



Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No.10

6 April 2017

NEW JUNIOR BLOCK CELEBRATION



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora

Last Friday, the Junior Block was formally opened with a ceremony that included our two Kapa Haka groups performing, a blessing and walk-through, as well as the cutting of ribbon and a cake. I would like to thank all of the people who worked hard to ensure that this was such a success. It was a very special occasion for all involved and I was certainly filled with pride in our students and our school.

As you will all be aware, Candice Booyens will be taking Maternity Leave from Week 3, Term 2. Belinda Collins and Shannon Te Huna have been employed and will be team teaching in this position until the end of the year. Also starting in Term 2 is a special MOE funded intervention project called Accelerated Learning in Maths (ALiM). This will be run by Sara Carr and Desiree Wispinski, who also ran this in 2016 and was very successful. This resulted in the students who were involved making large gains in their mathematical confidence and abilities. Jen Stevenson will be releasing Desiree to undertake this within the Middle School and parents of students from Rooms 4 and 5 have been notified as to how this is structured. As an aspect of Sara Carr's position at school is running intervention programmes, this will be undertaken in the specific interventions hours she is already released for.

I would like to remind you all that next Thursday is a Mufti-Day and Sausage Sizzle. Students have been asked to bring a non-perishable grocery item that will be able to be used for raffles etc for the school fair later in the year.

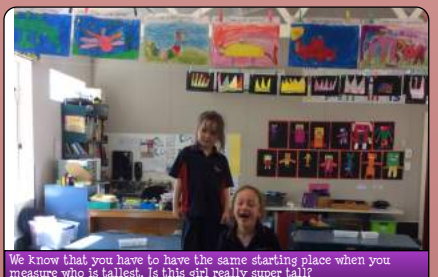
Hei kona mai i roto i ngā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks.

GARETH TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL

Room 1's Class Catchup

Room 1 term 1

Measuring length in math.



2017 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 in the top of their field to get a picture how they compare nationally.

The entry fee per student is \$9.50 per subject, or all three for \$28.50. Permission slips went home with all Year 4-6 children last week.

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 just ask at the school office).

Please return the permission slip by next Thursday, 13 April.

PTA NEWS

Hot Cross Bun Orders

**These are required back in by
9am tomorrow, Friday 7th April.**

**Pick up is 2.45pm on
Wednesday 12 April.**

Community Fair Meeting

The PTA wish to encourage all those in our school community who would like to help with the organisation of our School Fair later in the year to come along to a meeting on Tuesday 11th April @ 7.00pm. Many hands make light work, and as this is our big bi-annual fundraiser, it would be great to have lots of support.

Contact Susan Baikie on 027 3202770 for the location.

Sausage Sizzle and Mufti Day

The PTA are holding another Sausage Sizzle and Mufti-Day on the last day of the term -

Thursday, April 13th.

Instead of a gold coin donation for Mufti-Day, please **bring in a non-perishable grocery or household item** that we can use for hampers, raffles and mystery boxes at our upcoming fair being held later this year.

Sausage Sizzle notices went home with all children yesterday, and these are **due back 9am Tuesday 11th April**. Absolutely no late orders.

Two more helpers are required to make this happen for our children - if you can one hour's assistance from 11.45am, please let Susan Baikie know on 0273202770.

Entertainment Books

These will be going home with eldest children next Thursday 13th April, and this will enable these to be sold, and subsequently used over the school holidays. Payment, or return of the Book if you do not wish to purchase, is due by Friday 5th May.

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

**This opens the first Friday
each month.**

**It will be open tomorrow,
Friday 7th April between
8.45am - 9.15pm, and
2.45pm - 3.15pm.**

ANZAC DAY POPPIES

will be available from the school office from next Monday onwards.

Please put your donation into the box provided.





SPORTS NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues 11 April - Community Fair Mtg, 7pm

Thurs 13 April - last day of term

Mon 1 May - first day of new term

Thurs 4 May - PTA Meeting, 7pm

Mon 15 May - BOT Meeting, 6.30pm

EASY LUNCHES

No More Easy Lunches this term. They will re-start again the first Wed of next term, 3rd May - however, please note there will be new prices for these (as follows) -

\$6.00 - large lunch

\$5.00 - small lunch

These lunches have a spaghetti and cheese toast bun, muffin, popcorn, small dessert and a piece of fruit. Large lunches have two buns.

FUTSAL - Players of the Day:

Ashton la Hood (Dragons); Alex McKeever (Hurricanes); Alex Thurston (Tigers); Juliette Frei (Diamonds); Theo Stevenson (Sparks); Blake Hughes (Warriors); Kahurangi Russell-Johnson (Comets); Katie Murphie (Pirates); Chloe Lyons, Charlie Maclean, Logan Wilson (Nuggets - 2 games); Arlo Synnott-Chapman (Dolphins - 29/3/17); Taylor Dickson (Flyers); Harry Lyons (Stars)

****LAST GAMES OF FUTSAL - WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL****

TOUCH - The draw is -

GB Hawks vs Balaclava Renegades, Oval 12@ 4.45pm

GB Keas vs Abbots 1, Oval 6B @ 3.45pm

HOCKEY -We have almost enough players to field a Y3/4 hockey team this year. If your child wishes to join this team, please email Jen. Games are played on WEDNESDAYS after school at the Hockey Turf. We require a coach for this team, so I will not enter them until a coach has been confirmed. Please email me if you are prepared to coach the team - jennies@grantsbraes.school.nz - ASAP.

NETBALL - Y3/4 teams are needing two more players (boys or girls!) to join this team. Games are played Tuesday after school at Edgar Centre. Please email Jen on above email address ASAP is your child wishes to play.

What's NEW in 2017?

GIRLS Only Junior Rugby Grades: U9, U11 & U13

* to be piloted in the Dunedin Metro competition 2017

TRAINING:
 * Sunday 30th April 10-11am GJ RFC, Miller Park
 * Sunday 7th May 10-11am Southern RFC, Bathgate Park

COMPETITION DATES:
 14th May - 11th June (pending numbers)
 10am games - all games at one venue (move around a different club each week)

PARTICIPATING CLUBS:

- Green Island: Doug Hill: doughill9@hotmail.com
- Pirates: Craig Soal: Craig.Soal@couplands.co.nz
- Harbour: Peta Hill: rp.hill@paradise.net.nz
- Taieri: Tim Guthrie: timguthrie123@gmail.com
- Alhambra Union: Ronnie Proctor: ronnieproctor@vodafone.co.nz
- Kaikorai: Simon Anderson: Simon.Anderson@rossdowling.co.nz
- Southern: Justin Macready: justin.macready@placemakers.co.nz

For more information contact Warren Kearney @ NZ Rugby: warren.kearney@nzrugby.co.nz OR 027 405 3490

WE STAND FOR BETTER FUNDING BETTER LEARNING

NZEI PPIA Etū

BETTERFUNDING.ORG.NZ #BETTERFUNDING

Currently, Government Funds to schools by way of the Operational Grant have been frozen. This affects our school in so many ways, primarily however in regards to the hours and conditions for our Support Staff being our Teacher Aides and Office Manager. To help show the Government you care about what happens to our staff, and your children, there is a petition on the coffee table in the office reception area which we would appreciate your signature on. We want to ensure that we don't have to continue making cuts where it actually counts the most, and to ensure Support Staff are paid fairly and have secure work. Thank you for your support on this very important matter.