



Welcome to the 2012 academic year. I trust everyone enjoyed the holiday season. We were certainly blessed with good weather unlike many parts of the country.



It has been great to catch up with students and parents over the last few days. Everyone's enthusiasm for a new school year is appreciated.

Welcome to new students and their parents. We hope your association with the school is a positive one.

Thank you to parents for getting your children's stationery and uniform organised for the year.

We welcome back Mr de Joux to the teaching staff. It is great to have another male teacher, as they are few and far between in primary schools these days. We also welcome Mrs Andrea Garven who is standing in for Mrs Shelley Willocks in the office for the next 2-4 weeks. Mrs Willocks is recovering from a recent operation but hopes to resume full time work by the end of the month. Andrea is experienced in office work, having relieved at the TBHS office and also worked as a Teacher Aide. It has been a relief to find someone so suitable at such short notice.

Talking of stationery requirements and reading newspaper articles about students and teachers trialing I-Pads, I cannot help but think we are on the verge of some major changes within the next decade. A child's stationery list in 2020 may only consist of an I-Pad and five spare batteries.

I am very mindful that our school must continue to embrace new ideas and technology and approaches. Being alert to new ideas and implementing an effective Curriculum is the key to a successful school. The staff and I are very committed to providing the best education we can for your children.

Thank you in anticipation of your support. We look forward to another positive year.

*Dave Hawkey - Principal*

## PARENTING TIP

### Teaching children to resource themselves

Smart parents know that they don't have all the answers! It's healthy for children to know that they have lots of options when it comes to a tricky question or a problem they can't solve on their own.

"I actually don't know – let's find out!" is a great line to use. When you check out the library or internet together, or seek out others with the knowledge or expertise you need, your child absorbs the message that someone, somewhere, can help me with this. When they're older and more independent, you'll be glad to know that they're skilled at finding the people and resources they need to cope with challenges in their lives.

### Information included in this issue...

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- International Students
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- Property Development
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- Absences 2012
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- Newsletter Advertising
- Class Newsletters
- Regular Newsletters
- Request
- Automatic Payments
- School Donations
- Technology Fees
- Senior Swimming and Swimming Fees
- School Bus
- Bicycle Checks
- Grantlea Downs Top Teams
- Itinerant Lessons
- School Assembly
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- Second Hand Uniform
- Junior School Reading Books
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# WELCOME

## **NEW STUDENTS**

We would like to welcome the following new students and their families that have started this year.

Anton and Daniel Chernetski and Maria Chernytska; Tylar-Lee Cloughley; Kayden McKenzie; Ryan Lewthwaite; Teyla-Renae McLeod; Kimiora Priestley; Madison Diamond; Oliver Kirke; Joshua Richardson and Lilly Smith.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

This year we have four International students enrolled at school. This group enriches the cultural mix and greatly enjoys the benefits of the New Zealand education system.

We welcome them to the school and trust everyone will make them feel at home.

Chanyeong Jin; Sunghyeon Jin; Alice Lee; Jenny Ge

## **SCHOOL TERMS**

The school year is as follows:

Term 1 – 9½ weeks	1 February – 5 April
Term 2 – 10 weeks	23 April – 29 June
Term 3 – 11 weeks	16 July – 28 September
Term 4 – 10 weeks	15 October – 20 December

A fridge magnet with 2012 term dates has been issued with the last 2011 newsletter. We have a number of spares available at the school office should you require one.

## **STAFFING**

The full complement of staff this year is as follows:

### Admin

Dave Hawkey	Principal
Leanne Wolfe	Office Manager
Shelley Willocks	Secretary
Bob Cross	ICT

