



We have enjoyed a very good beginning to the year, I commend the students on their productivity and general enthusiasm.

During the next three weeks we have four major school events occurring. Top Teams, Senior Swimming Sports, Triathlon and Grow It, all require syndicate organisation, participation and support. We would appreciate any support you are able to give us to further ensure these current events are successful.

I made a mental note at the end of last year to encourage families to set up a regular automatic payment option. The extra activities associated with your child's education do come at a cost. Managing payments for these is so much easier with an automatic payment system in place. If you wish to look at paying your account by this option, please contact Mrs Wolfe in the school office. The class newsletters that came home last Friday will give you an indication of costs pertaining to the years activities. For the senior classes, the costs of the end of year camps are significant. Budgeting for these from the beginning of the year is certainly worthwhile.

I read an article recently which stated 'Only a fifth (20%) of 12 year olds can swim 200m the minimum survival standard set by Water Safety New Zealand.' This is an alarming statistic. Our goal at Grantlea Downs is to have 80% of our Year 8 students being able to swim that distance before they leave primary school. We are planning for extra tuition after swimming lessons finish at Century Pool in order to achieve this target.

The Ministry of Education (MOE) no longer funds new pools and one could argue that they do not really fund the maintenance of existing pools. Pools are now considered 'over code' by the MOE. With New Zealand's annual drowning rate being one of the worst in the developed world we must continue with our school swimming programme and upkeep of the pool, I am sure you agree.

An outline of the extra curricular activities available at school this year is included in this newsletter for your consideration, we are obviously keen for children to commit to these but caution some about over committing. I thank the staff for their willingness to offer these activities on top of their normal work load.

This is a comprehensive newsletter with a great deal of information. I urge you to read it thoroughly.

Looking forward to seeing many of you over the next few weeks.

Dave Hawkey - Principal

Information included in this issue...

- New Students
- International Students
- Staffing
- Thanks
- House Colours
- Grantlea Downs Top Teams
- Kids Day Out
- Canteen
- Canteen – Viability
- Chess Club
- School Musical
- School Assembly
- Hay Bales for Sale
- Australiasian Exams
- Itinerant Lessons
- Scholastic Book Club
- Pedestrian Crossing
- Library News
- School Donations
- Technology Fees
- Senior Swimming and Swimming Fees
- Grantlea Downs Triathlon
- Senior Swimming Sports
- Community Notices
- Return Slips
- Extra Curricular Activities
- Canteen Menu

NEW STUDENTS

We would like to welcome Kaitlyn Blissett, who started yesterday and her family to Grantlea Downs.

WELCOME

House colours are:

Grant	-	Red	Gould	-	Blue
Jellicoe	-	Green	Evans	-	Yellow

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



We welcome again our four international students who face the challenge of adapting to a new country, a new town, a new language, new friends and a new education system. This is a huge ask for such young children but they do rise to the challenge and adapt extremely well with everyone's support. Can you imagine sending your 11-12 year old child to Korea or China for their schooling?

STAFFING

We welcome Lynn Kerr who is working in a part time capacity as an art teacher mainly with Room 11. Lynn is herself a recognised local artist and trained primary school teacher. We are indeed fortunate to have her on the staff.

Amy Clode has been selected to speak at a National Education Conference being held in Tauranga in April. This is a wonderful opportunity for her and testament to her growing standing in the educational community.

THANKS

A special thank you to Fiona Crowther-Aker and her mother Lynette Crowther, for making our new Jellicoe House mascot, the Leprechaun. They have made a fabulous job.

Fiona is pictured presenting the mascot to Jessie Goodsir, Jellicoe House Leader.



HOUSE COLOURS

It is always an added attraction to see everyone wearing house colours for specific sports events. We would be grateful if you are able to find clothes for your child that matches their house colour.

The first event of the year where children wear house colours is the Top Teams this Thursday 16th February.



GRANTLEA DOWNS TOP TEAMS THIS THURSDAY (TOMORROW) 16 FEBRUARY 2012

We are in URGENT need of more helpers to score games for both morning and afternoon sessions. We need about 8 parents, currently we have 5 for the afternoon and 3 for the morning.

