Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No.14

19th May 2022



WELCOME TO Jack (Tūī), Senara (Kōwhai) and Aspen (Kea) who all started at our school this week!





Rātā and Kōwhai's Trip to the Orokonui Ecosanctuary

We had a fabulous trip yesterday to Orokonui Eco-Sanctuary! Tahu gave us a very special welcome and helped us to learn more about the purpose of the Eco-Sanctuary.

Taylor told us that some animals like spiders have gained a bad reputation because of the stories people have told about them. He let us hold giant stick insects and decide

if they were 'creepy' or not. Then we were off to explore the forest! We saw tuis, bellbirds, fantails and a kaka feeding. We also saw the Otago skinks, eels and some of us

were lucky enough to see a takahe! Storytelling was woven into the day and one highlight was retelling a

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 āhei ana - We Can

E ako ana - We learn E mahi kātahi ana - We are

Kia ora koutou

I hope you are all doing well and having a fantastic week! I have the privilege of accompanying Te Ngahere on their trips to the Orokonui Eco-sanctuary, yesterday with Rātā and Kōwhai. Unfortunately, Tawa and Mataī scheduled trip today had to be postponed and will be re-organised soon. What a fantastic learning opportunity for these tamariki at this incredible place. I would like to thank the wonderful Te Ngahere teachers for their organisation for this trip as well as the whānau who helped with supervision.

Earlier this week our school received six Epro8 kits to use to run a qualifying event at our school prior to the national competition later this term. This was a great couple of days for the students involved as they used an array of skills to complete engineering tasks and work as a team. I know Mrs McKeever was very proud of how all of these students worked together. I would like to thank Mrs McKeever for her organisation and support to run this event, and also thank you to our Year 6 ePRO8 experts, Theo, Johnny, Alex and Austin for all of their support.

Next Thursday the school will be treated to a performance by the Playhouse Theatre Group and they will be performing their 'Emperor's New Clothes' show.

COVID-19 Update

As I write this, we currently have three people isolating due to close contact and twenty-one people isolating due to testing positive for COVID. I would like state that we are expecting to have 17 people return from isolation on Monday 25 May. To date, as of 19/05/22, we have had 36% of students who have tested positive from the start of the outbreak. I will continue to notify whānau of cases within the school by notifying the class. If the person has been isolating as a result of being a close contact and then contracts COVID, or has been away from school for more than 48 hours, I won't be reporting this to whānau.

If your child is isolating due to being a close contact, their situation changes and they test positive for COVID please contact the office to let us know as the Ministry of Education require this information.

Have a lovely remainder of the week and weekend.

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

SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION School Docs Access

Visit the website - <u>http://</u> <u>grantsbraes</u>.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm Enter the username (grantsbraes) and p/wd (gbparents). In term two, there are no specific policies for whānau to review.

SCHOLASTIC

ISSUE 3

All orders are to be in at the office Tomorrow, Friday 20 May by 9am. NO LATE ORDERS will be accepted. Thank you.

Photo's From Rātā and Kōwhai's class trip to The Orokonui Ecosantuary continued ...















DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 2

Thurs 26th May - Playhouse Theatre Visit 11.30am Friday 27th May - Own Clothes Day and sausage sizzle Tues 31 May - NYLD Whānau Leaders **Mon 6th June - Queens Birthday Weekend Public Holiday** Thurs 23 June - Otago Problem Solving Challenge, 1.30pm - EPRO8 @ Polytech **Fri 24th June - Matariki Observed, Public Holiday** Fri 1 July - Reports home - Own Clothes Day and Sausage Sizzle **Fri 8th July - Last day of Term 2**

TERM 3 Mon 25th July - 1st day of Term 3 Tues 26th July - Ōtākou Marae School visit y4-6 Thurs 28th July - Ōtākou Marae School visit y0-3

2022 TERM DATES Term 3 - Mon 25th July to Fri 30th Sept Term 4 - Mon 17th Oct to 15th Dec





Many children in foster care have never had a new pair of their own pyjamas. Your donation of new winter PJ's for children aged 0-17 not only ensures they are warm this winter, but also shows them that their community cares about them. Please donate today.



