Grant's Braes School



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Newsletter No. 6

7 March 2024

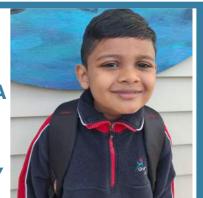


WELCOME TO VIOLET AND CHLOE

WHO BOTH STARTED IN THE KÖHAKA
NEST THIS WEEK, and

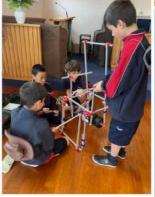
ESTHEN

WHO STARTED IN RĀTĀ ON TUESDAY

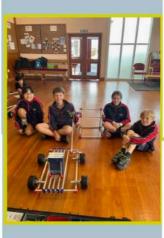
















On Tuesday and Wednesday this week a group of students spent time doing engineering problem solving challenges using the EPRO-8 equipment. They used axles, rods, wheels and pulleys to create structures and machines that met certain criteria. Two of the teams will represent Grant's Braes at the regional competition next month at DNI.

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 well and having a great week thus far! It certainly has been a mixed bag of weather, which has been a timely reminder that we are now into autumn.

Road Safety

There have recently been a number of instances where children have walked straight across Belford Street, or parents/caregivers have walked their children straight across Belford Street even though they were only 10 metres away from the crossing being run by our road patrol. It is important to use the road crossings (Belford Street and Larnach Road) when these are in operation, as these not only keep everyone safe, it also instills the importance of correct road safety in your children. Can you all please reinforce with your tamariki the importance of using these road crossings.

EPRO8

Earlier this week our school received six ePRO8 kits to use to run a qualifying event prior to the regional competition being held 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 in running this event, and also thank you to our EPRO8 expupils Theo and Johnny, for their expert support.

Second Hand Uniforms

I would like to publicly thank Sally Nicholls and Amy Begg for all their hard work organising the second-hand uniform, as well as making themselves available to parents to purchase uniform items. Thank you so much, this is really appreciated by the school and whānau.

NZEI Paid Union Meetings - 19/20 March 2024

Paid Union Meetings have been scheduled 19 and 20 March for all NZEI union members. As there are multiple sessions, we have managed to create a schedule which will mean the school will continue to operate on each day, as per usual.

Adverse Weather Conditions

As we are heading into the colder months, I would like to remind whānau that in instances of extreme weather situations we will always contact you as soon as possible via text message and email if our school is going to have a late start, or be closed for the day. Please also listen to 97.4 More FM, or check out their facebook page if you are unsure if Grant's Braes School has been affected.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE cont'd

During the winter months when there are often bad frosts or snow, the decision to have a late start or be closed is not made lightly and a number of representatives from the Otago Primary Principals' Association, after consultation with police and other agencies, make this decision for all primary schools in our area. Sometimes conditions may not seem too bad around our school; however, staff and a number of families do travel from all over town to get to school, and therefore their safety is taken into consideration. Please be assured we will always notify you as soon as possible in the mornings if there are changes to school start times.

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



On Friday 8th March we will be supporting the Ōtepoti-Dunedin Whānau Refuge. This group advocates for women, whānau, tamariki (children) and rangatahi (youth) supporting a pathway to safety, regardless of ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or socio-economic circumstances. Their aim is to eliminate family violence in our community by providing support, advocacy, education, and awareness.

To help support this fantastic group please bring along a small item that can be used by the whānau refuge to support Dunedin's community. They are always in need of toiletries for their women and children (toothpaste, toothbrushes, body wash, roll-on deodorant, shampoo, conditioner etc.) but anything you can supply will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata!

What is the most important thing in the world? It is people, it is people, it is people!

Belford House Colour - Green

OTEPOTI-DUNEDIN

Larnach House Colour - Blue

Dunrobin House Colour - Red

Mathieson House Colour - Orange



Gareth enjoyed a lovely visit from six Grant's Braes Kindergarten children yesterday afternoon as they brought up a lovely thank you card to our school. This was in acknowledgement of the use of our scooter track and BBQ for their Kindy's 'Wheel-a-thon' last Friday evening.



A number of our children participated in last Sunday's Weetbix Tryathlon held out at Mosgiel, some in teams, some individually. They all did super well and were very pleased to receive their medals. Thanks to Olivia Hills for co-ordinating our group on the day. Found following the event, close to where our group met, was a S10 Back Road polar fleece zip-up jacket. If this is yours, please claim from the school office.

PTA PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 2023

Kia ora e te whānau

It is my absolute pleasure to present the President's Report for the 2023 year. Despite not being able to hold our bi-annual school fair, 2023 was a successful fundraising year.

Our traditional fundraisers such as ice blocks and sausage sizzle or pizza lunch days are always loved by the tamariki and resulted in donations totalling over \$1800 spread across the following charities, chosen by the whānau leaders of the school;

- Auckland City Mission
- Youthline
- Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust
- Assistance Dogs NZ
- I am Hope Foundation.

Other successful fundraisers for 2023 included Kai Pies in winter raising over \$3000 for our kura, Mothers and Fathers Day Raffles, Juicies and the Fun Run. Our Entertainment Book sales trickle in over the year and still make a difference to our fundraising total.

Almost \$24,000 was donated to the school to allow the purchase of:

- K\(\bar{o}\)haka syndicate wind screens
- Re-lining of the skateboard/scooter bowl
- Classroom Ipads
- Furniture for new classrooms
- Each class receives \$200 annually from the PTA to purchase games/resources.