PLEASE urgently phone the school office if you can help out on 684-7706

Senior Rooms 9-14 10.15-12.15
Junior Rooms 1-8 1.00-2.50 pm

Everyone will be part of a team of 10-13 students and will participate in a circuit of 12 fun games.

A fine day is required to allow games involving water to 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

The emphasis is on fun and team work. We would appreciate your support.

Please listen to Port FM between 7-8 am for any postponements, should the weather look doubtful.



KIDS DAY OUT – FREE TICKETS

We have been given 50 free tickets to the Heart Kids Day Out Variety Show. The acts include magicians, jugglers, a contortionist and hula hoop specialist.

This is to be held at TGHS, Cain St, Timaru at 2:00pm on Sunday 26 February (1 ½ hrs approx). You can pick up the tickets at the school office on a first in first served basis. Tickets are for both children and adults so the whole family can go free.

CANTEEN

The original canteen has been sold (owned by the school) and the money used to convert the old Dental Clinic into a new canteen. This has been a successful conversion as the building is larger, better positioned and has its own toilet.

With some money left over we have also converted an area in the senior block as an office for Miss Clode, our Deputy Principal.



CANTEEN – VIABILITY

We do have some early concerns regarding the viability of our canteen. Some days there are very few lunch orders (less than 5). It would be a shame if we had to 'close up shop'. Your continued support for the canteen is necessary for its survival. Jo is happy to receive any feedback that would assist her business. – See the Return Sheet.

CANTEEN MENU and EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE AT GRANTLEA DOWNS

This double sided sheet is enclosed for your information and your consideration.

CHESS CLUB

Does anyone know of someone who might be interested in running a school Chess Club. If so please see Dave Hawkey.

SCHOOL MUSICAL – ADVANCE NOTICE

The Senior School will be putting on a musical this year. Performances are scheduled for 22-23 August (mid Term 3) with rehearsals beginning in Term 2. We look forward to another show that mirrors previous high standards of entertainment.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - REMINDER

School assemblies will normally be held at 2:15 on a Friday. Parents are welcome to attend. There will be no assembly Week 3 (17 February) or Week 4 (24 February) or Week 5 (2 March).

HAY BALES FOR SALE

We have made a few hundred small bales of hay on our school farm which we are very keen to sell. With so much hay/growth around this year the demand is not as great as other years.

If you or anyone you know wants small bales we would be keen to sell it to you for \$5.00 a bale. Ring the school office on 684 7706.

AUSTRALIASIAN EXAMS – Year 4-8 students

These above exams are offered to students every year. These are another opportunity to experience exam conditions and compare their performance against a large number of New Zealand and Australian children of the same age.

The school will continue to subsidise the exam fees by 50%.

If you wish your child to sit the exams this year, please complete the attached slip. Entries close at the end of Term 1 2012.

Extra details are as follows:

Exam	Date	Cost
Computer	Tuesday 22 May	\$7.50
Science	Wednesday 6 June	\$7.50
Writing	Monday 18 June	\$17.50
Spelling	Tuesday 19 June	\$9.50
English	Tuesday 31 July	\$7.50
Mathematics	Tuesday 14 August	\$7.50

ITINERANT LESSONS (MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA) 2012 - REMINDER

Please find a return slip included in this newsletter for you to fill in and return to the school office if your child is interested in the itinerant opportunities we have on offer at Grantlea Downs in 2012.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Order forms have been sent home and are due back by Thursday 1st March.

Please make cheques payable to Scholastic.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

On Monday of this week, there were incidents of adults parking across from school and students crossing the road without using



the pedestrian crossing that could have had dangerous consequences. **PLEASE** make sure to use the pedestrian crossing provided to ensure everyone's safety.

No cars are to be parked on the yellow lines close to the crossing. This inhibits drivers approaching the crossing being able to see students crossing the road, and please do not park over any driveways.