John Doggett	Bus Driver
Jan Lees	Librarian
Shirley Holt	International Students

### Property

Garry Ford	Property Manager
Wendy Pickard	Cleaner
Cathy Moffat	Cleaner

Catherine Walton QUEST Co-Ordinator

### Teacher Aides - QUEST

Joy McGillivray	Shirley Holt
Carol Dale	Kylie Haynes
Reon Keenan	Jan Lees

### Teachers

#### Opihi Syndicate

1 Lynda Robertson	
2 <b>Raewyn Guise</b>	<b>Syndicate Leader</b>
3 Karen Parker	
4 Alyce Koudys	

#### Waipopo Syndicate

5 Karin Cartwright	
6 Linda Gordon	
7 <b>Allison Ford</b>	<b>Syndicate Leader</b>
8 Tina Ivamy	

#### Acacia Syndicate

9 Carly Race	
10 Michelle Bray	
11 <b>Mike de Joux</b>	<b>Syndicate Leader</b>

#### Kereta Syndicate

12 Henrietta Bell	
13 <b>Amy Clode</b>	<b>Syndicate Leader</b>
14 Kirsty White	

Michael Keys Reading Recovery

### Part Time Teachers

Maree Coupland	Cynthia Gill
Mike Keys	Carmen Brown
Lyn Kerr	Art – Acacia Syndicate
Jo Armstrong	Spanish – Senior school extension groups

### Social Worker in Schools

Michelle Fleming

## **PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD**

- Dental Clinic converted to new canteen
- New pathway to the netball courts
- Tiles outside the old admin replaced with better non slip variety. Loose tiles and bricks replaced in Rms 6-11 (All earthquake damage)
- All carpets cleaned
- Farm – hay cut and baled

Thanks to Garry Ford for maintaining the grounds to a high standard. Thanks to Wendy Pickard and Cathy Moffat for all their cleaning of classrooms. Also, thanks to John Doggett for looking after the farm and Reon Keenan for keeping the vegetable garden tidy.

Thank you to David Beattie who looked after the school pool while Mr Ford was on holiday.

### **TERM 1 CALENDAR**

A calendar of events and activities is included with this newsletter.



### **ABSENCES 2012**

Each day we have to account for every student on our roll. If for any reason your child is going to be absent **please contact** the school office. You can call any time in the morning before 9.00 am. Our phone system is automated to take absence messages before school opens. If no message is passed onto the school office Mrs Willocks and Mrs Wolfe have to spend valuable time phoning parents.

Staff often have a meeting between 8.00 and 8.30 am so are unavailable at this time to personally answer phones.

### **CONTACT MEDICAL AND PERSONAL DETAILS**

If you have shifted and changed your contact details or your emergency contacts have changed, please change these at the office as soon as possible. It is vital that we hold correct emergency contact details including all cell phone numbers in case of emergencies.



There have been incidents in the past when parents and caregivers could not be contacted.

If for any reason your child's medical details have changed, please make sure the office is notified so all relevant records can be updated i.e. allergies, or allergic reactions etc.

### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING**

Thank you to the businesses who have agreed to sponsor our newsletter this year. We trust you will support them should you require their service.

### **CLASS NEWSLETTERS**

Teachers will publish a classroom newsletter next Friday 10 February which will outline programmes of work, classroom routines and expected costs for the year.

Attached will also be an 'Internet Agreement' for middle and senior students. Every student must have this signed and return it to their class teacher at school. Please ensure this task is undertaken promptly.

Included in the expected costs for the year will be the cost of the 2012 camp fees.

### **REGULAR NEWSLETTERS**

As in previous years, the newsletter will be brought home every second Wednesday by the eldest family member. If there are other members of your wider family who are interested in 'What's On' at our school, they can view our latest newsletters online at [www.grantleadowns.school.nz](http://www.grantleadowns.school.nz)

### **REQUEST**

We have two lunch tables being made in Gore. Does any parent know of anyone who would collect these for us. Please contact Dave Hawkey

### **AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS**

Setting up an automatic payment authority is becoming a very popular and stress free way to pay for school activities. Parents are continually surprised about how quickly they accumulate credit sufficient to support such things as sports fees, camps and other school activities.

Please contact Mrs Wolfe in the office if you wish to explore this idea.

### **SCHOOL DONATIONS**

The structure of school donations is the same as last year.

