Grant's Braes School

137 Belford Street Waverley Dunedin 9013 Ph 03 454-4717 email: office@grantsbraes.school.nz www.grantsbraes.school.nz

Newsletter No. 21 5 July 2018



Our team of senior 'Jump Jam' children put on a fabulous performance on Monday night in the competition against other schools and were awarded 'Excellence' in both Presentation and Technical Execution. A group of children participated in a recent weekend tournament run by Otago Chess; our Year 6 science extension boys are shown here with the bottle rockets they made; Kate from the Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group came in and spoke to all of our children in relation to awareness of pests and the importance of pest control; and Rooms Matai and Tawa children are shown playing with the Glow Tracks recently purchased with money donated by the PTA for additional classroom activities.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora koutou

I would like to thank all of the parents and caregivers who took the opportunity yesterday and today to meet with their child's teacher. These conversations are incredibly important, especially to discuss your child's next learning steps and goals for the remainder of the school year. If you were unable to make a time, please contact your teacher early in the new term. I would also like to thank those of you who have completed the short Health and P.E. Consultation Survey. Currently we have had 43 respondents, which is a small percentage of our whānau base. I will be extending this until the first Wednesday of the new term and I would appreciate you taking the time to give us your thoughts on our Health and P.E. curriculum. https://goo.gl/forms/5s6ncuU5qMeEDbvv2

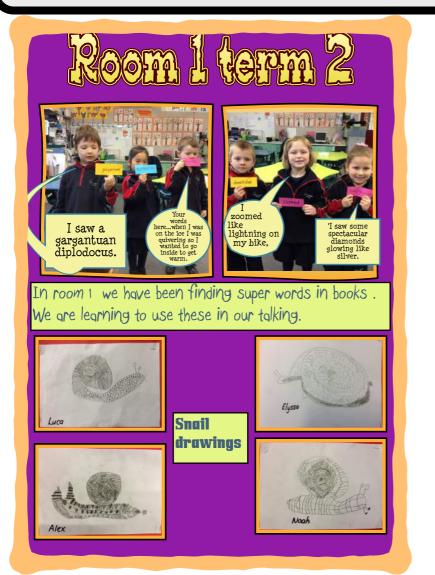
I would like to congratulate our wonderful Jump Jam team who were placed 6th overall in Monday night's competition! Well done team! We are all very proud of you. I would also like to thank Mrs Barrow and Mr Howell for giving up their time to coach and support the tamariki.

Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group - Backyard Biodiversity

This week we had Kate Tanner from the Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group (OPBG) come to talk to pupils about biodiversity and pesky pests on the Otago Peninsula. A brief history of how possums, in particular, came to be in New Zealand and an explanation was given on the negative impact of possums on our biodiversity. Children were given a pest monitoring pack containing non-toxic chocolate chew cards to put out over the school holidays to see what kinds of pests are lurking in their backyards. The school was also provided with some tracking tunnels for the children to decorate and put around the school to identify what is lurking on the school grounds. The Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group asks that you read the information provided to your children and give them a hand in setting the chew cards. After the holidays the cards can be returned to school in the bags supplied with addresses clearly marked on the bags so pest hotspots can be identified. The OPBG will then analyse the results and provide a short report to the school on the collated findings. If you are interested in finding out more about the Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group please contact Kate directly volunteers@opbg.nz or call 021 0237 5970.

Lastly I would like to wish you all a safe, enjoyable break and look forward to seeing you all in the new term. Hei kona mai I roto I ngā mihi, Goodbye for now and thanks.

GARETH TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL



RAFFLE CARDS

PLEASE RETURN ALL CARDS INTO 'MILLY THE MAILBOX' - SOLD OR UNSOLD BY 3.00PM TOMORROW!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

RECENT TEACHERS PAID UNION MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT CALL TO STRIKE

Our teaching staff recently attended the Dunedin paid union meeting to cast their votes on whether to accept or reject the Government's current offer. Contrary to what is in the media, this is not just about being paid more; teachers are asking for more funding to be given to special needs as well as having a SENCO employed in every school to help cater for these children better. The workload for teachers has increased significantly over the past few years while class sizes continue to rise and fewer people choosing to remain in the teaching profession, as well as a 40% decrease in enrollments to study teaching. Your children are at the forefront of what we do, if we continue down this current path we are likely to see class sizes continue to grow, less funding being given and a larger group leaving the profession. The current offer does very little to address these concerns and we need your support in order to continue doing what is best for your children!

NO MORE EASY LUNCHES!

Due to the sale of the business that made these, there will be no more Easy Lunches available on a Wednesday.

NEW SUBWAY OPTION TO BE AVAILABLE NEXT TERM



More information will be available at the start of next term. 'Subway' is to be available via an online system and these will then be delivered from Subway Andersons Bay to our school 'every Wednesday, starting hopefully Week 2 of next term.

Cobb & Co Tuesday 31 July 6:30pm



\$5 entry/person, teams of 4 people

Join us for a great evening at a fundraising event run by the PTA

Numbers are limited so book tickets with Vanya Thurston, ph 021545329 or wilsonvanya@hotmail.com

*** PRIZES *** RAFFLES*** PRIZES *** RAFFLES***

Raffle cards for major prizes will be coming home with children next week. Smaller prized raffles will be run on the night.

We appreciate your support in helping raise funds for the children of our school NETBALL PLAYER OF THE DAY Diamonds - Brooke (Piwakawaka)

HOCKEY PLAYERS OF THE DAY
Mini Sticks - Full team!
Kiwi Sticks - Blake (Ruru)

HI VIS VESTS

The PTA ordered a few extra Hi Vis Vests in children's sizes, and these are available from the office.

These are \$8.00 each and will be available on a 'first in, first served' basis.

Great for the children to wear to school and 'be seen' on these darker mornings.

DON'T MISS OUT!

GET YOUR TEAM ENTRY INTO VANYA NOW

THERE IS ONLY AVAILABILITY FOR 18
TEAMS AND THERE ARE
A NUMBER REGISTERED ALREADY!



DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 6 July - last day of Term 2 Mon 23 July - First day of Term 3 Fri 27 July - EPro8 Challenge Mon 30/7 - Jun trip to Art Gallery - PTA Meeting

Tues 31/7 - ICAS English (pm)

- Year 6's to Tahuna

- Quiz Night

Mon 6 Aug - Chess Tournament Tue 7 Aug - Ariki Cup

Mon 13 Aug - BOT Meeting, 6.30pm Fri 14 Dec: Last day of school year 2018

School Docs - Policy Review - Term 2 2018

The 'Reporting to Parents;' policy is currently under review. Please follow the instructions below if you wish to place feedback.

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.

All tickets only \$5
Science, music, hip hop and friendshipa play for the whole family!!





