



Grant's Braes School

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Newsletter No. 6

8 March 2018



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

It has been wonderful seeing the number of children and their whanau arriving and departing from school in a variety of different ways this week. The annual Walk'n'Wheels Week is a great opportunity to highlight the importance of Active Transport. I would encourage families to look at ways of incorporating this into their normal weekly routines as it is not only important for their fitness, but it also builds independence and is fantastic for the environment. I would like to thank all of our teachers, student teachers and support staff who were involved in the planned walk to school yesterday, as well as the parents who joined us as well.

Our **new website** is scheduled to go live this afternoon! This can be found at www.grantsbraes.school.nz and I hope you all check it out.

The new payments site 'Kindo' has proven to be very popular with payments being made for uniform items, school activity fees and donations, and also this week's PTA sausage sizzle. The exciting aspect for this is the ease now for the PTA to run the sausage sizzles as there is no counting of money and a spreadsheet/list is easily generated from Kindo of the children's orders for each classroom. If you haven't delved into this system yet, I can assure you it is a very simple process and any issues can be quickly solved by contacting the 'Kindo' help desk - 0508 4 KINDO (0508 454636).

Until the end of the school term, all students are going to be involved in enrichment activities on Friday afternoons. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to work within a group which has all year levels within it. The enrichment activities will be run by teachers, and these are based around their own personal strengths or passions. Students were given three choices for their preferred option and they have been placed into one of these groups accordingly. Jess McAuley worked hard to organise all of the tamariki and I know they are going to really enjoy this valuable opportunity.

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

GARETH TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL



The Middle School are now called Ngāhere which is the Māori name for bush or forest. In Ngāhere we have four new room names of tall native New Zealand trees including Tawa, Matai, Kowhai and Rata. To celebrate our new names, the Year 2 classes produced some colourful art pieces of the Kowhai and Rata flowers.

Following a few inquiries from parents in regard to the security around this system, this is to advise that our Board Treasurer, on behalf of the School Board, last year investigated extensively the various options available to us for a school payments system, and Kindo was the one that was best suited to us, and also met the criteria around security for both parents, and us as a school.

You can be assured that all invoicing goes directly from the Kindo system to our school and details all transactions and payments due, without human intervention. Matching files are created for upload into our company accounting software which generates bank files to ensure payments go through correctly. These can then be easily matched to the payments received by the school. Kindo maintains separate bank accounts for all top-up types (A2A, POLi, Credit Card, AMEX, internet banking) which are regularly reconciled and only accessed when making payments to schools. Payments happen weekly or daily to minimise exposure.

Click on the following link to Kindo's knowledge base providing further details regarding security.

[Are my details secure?](#)

Our two payment providers are DPS Payment Express (card and Account2Account payments) and POLi, and both offer excellent security over their transactions (which is why Kindo hand over to them for topping up accounts).

More information about **Payment Express security** can be found here...

<https://www.paymentexpress.com/security>.

Payment Express is a secure outsourced partner to all major merchant banks in Australasia, trusted with hundreds of millions of transactions annually. Important points:

- All data is SSL encrypted with the Payment Express secure environment providing the same level of encryption security as any online banking portal
- Payment Express does not keep any record of your personal information during this transactional process, it is handled directly with your banking provider
- Payment Express does not have access to your personal information at any stage during the transaction process
- No third-party software is downloaded to your computer
- The same level of security applies to the millions of credit card transactions processed by Payment Express everyday

More information about **POLi security** can be found here... <https://www.polipayments.com/buy> where it states "...POLi does not store any sensitive information such as internet banking usernames and passwords. During a POLi transaction no one can access or see your internet banking login credentials. All communication via POLi takes place using HTTPS transport level security and no sensitive information is stored (not even cached)."

NOTE: Your mykindo account may also be topped up via standard banking options, including internet banking. See [How do I pay?](#)

PTA NEWS

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the newly elected President of the Grant's Braes School PTA. My husband Chris and I have two boys, Andre aged 11 and at Tahuna Intermediate School, and Taylor aged 9 in Toroa. I am a Physiotherapist and work at the Southern District Health Board.