Library News

At the end of last year we received this selection of books from the Telecom Bills to Storybooks programme. These books are donated to the school from Telecom customers who chose our school to benefit from their phone account.



Finances

**SCHOOL
ACCOUNTS
WERE SENT**

HOME THIS WEEK.

**BELOW ARE EXPLANATIONS AND
A BREAK-DOWN OF COSTS THAT
ARE NOW DUE.**

SCHOOL DONATIONS

Payment of school donations fund the "EXTRAS" for the school that often can't be covered by the money we are given by the Ministry of Education.

As an example your school donations go towards:

- School pool operational expenses
- Sports equipment
- Library Books and resources.

As was noted in last week's newsletter 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 1st 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.

School donations are tax refundable and if they are paid before 31st March this year they can be claimed from the 1st April 2011. A third of the school donation **ONLY** can be claimed. You can download rebate forms from the website

<http://www.ird.govt.nz> and search for a Donations Rebate Form.

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 began 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.

A note from the Public Health Nurse B4SC (B4 School Check)

If your child has turned 4 years he/she is entitled to this free check which is done by a Public Health Nurse.

Please phone or text our B4 School Administrator, Angela Burgess for an invitation pack.

Phone 687 2319 or 027 291 0360

ABurgess@scdhb.health.nz

Grantlea Downs Triathlon



YEARS 5-8

Friday 24th February
1:00 – 3:00pm

Competitors need to remember their bikes (make sure tyres are pumped up!!!), helmets, togs, towel, running shoes and a drink bottle.

Due to the 1pm start we will be having an early lunch at 12pm.

We encourage parents and family members to come along and support their child. Below is a copy of the afternoon's programme so that you can get some idea of when your child will be racing.

Any questions can be directed to Michelle Bray in Room 10.

EVENT	
Year 5/6 Individual	Girls
	Boys
Year 7/8 Individual	Girls
	Boys
Year 5/6 Teams	Mixed
Year 7/8 Teams	Mixed

YEARS 1-4

Friday 24th February
10:00 – 12:00pm



Once again we are offering the Year 1 and 2 students a chance to experience competing in a school triathlon. For the cycling leg of the race they will be able to use bikes or scooters and must have helmets.

Bike/Scooter – Year 1 & 2-one lap around the outside of the netball/basketball courts

Year 3 & 4-one lap of the field

Swim – one length running of the school pool (helped in and out by senior students)

Run – one lap of the soccer field

On the day the children will need to remember their bike/scooter, helmet, togs, towel, running shoes and a drink bottle.

Any questions can be directed to Karen Parker in Room 3.

Event	
Year 3/4 Individual	Girls
	Boys
Year 1 Individual	Girls
	Boys
Year 2 Individual	Girls
	Boys
Year 3/4 Teams	Mixed

PLEASE DO NOT RING THE OFFICE TO ASK WHEN A SPECIFIC YEAR LEVEL WILL START – RACES WILL BE RUN IN THE ORDERS ABOVE UPON COMPLETION OF PREVIOUS RACE

Please complete and return the slip in our newsletter if you are able to help with either the senior or junior race. This would involve either directing children or helping move bikes

Senior Swimming Sports

Thursday 23rd February

The Grantlea Downs **Senior** Swimming Sports will be held next Thursday (23rd February) at Century Pool.



All children in Rooms 9 to 14 will be swimming, with each student racing in at least 2 events. We found last year that some children got quite cold waiting for their next race so it might be a good idea if they could bring 2 towels, one to keep them warmer between races and a dry one to use at the end of the day. The swimming sports will begin at 12.30, and we expect to be finished by approximately 2:40pm.

The students will be having an early lunch on this day at 11.30pm.

We encourage parents and family to attend and support the students in this event.

In order for this event to run smoothly we require 6 or so parent helpers to record place-getters, and guide students to finals areas or their seats.

If you are able to assist, please complete and return the slip in this newsletter to the office.

