office, you will be getting emailed Monday notices as well as weekly PDFs of the school newsletters. If you have not received these, then please contact our office so that we can ensure we have the correct contact details.

## **Year 6 Duties**

The Year 6 students have already proven their responsible nature by being punctual and reliable when doing their special Year 6 Duties. The First Aid Buddies (FABs) have been trained up by Mrs Barrows and are out at lunchtimes supporting other students where needed. The Physical Activities Leaders (PALs) will be travelling to the Edgar Centre next Wednesday to undertake their training with Mrs Stevenson. They will then work on a delivery plan of sports and activities that they will be undertaking at lunchtimes.

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

**GARETH TAYLOR**

## SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION

### School Docs Access

Visit the website - <http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>

Enter the username (grantsbraes) and p/wd (gbparents).

In term one, the focus is on the **Health and Safety**

**Management and Emergency, Disaster, and Crisis Management** sections.

Policies for review are:

- [Visitors](#) - [School Closure](#) - [Earthquakes](#) - [COVID-19 Information and Procedures](#)



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed 16th Feb - "Whats The Buzz" meetings  
3.15pm to 7.30pm  
Wed 16th Feb - PALS Training  
Thurs 17th Feb - "Whats The Buzz" meetings  
3.15pm to 7.30pm  
Mon 21st Feb - PTA, AGM 7pm in the  
Staffroom  
Tues 22nd Feb - BOT Meeting 7pm  
Wed 9th Mar - Schools Triathlon, Pending  
**Mon 21st Mar - Otago Anniversary Day  
Observed (School Closed)**  
Mon 28th Mar - Firewise visit to Kohunga  
Tues 29th Mar - Firewise visit to Rātā &  
Kowhai  
Thurs 31st Mar - Firewise visit to Matai &  
Tawa  
Mon 11th April - Fire Truck visit  
Thurs 14th April : Last day of Term 1

### **2022 TERM DATES**

- Term 2 - Mon 2nd May to Fri 8th July  
Term 3 - Mon 25th July to Fri 30th Sept  
Term 4 - Mon 17th Oct to 15th Dec

## SCHOOL PAYMENTS VIA KINDO

Please make school payments through your myKindo account. You can pay via POLI or bank transfer (no fees) or with Visa, mastercard, American Express, UnionPay (fees apply). Add regular top-ups if you'd like, then allocate to payments when you're ready, or just pay as you go. Go to [www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz) or via the link on our school web site. for more information visit [support.mykindo.co.nz](http://support.mykindo.co.nz)

A "how to" demonstration for parents. **2.5 minutes.** Available on YouTube...  
<https://youtu.be/Ozq8ibaMrso>

## **\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

### School Drop Offs and Pick Ups

It is important that children are at school and settled in **before 9am each day**. Also - especially for our younger children, **please be at school by 3.00pm to collect them**. Our teachers often have to be away to meetings shortly after the bell rings, and are unable to supervise children in their classes, so it is important that parents/caregivers are at school on time for pick-up.

### School Absences

If your child is away from school due to being unwell, for an appointment, or you are out of town, **please always ring and leave a message** on the school phone, or send an **email to your class teacher with the [office@grantsbraes.school.nz](mailto:office@grantsbraes.school.nz) email included** also (in case the class teacher is sick, on a course etc and not at school).

### Change of Contact Details

At any time throughout the year, **if addresses or phone numbers change for family members or your emergency contact people**, please let us know ASAP so that we always have the most up to date information available. This also applies in regards to the diagnosis of new **medical conditions** too.



## **"WHAT'S THE BUZZ"**

**Interviews are being held next  
Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th February**

Interviews will be of **10 minutes duration** and will be conducted **via ZOOM only**. Your child's class teacher will send you the link to use once a booking has been made (or early next week prior to interviews)

Interviews are to be booked using the School Interviews website [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) - School Code : **f4pr9**.

Bookings open on Tuesday 8th February at 9am and will **close on Monday 14th February at 3.00pm**.

If you are unable to book on the website, please contact your child's class teacher for assistance in booking the times you require.

Look out for the 'What's the Buzz' sheets (**BLUE**) coming home this week for you to complete and discuss at your child's interview.



## SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2022

The School Contribution amount for 2022 will continue @ **\$200 per annum (1<sup>st</sup> child), \$190 per annum (2<sup>nd</sup> child) and \$180 per annum for additional children.** This will be added to your child's school account in the next few days and you will have an invoice/statement sent home with your eldest child. Payment of this contribution is really appreciated by our Board as this assists in providing all the wonderful EOTC activities, museum and art gallery visits, bus trips, visiting performers and swimming that your children participate in. Without these funds, we would be unable to provide the majority of these experiences for your children.

Payment of this School Contribution does not need to be made in full at one time as we totally understand the many outlays parents have. You are most welcome to pay like many other parents do via **automatic payments** eg each week/fortnight/month etc into our school bank account -  
(03 0905 0914747 00 with references being your child's name and SC)

Or, you may also wish to pay using the **KINDO** system and make regular payments this way. Alternatively, if it suits you to pop into the **office and pay with cash or via EFTPOS**, you are also very welcome to do so, and a full receipt will then be emailed to you.

Once the School Contribution has been paid in full, a full receipt will be issued and you are able to then **claim 33% of this back** in your income tax return (this equates to \$66 for a \$200 payment). Payment of this year's School Contribution before 31 March will enable you to claim in this year's Income Tax Return.

Please give your consideration to payment of this School Contribution and how best your family can financially accommodate this. Any questions at all regarding this, please contact Gareth Taylor in person or via email ([principal@grantsbraes.school.nz](mailto:principal@grantsbraes.school.nz)) or alternatively, email Gaylene – [accounts@grantsbraes.school.nz](mailto:accounts@grantsbraes.school.nz).

### SECONDHAND UNIFORM

If you are interested in viewing or purchasing any of the secondhand uniform currently available, please contact the Shop Supervisor, Sally Nicholls to make a suitable appointment time. Her cellphone number is 027 7376649. Payment for any uniform items purchased is to be made at the office by EFTPOS or cash.

### GREEN 'INFORMATION/ PERMISSIONS' FORM

Please ensure you return this form ASAP so that we can have the most up to date information on our system (especially in case of emergency). This form needs to be returned for EVERY child as it also includes permissions for this new school year.

(Please note - our new children didn't receive this 'green form' as all relevant information was included in your enrolment papers)



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HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR SCHOOL APP YET?

**STAY IN THE LOOP WITH SKOOL LOOP**

Our school app ensures excellent and reliable communication between our school and parents at all times!

NEVER MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT, INFORMATION AGAIN - DOWNLOAD THE SKOOL LOOP APP TODAY

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

SKOOL LOOP

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### SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ISSUE 1

Brochures have gone home with all the children. Final date for orders to be in is **9am Friday, 25th Feb.**



### COTTON FACE MASKS

Child size triple layer face masks available in the office.

Fits Ages 7 - 12 yrs  
\$5 each (cash only)