I am excited to be working with the newly elected PTA Executive of Chris Crooks (Vice-President), Sarah Watts (Secretary), Trudie Evans (Treasurer), Jen Stevenson and Nicola Thompson, with much appreciated support from Gareth. The role of the Executive is to provide strategic oversight of the many fundraising endeavours of the PTA to ensure that we are meeting the aims of the PTA for the benefit of our children and school community.

As a parent or caregiver of any of our wonderful Grant's Braes School children, you are automatically a member of the PTA. Your contribution to our PTA's fundraising efforts is for the benefit of our children's education. From selling raffles to helping with cooking sausages on a Friday, your help is always very much appreciated. However, with the nature of children growing up and moving on from Grant's Braes School, we are always ready to welcome new offers of help from parents and caregivers. So..... if you love the smell of sausages or are really handy at wrapping up gift baskets, we will definitely find a role for you that suits your talents!! Please look out for the PTA meeting dates in the newsletter and come along. Or you can contact our Secretary, Sarah, with any offers of help or if you would like to be added to our e-mail list for updates (sjwyllie@hotmail.com).

We also have a PTA Facebook page which you are able to 'request to join' and this is updated regularly outlining what the PTA has on.

Based on previous years success, we are again selling Entertainment Books and Hot Cross Buns in term 1. We are also in the final stages of confirming arrangements to have a stall to sell our famous bacon butties for the Sunday 'Ed Sheeran concert' (1 April). If you can help anytime that evening, please contact Steph Woodley (brettandsteph@extra.co.nz).

Bridget Dickson
PTA President

2018 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 on Tuesday.

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 Friday, 13 April 2018.

PTA UPDATE

Arista Bakery Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser - Information and order forms went home on Monday for this - orders with cash (if not banking direct into the PTA Bank account) to be in by **9am, Friday 23 March**.

The Entertainment Book Fundraiser is also happening again this year, and an order sheet with the Early Bird deals, along with additional information, went home to families on Monday also.

Sausage Sizzles and Mufti Days - The next one is scheduled for Friday, 13 April (the last day for Term One).

WEETBIX TRYATHLON

We are looking forward to seeing all the children who have entered the Weetbix Tryathlon this year out at Memorial Park in Mosgiel this Sunday!

If you haven't been before, make sure you allow plenty of time to get to the park as there are hundreds of kids participating and you often need to park quite a long way away.

When you arrive look out for the **Grant's Braes School gazebo**. This will be our base for the morning. Feel free to bring picnic blankets/chairs etc to sit on.

When the triathlon is over, they call all the school groups over to get a special school photo - so please plan to hang around for that and the prize giving which is usually about 12:15pm.

Rebecca McKeever



SPORTS INFO

Players of the Day for this week

Tee Ball - Dodgers (24/2) : Sophie Audeau;
Slammers (3/3) : Leila Wall

Rippa - Blue Team : Hugo Maher

Futsal - Sparks - Chloe Lyons; Flyers : Obi Barron;
Thunders - Dominic Taylor; Stars : Paige Hughes
Hurricanes : Jayde Olsen; Tigers : Jess Rodger
Pirates : Taylor Dickson; Rockets : Addie Te Huna
Nuggets : Sophie Youens; Comets : Kiera Nicholson
Dragons : Anthony Lambert

SPORTS DRAWS FOR THIS WEEK

Tee Ball - Sat 10/3/18

Dodgers - Cardinals Tui, BG 10 @ 10am

Giants vs Kaikorai Tui, BG 13 @ 10am

Slammers vs BGP Rabbitohs, BG 1 @ 10am

School Docs - Policy Review - Term 1 2018

Home Learning

There are no policies to be reviewed by the community this term. However, if you wanted to read our policies, these can be found by following the instructions below:

Visit the website -

<http://grantsbraes.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>

Enter the username (grantsbraes) and password (gbparents).

Follow the link to the relevant Policy as listed.

Read the Policy.

Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.

Select the reviewer type "Parent".

Enter your name (optional).

Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, School Office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mon 5-Fri 9 March : Walk'n'Wheel Week
- Mon 26 March - Otago Anniversary Day
- Fri 30 Mar - Tues 3 April : Easter
- Fri 13 April : Last day of term
- Mon 30 April : First day of Term 2
- Fri 14 Dec : Last day of school year 2018



Take a journey around the world, through the stories from some of Dunedin's diverse cultures.

Over 15 different languages and performers plus dance, puppets and music. Be part of this annual Dunedin festival for World Storytelling Day: a chance to celebrate diversity, hear other languages and experience the universality of story.

SUITABLE: 0 - 100 years

FREE

Saturday 17 March | 11am - 4pm | City Library



CITY MOSGIEL BILLESKIN BAY WAKOJUAITI PORT CHALMERS BOOKBUSH

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Due to the renovations to the Senior Syndicate block, the 2nd Hand Uniform Shop will not be opening until the building work is finished.

For any inquiries about 2nd hand uniform items, please text Andrea on 021 08200287.

The Junior School are in need of size 4 and 6 shorts and skorts. If you have any you are happy to donate for spares, please drop them into Room 1 or 3.

PLAY RUGBY IN 2018 JUNIOR REGISTRATION

Alhambra-Union Sun 4th March, 7-9pm, Thur 8th March, 5-6pm Alhambra-Union RFC (North Ground) Contact Ronnie Proctor 021 477 682 ronnie@proctorauctions.co.nz	Brighton Sun 4th March, 10am-12pm Brighton RFC (Brighton Domain) Contact Nathan Hill 027 279 0177 nathanhill@nzsafteyblackwoods.co.nz	Dunedin Sun 4th March, 12-2pm Dunedin RFC (Kettle Park) Contact Chris McLaughlan 027 416 6385 pulseplumber@gmail.com	
Eastern Sun 4th March, 3-5pm Eastern RFC (Waikouaiti) Contact Scott Clearwater 027 586 0016 clearbell@farmside.co.nz	Green Island Sun 4th March, 11am-1pm Tue 6th March, 5:30-6:30pm Green Island RFC (Miller Park) Contact Willy MacDonald 027 440 5003 willymacdonald@multipares.co.nz	Harbour Sun 4th March, 3-5pm Wed 7th March, 5:30-6:30pm Harbour RFC (Watson Park) Contact Peta Hill 027 269 9799 rp.hill@paradise.net.nz	
Kaikorai Sun 4th March, 10am-12pm Kaikorai RFC (Bishops Court) Contact Simon Anderson 027 498 8009 simon.anderson@rossdowling.co.nz	Pirates Fri 2nd March, 4:30-6pm Sat 3rd March, 11am-2pm Pirates RFC (Hancock Park) Contact Craig Soal 022 052 3654 craig.soal@couplands.co.nz	Southern Sun 4th March, 12-2pm Tues 6th March, 5:30-7pm Sun 11th March, 12-2pm Southern RFC (Bathgate) Contact Robert Stout 027 487 8605 stoutyotago@hotmail.com	
Straith Taieri Thu 8th March, 3-5pm Straith Taieri RFC (Middlemarch) Contact Alice Scott alicescott865@gmail.com	Taieri Wed 7th March, 6-7pm Sat 10th March, 10:30am-12:30pm Taieri RFC (Peter Johnstone) Contact Tim Guthrie 021 970 536 timguthrie123@gmail.com	West Taieri Thu 1st March, 3-5pm West Taieri (Outram) Contact Mike O'Connor 027 688 0052 wtjuniors@gmail.com	
Zingari-Richmond Sun 4th March, 1-2:30pm, Wed 7th March, 6:30-7:30pm, Zingari-Richmond (Montecillo) Contact Stephen Baughan 021 479 530 stephen.baughan@otago.ac.nz			OUR PROVINCE OUR COMMUNITY OUR GAME

Garage Sale

Kids Toys Kids ride ons
 Bikes Scooters
 Books Puzzles

Andersons Bay Community Kindergarten

76 Silverton St
 Andersons Bay

Saturday
 10th March
 9am-1pm