The donations for 2012 are:

- \$70 for a single student family **or** the **eldest** in a multi student family **plus**
- \$20 for each additional student **plus**
- \$15 paper levy per student – which now includes copyright licence.

There is a \$10 discount per family if donations are paid before the end of Term 1 – 5 April 2012.

These can be paid from Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> February onwards at the school office.

EFTPOS is available for all school payments in the office. We **do not** give out cash **OR** accept credit cards.

### **TECHNOLOGY FEES – YEAR 7 & 8'S ONLY**

Parents need to pay **\$69** to our school office which is the 'Take Home' component of these classes. We, the school pay the remaining \$78 which makes up a total annual fee of \$147. Your prompt payment and urgent attention to this matter would be appreciated.

### **SENIOR SWIMMING AND SWIMMING FEES – Rooms 9-14 Monday-Friday Weeks 2, 3 & 4**

Senior Swimming at Century Pool begins on Tuesday 7 February (Week 2).



Please help your child to remember their togs and towel on this day. As in previous years, girls are required to wear one-piece togs please – no bikinis.

Swimming is a compulsory part of our Healthy Living curriculum, therefore every child in the Acacia and Kereta syndicates (Rooms 9-14) is required to swim.

**Swimming Fees are \$20 per child and \$15 for any other siblings.**

**Swimming Fees are now payable at the school office.**

### **SCHOOL BUS**



Please remember to contact the school office if your child will not be on the bus in the afternoon.

Please contact John Doggett on his cell phone 0274 327 500 if your child will not be on the bus on the morning run.

## **BICYCLE CHECKS!!**

Although not needed until Week 4, it is important that bikes are roadworthy and ready to go for the school **Triathlon (Friday 24 February)** and **Wheelathon (Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March)**. Preparing the bike involves getting the bike



safety checked, as well as pumping tyres and making sure the chain is oiled.

### **GRANTLEA DOWNS TOP TEAMS Thursday 16 February 2012**

This year's event is to be held on Friday 18 February.

This will provide an opportunity for us to select children to be part of the South Canterbury Top Schools Competition. Rooms 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 will compete in the morning beginning at 10.00 am, and Rooms, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 will begin at 1.00 pm.

Everyone will be part of a team of around 10-13 students and will participate in a number of fun games from carrying water balloons to sliding down a slippery slope. A fine day is required so the games involving water can really be enjoyed.

Please make sure your child brings to school the following:

- Old clothes – they will get wet and muddy
- Hat
- Towel
- Change of clothes – especially a dry T-shirt
- Togs
- Sunscreen

We require about 10 parents to help run the games in the morning and afternoon or both. See return sheet in this newsletter



The whole day's emphasis is on fun and team work. Please come down and support your child and their team.

### **ITINERANT LESSONS (MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA) 2012**

Attached at the back of the newsletter is a slip to fill and return to the school office if your child is interested in the itinerant opportunities we have on offer at Grantlea Downs in 2012.

We wish to strongly encourage anyone interested in speech and drama, singing or learning an instrument to consider making a commitment to the tutoring available through the school.

Itinerant lessons at school are a very convenient opportunity which we are keen to promote.

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

School assemblies will normally be held at 2:15 on a Friday. Parents are welcome to attend. There will be no assembly Week 3 (24 February) or Week 4 (2 March).

## **SUN HATS**

A reminder that all students are required to wear a school sun hat at break times.



Please ensure your child's hat is **clearly** named.

## **FOOTWEAR**

All students must wear shoes with a lace, buckle, or strap. These could include leather school shoes or predominantly white sports trainers (sneakers).

What is **NOT** acceptable are:

- Scuffs
- Fashion Sneakers
- Bright colours
- Jandals
- Fashion Boots etc etc

Students have been reminded of what is acceptable. Please ensure your child wears appropriate footwear.

## **SECOND HAND UNIFORM**

The Uniform centre will be open on Thursdays from 8.45 – 9.30 am.

## **JUNIOR SCHOOL READING BOOKS - AMENESTY**

We still have a number of school reading books that are currently missing across the school. We would appreciate these being returned **as soon as possible**, no questions asked.