Canteen Menu

Toasted Sandwiches

\$2.00 each



Ham, Cheese & Pineapple
Spaghetti, Ham & Cheese
Cheese & Onion
OR Made to Order



BREAD ROLLS

Ham; salad; tomato, cheese and egg
Chicken; salad; tomato, cheese and egg

\$3.00

\$3.50

CLUB SANDWICHES (3 or 4 fillings)

\$2.50

SANDWICHES OR BREAD ROLLS CAN BE MADE TO ORDER YOU PICK THE FILLINGS

BURGERS

\$3.50 each

Meat pattie,
Fish or Chicken
All with mayo;
lettuce; cheese;
tomato optional



LUNCH-TIME MEAL DEALS

Burger, Drink, Mueslibar, Apple & 2 Biscuits \$5.50

Pizza, Drink, MuesliBar, Apple & 2 Biscuits \$4.50

2 Cheeserolls, Spaghetti Burger, Drink & Apple \$3.50

Cheese

Rolls .80 ¢ each Noodles (Beef or Chicken) \$2.00

Spaghetti Burger .80 ¢ each Pizza \$1.50

Ham, Cheese and Pineapple .90 ¢ each Top Dogs \$3.00

Nachos / Beans / Cheese \$3.00 (Only available on Monday and Tuesday)

Also available in WINTER on Monday and Tuesdays – Sour Cream Optional

Baked Stuffed Potato (Bacon, Onion & Cheese) \$3.00 Baked Stuffed Potato (Savoury Mince, Cheese) \$3.50

Morning Tea items

Also Available at Lunch Times!

Cakes

Large Cookies \$1.50 each

Assorted Squares or Cake \$1.50

Muffins \$1.00

Carrot Cake \$2.00

Lollycake .60 ¢

Sml Choc Chip biscuits .50 ¢ (pack 3)

Winter Only – Lasagna \$3.50



Spaghetti toasties .80 ¢

Drinks

Milkshakes \$2.00

Bottles Orange or Orange & Mango \$1.50

Hot Chocolate with Marshmallows .50 ¢

Hot Soup **Only in Winter** \$1.50

FRUIT (Assorted, As Available) \$1.00

JUICY ICEBLOCKS Assorted flavours \$1.20

Moosies \$1.50

Coolsips \$1.30



Please make sure all orders have: Students Name, Room No, What fillings required, What flavour – Milkshake, Juicy or Moosie. If ordering a Meal Deal Burger please state – Chicken, Fish or Meat Pattie, and if sour cream is wanted on Nachos or potatoes.

PLEASE NO staples on orders.

Opportunities/Extra Curricular Activities Available 2012

		Tutor or Staff Member in Charge	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Cultural/Curriculum	Speech and Drama	Saramea Latimer	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Keyboard	Peter McMullan	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Guitar	Kathy McDonald	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Brass	David Wolff	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Art (After School Class)	Raewyn Guise/ Lynda Robertson/Karin Cartwright		✓	✓	
	Choir	Henrietta Bell	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Kapa Haka	Amy Clode	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Clean Stream	Karin Cartwright/Henrietta Bell	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport - Summer	Cricket	Reon Keenan	✓			✓
	T-Ball/Softball	Allison Ford (T1) Karen Parker & Alyce Koudys (T4)	✓			✓
	Touch	Carly Race/Kirsty White	✓			✓
	Tennis	Karen Parker				
Sport - Winter	Netball	Michelle Bray/Linda Gordon/Alyce Koudys		✓	✓	
	Soccer	Tina Ivamy		✓	✓	
	Hockey	Karen Parker		✓	✓	
	Basketball/Miniball	Alyce Koudys/Kirsty White - Year 3-4 Carly Race - Year 5-6 Kirsty White - Year 7-8		✓	✓	
	Gymnastics	Karin Cartwright		✓	✓	
Recreational	Indoor Bowls	Allison Ford	✓	✓	✓	
	Badminton	Amy Clode		✓	✓	
	Table Tennis	Dave Hawkey		✓	✓	
	Garden Club	Garry Ford/Reon Keenan	✓			✓
	ICT Club			✓	✓	
	Mountain Biking	Dave Hawkey		✓		✓
	Chess					
	Archery	Mike Keys	✓	✓	✓	✓

Return Slips

Senior Swimming Sports – Thursday 23rd February

I am able to assist with the running of the Grantlea Downs Senior Swimming Sports at Century Pool

Name _____

Contact Phone _____

Best Time to Call _____

Grantlea Downs Triathlon

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

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

I _____ am able to assist with the school triathlon.