A box will be in our reception area until Friday 27th May for your donation of pyjamas! These will be very much appreciated by Foster Hope NZ.

Sizes Needed:

Both Female and Male

Newborn: 3-6 months - 6-9 months

Children's sizes: 1-2 6 7-8-12-14-16

Adult sizes: M - L - XL

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.

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 <u>www.eaa.unsw.edu.au</u> (past tests can be purchased here if you would like practice ones or a limited amount are available just ask at the school office).

The entry fee per student is as follows

- □ Science (22 Aug 26 Aug 2022) \$18.40c
- □ English (15 Aug 19 Aug 2022) \$18.40c
- □ Mathematics (29 Aug 2 Sept 20221) \$18.40c

Please pay via KIndo before the 3rd June (closing date for enrolling.)



SAUSAGES AND ICE BLOCKS

These events have been organised by our wonderful PTA.

Orders for sausages (incl Halal) and ice blocks for your children will only be taken through **KINDO** and this is now **open**. Orders will **close on Wednesday 25 May at 9.00am**, and there will definitely be **NO LATE ORDERS** as the PTA need to get ordering of the sausages, bread and ice blocks organised.

KINDO - this is our school online shop which links directly to your child's record. This system was investigated fully by our Board of Trustees in regards to financial security prior to our school's acceptance, and you can feel assured that this is very secure.

New users : Copy and paste this link into your browser, to register. -

https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/handshake.shtml?shop=Grant%27s%20Braes%20School

All you need is the email address the school has on file for you. We'll send you an email with a password link to choose your password, and your registration is complete. You must be logged in also on this email account.

Existing users : Copy and paste this link into your browser-

https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/q2.shtml?session=false&shop=Grant%27s%20Braes%20School

Need assistance? Call the Kindo Help Desk on Freephone 0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636).

A FEW MORE SAUSAGE SIZZLE HELPERS STILL NEEDED Friday 27th May

Can you help Sumanth prepare, cook and serve the sausages? Can you help Sumanth hand out the ice blocks?

Sausage Sizzles can't happen without parent/adult support - if you can spare some time between 11.15am - 1.00pm on Friday 27th to help, Please phone/txt Sumanth on 021 481716.

THANK YOU !

Epro8

On Monday and Tuesday a group of keen engineers spent 2 days solving engineering problems and competing in an internal Epro8 competition at school. They used the special Epro8 kits and worked in teams to build challenges such as bridges, scarecrows and caveman cars! Two of our teams will be competiting in the regional competition in June.











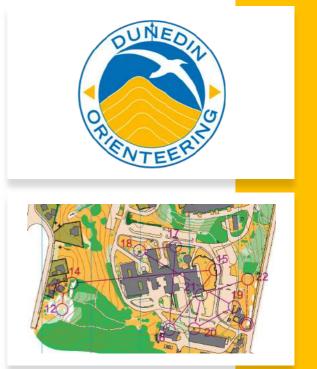


Dunedin Orienteering School Series 2022

- Introductory warm up events Sunday 8th May, 2022
 - Introductory Session for anyone wanting to give orienteering a go for the first time – 9am Bishops Court Car park
 - OY1 Sprint, Balmacewen/Columba College 10am Bishops Court car park.
- Mountain Bike Rogaine Alexandra Sunday 15th May
 - Check the Dunedin Orienteering website for details

School Series – three events:

- Chingford Park 10am Sunday 22nd May
- Forrester Park 10am Sunday 29th May
- Ocean Grove 10am Sunday 12th June
- Otago School Champs and OY1 Classic Events Sunday 19th June:
 - Two events on two new maps:
 - Cedar Creek (middle) -
 - John McGlashan College (sprint)



Check the website for location details and further information: <u>www.dunedinorienteering.org</u>



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.





Welcome back Preschool Bears, we have missed you!

Great to see them getting creative and making bears so they can join in with the 'Ten in the Bed' song. The Preschool Bears were especially excited by their visit from Mr Taylor who gave them their own bear to take home.

bear to take home. If you have a 4 1/2 year old who would like to join in with the Preschool Bears on Thursday afternoons, please email the office or Jen Stevenson (Kea teacher) jennies@grantsbraes.school.nz