Thank you.

# Sports Notices

## **CRICKET**

If anyone is interested in playing Saturday morning cricket, please return the form signed to the school office by this Friday.

All Saturday competition begins on Saturday, 4th February. Please ensure your child is at the venue, advertised in each Wednesdays' paper, fifteen minutes prior to the game with the correct cricket uniform. It is most important that players let their coach /manager know if they are unavailable before Saturday morning.

## **GIRLS CRICKET**

We have a team entered in the Girls interschool competition, Milo Shield which begins in a fortnight. Please fill out the return slip if you are interested in playing.

## **T-BALL/SOFTBALL**



A reminder to all children involved in T-Ball and Softball to check Wednesday's paper for the draw.

## **ARCHERY CLUB**

The school, in conjunction with Y.M.C.A., are offering archery lessons. There will be a cost which will be advised at a later date.

Because some strength is required to draw a bowstring only children from Year 4 upwards will be eligible to join archery club.

If you are interested in joining archery club, please fill out the return slip below and return to the school office.

*Mr Keys*

## **CHOIR**

I am once again running the choir at Grantlea Downs this year. Lessons will begin on Thursday the 9th Feb in the hall from 8.20am-9.20am. I encourage students both boys and girls with a love of singing to come and give choir a go. The first few weeks will be a trial period to see if it is something you'd like to do. Once the trial period is over we will be into full swing getting some songs together to perform at events and at assemblies throughout the year. I look forward to seeing you.

Sharleyne Diamond

# Community Notices

**SOUTH CANTERBURY GYMSPORTS Inc** is now accepting enrolments for the 2012 Incentive Gymnastics season, beginning mid - late February. An exciting new Incentive Awards Programme is now being offered (from age 6/7 years on), as well as Kiwi GymFun (ages 5/6 years) and Pregym classes (under 5's). Further enquiries to Adrienne Bruce 6882426.

**GirlGuiding NZ Pleasant Point**, are having an exciting carnival themed open day, on 7 February between 4.00 and 5.30 at St Albans Church Hall, Munro Street. Come along to take part in the fun and find out if Pippins, Brownies, Guides or Rangers appeals to you and complete your registration. For any enquiries contact Wendy on 614 7171.

**GirlGuiding NZ Pleasant Point**, would like to know whether there is any interest in the area to for a Rangers group. Rangers are girls aged between 13 and 18 years old who work with a leader and their peers to follow a programme of their own choice. We are looking for expressions of interest from girls who would be interested in joining a proposed Rangers group in Pleasant Point. To register your interest or ask any questions please contact Wendy on 614 7171.

## Theatre Machine – After School Programme

Boheme Entertainment  
Act! Sing! Dance! Create!  
Learn! Laugh!  
For more information  
contact:  
Kimble Henderson  
Boheme.entertainment@  
gmail.com

## NZ Football Futsal Indoor

**Soccer** – 8 weeks Junior League. Age 8 yrs and under & under 9-13 years. If numbers warrant a girls grade could be formed 8-13 years. Referees wanted! **Starts Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February** at SBS Centre.  
Contact Russell king 686 6717

The Timaru Gymnastics Club are now taking enrolments for 2012 gymnastics classes for boys and girls 5 years and over. Classes will commence the week of 14th February Existing and new members please phone. Christine Caird 6843221 Carol Lane 6862218 Betty McIver 6847438.

An OPEN DAY will be held on Tuesday 7th February, 2012 3.30 - 6 p.m. in the Celtic Hall, Corner Craigie Avenue and Browne Street, Timaru.

## Childrens Karate Class

Tuesdays  
6.30 – 7.30 p.m.

### Gleniti School Hall

22 Heath Street, Timaru



Goju-Ryu Karate  
Timaru

Cost: \$30 per term

Timaru Dojo Instructor: Tig Payne 027 817 5963

Alistair Bradley 03 686 2671

Email: [tig@jundokannz.org.nz](mailto:tig@jundokannz.org.nz)

Website: [jundokannz.org.nz](http://jundokannz.org.nz)

## BECOME A LIFE-SAVER – EACH DONATION SAVES 3 LIVES!

NZ Blood Service will be at Sopheze on the Bay, Caroline Bay on Wednesday 15 February between 1.30pm and 6.30pm and Thursday 16 February between 7.30am and 12.30pm.