Phone Number _____ Best Time to Call _____

ITINERANT LESSONS - 2012

Expression of interest / enrolment in:

Student Name

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

Australasian Examinations

I wish my child to participate in the following examinations (please indicate with a ✓).

✓	Subject	Cost	Total
	Computer	\$7.50	
	Science	\$7.50	
	Writing	\$17.50	
	Spelling	\$7.50	
	English	\$7.50	
	Mathematics	\$7.50	
	Total Cost		
	Less 50% School Subsidy		
	Cost to Parent (Amount Enclosed)		

Student Name _____

Room No _____

Parent/Caregiver Signature _____

Canteen – Viability (Please write your comments below and return to the school office)

Parenting Tips

From www.theparentingplace.com

Preparing your kids to deal with others

Parents want to know that their kids are starting a new school year with the resources they need to manage both friendships, and also unkind or bullying behaviour.

It's a good idea to be honest with children; they may hear cruel comments from others or be treated unfairly by someone, at some point. Encourage them to put the responsibility for this behaviour with the person who dealt it, rather than assume the blame themselves. And always, a sense of humour and a good natured answer will be your child's best defence against cruelty. Making a game of practicing quick and confident come-backs is a great exercise to inoculate your kids for the challenges ahead.

Community Notices

Thistle Soccer Club Registration Day
3rd of March, 10-12pm at Thistle
Soccer Clubrooms, Browne St.
All enquiries to Julie 6886608.

Pleasant Point Scouts, Cubs and Kea's is underway for 2012

Pleasant point scout hall, Te Ngawai Rd great fun ...all welcome

Kea's 5.30 – 6.30 Tuesday

Cubs 6.30 – 8.00 Thursday

Scouts 6.30 -8.30 Tuesday

For all enquiries please ph Leo 6887525

COME AND DANCE LIKE NOBODYS

WATCHING at Inspirit Dance clubs hip hop classes for children 5 - 8 and 9 - 14. This friday is the last chance to enrol your children for term one. 5 - 8 class begins Friday's at 3.40pm Highfield school Hall \$60 a term and 9-14 years begins Friday's at 4.20pm Highfield School Hall \$70 a term. Come along and fill out a registration form. Children need to bring a water bottle and wear comfortable sneakers. Please arrive 10 minutes early to class. For more enquiries contact Chantelle 027 588 5384.

Community Notices

PlaceMakers Pass2Pub 2012

Mountain Bike Ride for the whole family
Through the legendary Mackenzie Country
Sunday March 4th
Enter online at
www.pass2pub.co.nz
Or pick up an entry form at bike shops in Timaru



Feb 1st – Feb 29

Bike Wise Workplace Challenge – register at www.bikewise.co.nz Recognition locally for workplaces who register

Wednesday Feb 15th

SC “Go By Bike” day

Sunday Feb 19th

Opihi MTB Ride 10am – 10km & 18km recreational ride.

Refer www.opihimtb.co.nz

Feb 23rd – Feb 25th

Charity Bike Ride

Sunday Feb 26th

Kids Can Do It Tryathlon – see advert in this newsletter

KIDS CAN DO IT TRYATHLON Sunday 26th February 2012

Time: 9am-9.30am Bike Racking at Caroline Bay Sound Shell
9.30am Registration
10.30am Start
Race Start: Maori Park Pool

Age Groups: 7-9years
10-13years

Entry forms are available at the school office
or for further information contact:
www.timarutriathlon.co.nz or Gary Fahey on
686 1763 or Shannell Rae 684 8865