As you can see, all of this is benefiting our tamariki and their experiences at school.

The highlight for me for 2023 was the amount raised for and donated to the Auckland City Mission. The total for this was just under \$800 and to me this shows how caring and supportive our school community is and can be when others are in need.

My thanks to all of those who have supported me in my role and the PTA as a whole, but special mention goes to those below.

Firstly, to the small executive committee, for your dedication and commitment to our PTA. No decisions can be made without four executive members present at a meeting or passing a motion in email so thank you for your prompt replies and support of our initiatives. As I've said all year, we may be a small group, but oh so mighty, and you've all been a pleasure to work with this year.

Secondly, to Gaylene and Niki. Our PTA would not run without the support of these two fantastic wahine. The work they put in behind the scenes for our fundraisers is immense and I can't thank you both enough in words for this!

Thank you to our wonderful Mr Steve Harris, for all the help during the year. This includes having tables and BBQ ready for sausage sizzles and helping move all the PTAs 'belongings' numerous times due to the renovations. We owe you more than a cream bun, thank you again.

To Gareth Taylor and Jen Stevenson, our Principal and Teacher Representatives. Their support, encouragement, communication and involvement is always appreciated and I thank you both.

Thank you to our teachers. You are all so understanding of our desire and commitment to raise funds to benefit our tamariki and school. We as a whole PTA, appreciate and thank you for your support when our initiatives require your time and effort.

In closing I would like to thank our parents, caregivers, whānau and wider school community for their support of our school, it doesn't go unnoticed.

2024 will be another exciting year with the completion of the renovations, giving us a new hall which I am hoping will see discos and other fun engagement events return!

Ngā mihi

Olivia Hills 2023 PTA President



DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 1

Fri 8 March - Pizza/Own Clothes Day
Tues 12 March - WalknWheel Day
Fri 15 March - Lit Quiz, DNI, 11-2.30pm
Mon 18 March - PTA Meeting, 7.00pm
Tues 19 March - BOT Meeting, 7.00pm
Mon 25 March - Otago Anniversary Day
Fri 29 March-Tues 2 April - Easter
PLEASE NOTE - Tues 2nd is a holiday also
Fri 5 April - Hangi
Wed 10 April - EPRO8, DNI, 10-2.30pm
Fri 12 April - Saus Sizzle/Own Clothes Day
- last day of Term 1

TERM 2 2024

Mon 29 April- First day of Term 2 Fri 31 May - Teacher Only Day Mon 3 June - King's Birthday

Last day of school year 2024 - Wed 18 December

SUMMER SPORTS PLAYERS OF THE DAY

Touch

Kowhai - Harper (Mānuka) Kakariki - Victoria (Kororā)

₩ SCHOLASTIC

ISSUE 2 catalogues went home with the children earlier this week. The closing date for orders to be in is **9am**, **Friday**, **22 March 2024**.

SCHOOL POLICY INFORMATION School Docs Access

Visit the website - http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.html
Enter the username (grantsbraes) and p/wd (gbparents).



MOVE IT MARCH!

Info, along with challenge cards went home with all children earlier this week.

A reminder that our school's "Walk'n'Wheel"
Day is next Tuesday 12th March. Please read the information, and have your child meet teachers at the designated points at 8.30am to walk and wheel together.

SECONDHAND UNIFORM

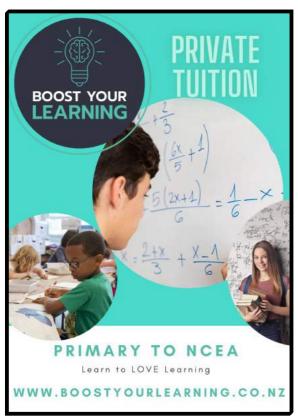
Over recent weeks, our Second Hand Uniform Shop ladies have processed a lot of uniform items that came in during, and after the holiday period so there is great stock available at the moment.

If you have a New Entrant or younger child, they have a good supply of Size 4 skorts, along with polo shirts, polar fleeces and sports tops in at the moment.

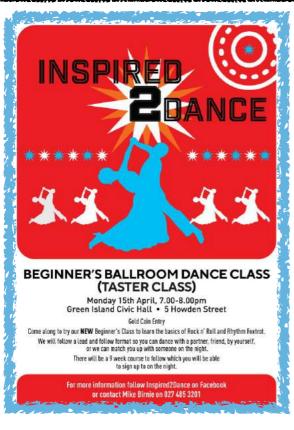
There are also a number of items, including skorts, available in bigger girls sizes.

If you are interested in viewing or purchasing any secondhand items, please get in touch with Sally, 027 7376649 to arrange a time to meet up with her at school.

Payment for items is at the office by cash or EFTPOS.











Everyday people doing extraordinary things

Become a caregiver

We are seeking to expand our team of volunteer caregivers to provide regular opportunities for Dunedin whānau to recharge their batteries.

anglican

family

This unique role has flexibility to fit within your lifestyle.

Includes quality training, support, and koha.

Contact us in confidence.

- 0800 FAM CARE (0800 326 2273)
- 🕜 🎯 @AnglicanFamilyCare
 - AnglicanFamilyCare.org.nz/Caregiving
- 266 Hanover Street, Dunedin