**We welcome donors from all the surrounding communities.** Making an appointment is recommended to avoid extended waiting.

Phone 0800 GIVE BLOOD or go to [www.nzblood.co.nz](http://www.nzblood.co.nz) to make your appointment.

## Looking for Childcare?

Kidstart Home-based Educator has couple of spaces available in the Grantlea/Oceanview area from the beginning of March, also after school care. **Ph: Sandy 688 1360 or 021 265 2675 or Kidstart 687 7368**

Guitar Tuition available at Grantlea  
Downs on Wednesday mornings  
beginning February the 15th.  
Contact Kathy Macdonald...Phone  
6860181.



#### Keyboard Tuition

**Tutor: Peter McMullan**

**Available at school beginning week 3  
Wednesday 15th February 2012**

**All previous and new enrolments welcome  
from the ages of 7 1/2 years.**

**Fee: \$10 per lesson (9 lessons per term)  
Phone: 027 4211216 for further details**

*"Sing like nobody can hear you"*

SINGING LESSONS WITH SHARLEYNE DIAMOND

Thursday mornings—after Choir

One on one 1/2 sessions

Suit children with a passion for singing and drive  
to perform in public as a soloist or part of an  
ensemble

For more information on lessons and cost please  
ask for an information sheet at the office

## Itinerant Opportunities At Grantlea Downs in 2012



INTERESTED IN **DRAMA** ? WANT  
YOUR CHILD TO LEARN PUBLIC SPEAK-  
ING SKILLS OR IMPROVE SPEECH?

Then contact me at **LIVE** the regions profes-  
sional **Performance/Drama & Speech** coach-  
ing service, that provides educational activities in  
the field of live performance, for all ages. Tutor-  
ing one on one or small groups. Students can  
work towards Speech NZ, examinations/grading's  
if they wish or simply perform for fun and skills.

**There are several classes available;**

**SPEECH & DRAMA LESSONS**

**THEATRE/ACTING/STAGE SKILL CLASSES**

**MOVEMENT & POP DANCING SESSIONS**

**ORAL COMMUNICATION TUTORING**

**FIRST LESSON FREE IN TERM 1 2012**

**For all information contact Saramea at**

**LIVE. 03 6126 383**

**[live.coaching@hotmail.com](mailto:live.coaching@hotmail.com)**

**[www.speechnz.co.nz](http://www.speechnz.co.nz)**

# Return Slips

## ARCHERY CLUB

I/we give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) of Room No \_\_\_\_\_ to join archery club and agree to pay a small cost **per session** (we will collect this in one lump sum at the conclusion of the sessions).

Parent/Caregiver Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

MK

## Saturday morning Cricket

My child is interested in playing Saturday morning cricket

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Room No \_\_\_\_\_

## Girls Cricket - Inter-school Competition

My child is interested in playing Girls Milo Cricket, Inter-school competition

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Room No \_\_\_\_\_

## TOP TEAMS COMPETITION - HELPERS REQUIRED

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012

I am able to assist in the (please tick)

Morning

Afternoon

Both am and pm

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

DH

## ITINERANT LESSONS - 2012

Expression of interest / enrolment in:

Student Name

		Interested and wish to discuss	Definite enrolment	Already enrolled (cotinuation)
Keyboard				
Singing				
Guitar				
Speech & Drama				

## GRANTLEA DOWNS TRIATHLON – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2012

We are looking for 5 or 6 parents to help with our Senior Triathlon on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February (Week 4), meeting on the basketball courts at school at about 12.35.

If you are available, please fill in and return this slip to the school office.

I \_\_\_\_\_ am able to assist with the school triathlon

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Time to ring: \_\_\_\_\_

MB