Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No.13

12th May 2022

Pōtiki Poi Workshop

Year 6 Kapa Haka line leaders attended a Pōtiki Poi workshop to strengthen their understanding of the whakapapa, the different parts of a poi and learn a poi routine.









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

What a lovely week of settled weather we have had, except for the much needed rain earlier in the week. The students have really enjoyed being outside and I hope this weather continues!

COVID-19 Update

As I write this, we currently have seventeen people isolated due to being a close contact and twenty-five people isolated due to testing positive for COVID. I will continue to notify whānau of cases within the school by notifying the class, however, I will only be informing the community through this weekly update. However, 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.

Case numbers in the South are still high and our school is still having a moderate number of positive cases and close contacts being reported to our school. Dr Michael Butchard, the Medical Officer of Health for the Southern District Health Board has asked the Ministry of Education local branch, to share this statement with you to strongly encourage the wearing of masks.

"When you leave your home, wearing a well-fitting mask when indoors is still one of the very best ways to protect yourself, your whānau, and those around you from Covid-19. The Southern DHB region currently has one of the highest rates of Covid-19 in New Zealand, higher than all of the North Island DHBs and the larger South Island DHBs, so please still keep up your mask-wearing." Dr Michael Butchard, Medical Officer of Health.

We have found that vomiting has been a prevalent symptom of COVID amongst our students so please test your child if this is the case. Please note if your child has a vomiting or diarrhea bug, they are to be away from school for at least a further 48 hours from the last event.

Adverse Weather Conditions

In last week's newsletter, I shared with you the procedure if we experience adverse weather conditions which may result in the school opening later or not at all. As stated you will be contacted via text and email if this occurs and this will also be broadcast on local radio stations including The Hits, which I did not list last week.

Smartwatches

A number of students are wearing Smartwatches at school, some of whom are receiving either calls or messages from parents/caregivers during the school day. It is important that if these watches are being worn at school, then they are to be set to 'School Mode' and not used as a form of communication throughout the school day. Any important information required to be shared with students should either be through the office or their teacher, via phone or email.

Whānau Hui

Invites to our first Whānau hui have been sent to our Māori whānau and the hui is being held Monday 16 May.

Have a lovely remainder of the week and weekend.

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



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 16th May - Whanau Hui Wed 18th May - Rātā/Kōwhai trip to Orokonui Thurs 19th May - Mataī/Tawa trip to Orokonui -Problem Solving Challenge, 1.30pm Thurs 26th May - Playhouse Theatre Visit 11.30am Friday 27th May - Own Clothes Day and sausage sizzle Tues 31 May - NYLD Whanau 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 Tues 26th July - Ōtākou Marae School visit v4-6 Thurs 28th July - Ōtākou Marae School visit

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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 27 May for your donation of pyjamas! These will be very much appreciated by Foster Hope NZ.

MSCHOLASTIC

<u>ISSUE 3</u> flyers are going home with all the children today. All orders are to be in at the office by 9am on Friday 20 May.

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 one, the focus is on the Health and

Safety Management and Emergency, Disaster, and Crisis Management sections. Policies for review are:

- <u>Visitors</u> - <u>School Closure</u> - <u>Earthquakes</u> -<u>COVID-19 Information and Procedures</u>

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP TEACH AND SUPERVISE A LUNCHTIME CHESS GROUP HERE AT SCHOOL?

We have a group of children who love playing chess and we would appreciate a parent/caregiver who could come in to help teach and supervise this group 1 x lunchtime per week.

Please contact Rebecca McKeever - rebeccam@grantsbraes.school.nz if you can help.



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.)



WINTER SPORTS FEES

A reminder that all winter sports fees are required to be paid by **tomorrow Friday 13 May** please. Invoices were sent home with the children earlier this week. Payments can be made via cash or EFTPOS at the office, via internet banking or through KINDO.

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.



SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND 'OWN CLOTHES DAY' **FRIDAY 27 MAY**



ORDERING NOW OPEN FOR 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 <u>open</u>. 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).

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

THANK YOU FROM PTA

Thank you to all the children and families who supported this year's Mother's Day Raffle, drawn last Friday.

There were 43 prizes given out to children to gift to their Mums on Sunday.

The total of \$656.10 was raised by the PTA and they are very appreciative of your support.



SAUSAGE SIZZLE HELPERS 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 Sumanth, please contact him asap on 021 481716.

Thank You!