



FROM ALL THE STAFF AT GRANTLEA DOWNS SCHOOL

At this stage we do not plan to publish another newsletter so this is our last full communication with you, our parent community.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's education. We are doing a good job in educating your children, but we will continue to 'do better' by refining our programmes and seeking new and better ways for children to

learn.

Our school roll stands at 375, the largest it has ever been in the history of the school. We believe this is the result of the effort and commitment evident in the school and its community. While taking some satisfaction from this, we are mindful never to take the current demand for places in the school for granted.

At the end of each year, we sever ties with many people. One such person is Mrs Jan Dawson, our current Board Chairperson. Jan has continued on as Chairperson, even though her son, Matt left at the end of 2010. Jan has spent 5 years on the Board of Trustees and brought to the table many skills, a great deal of wisdom, knowledge and professionalism. I have been very appreciative of her support and good humour over this long period and thank her on your behalf for all that she has contributed. It is important to remember that our Board of Trustee parents do not have to do this work, they do so only out of a sense of duty. Where would New Zealand be without volunteers?

Thank you and farewell to Mrs Sally Finlayson, who has been teaching in Room 8 for the last two terms. We will miss her warmth, dedication and collegiality.

Many families also finish their association with the school, some after many years. These families are acknowledged in this newsletter. Thank you for all you have contributed by way of support for the school.

51 Year 8 students leave us this year and move on to the next stage of their education. The great majority of these students have been at Grantlea Downs for some time. We have therefore developed a close association with them and their families. It is always a little sad to see them walk out the driveway for the last time. I thank them all for their contribution to the school and wish them well for 2012 and beyond. We always look forward to their visits, back at school.

I trust the student reports and Student Profiles that have come home in the last few days have provided further information on your child's learning this year.

Confirmation on your child's class and teacher for next year will be on your child's 2012 stationery list which we will be sent home on early next week.

Information included in this issue.

- New Students
- Student Success
- Student Profiles
- Prizegiving
- Last Day 2011
- Fridge Magnets
- School Pool
- Gold Awards
- Platinum Awards
- Brass Band Scholarships
- School Fees and Donations for 2012
- Families Finishing their association with the school
- Cricket
- Mountain Bike Group
- Canteen
- Mufti Day – Change of date
- Itinerant Opportunities
- Finance
- Library Books
- Reading Books
- Community Notices
- Assembly Awards
- Parenting Tips
- Return Slips

LAST DAY OF TERM 4 – THURSDAY

15 DECEMBER 12.00 PM

**School bus leaves at 12.00 on this
day**

FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 2011 –

WEDNESDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2012

Occasionally I receive negative feedback after prizegiving from a parent that their child should have deserved an award or certificate. While I can understand their concern, I reassure you all that the staff spend many hours deliberating over potential recipients. Staff consult their assessment information in numerous areas in order to come to a decision. Yes, some students do receive more than one award, but if it is deserved, then so be it.

I say to those students who do not receive awards, we do not think anything less of you because of it. If you have undertaken your best then this will have been commmunicated to you in your report. Enjoy this sense of satisfaction and applaud those other students who have excelled a little more. Who knows, you may walk up on stage next year.

We look forward to the last 5 ½ days of school in 2011. On behalf of the staff, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Summer Holiday.

Dave Hawkey – Principal



NEW STUDENTS

We welcome Kaina Henry; Hadley Hammond; Hannelie Burger; Shelby, Cody and Natalie Winiana; and Tyla Murray and their families to Grantlea Downs School in the past fortnight.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Senior students, Stacey Fraser and Jessica Tanouye, have had articles published in the Otago Daily Times education supplement 'Extra'. Both submitted articles written on major current events that happened in 2011.

STUDENT SUCCESS

SENIOR ATHLETICS OVERALL CHAMPIONS

Senior Athletics Age Group Champions			
Age Group	Champion	Runner-up	
U9 Girls	Milly Ford	Lydia McLaughlin Caitlin Alexander	
U9 Boys	Hayden Kennedy	Bailey Chambers	
U10 Girls	Grace Kelliher	Alexandra Gregory Savannah Mackay	
U10 Boys	Adam Argyle	Liam Parker	
U11 Girls	Zara Stuart	Michaela Kennedy	
U11 Boys	Chicane Sandford	Whawhaia Waa-Tahere	
U12 Girls	Tia Hayes	Maycee Charles	
U12 Boys	Nathan Mackay	Jacob Parker Hau Ming Su	
O12 Girls	Julia Fairbrother	Korlina Volkov	
O12 Boys	Rhys Winn	Brodie McGartland	
Junior and Senior Athletic House Point Results			
Jellicoe	Grant	Gould	Evans
426	480	533	549

STUDENT PROFILES

These were sent home on Monday, 5 December and are to be returned by this **Friday 9 December**. The **Year 8's are to keep them**.

PRIZEGIVING – WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER

Junior Prize Giving and Break-up (Year 0-4)

1.30-2.45 pm, School Hall, Wednesday 14 December

Senior Prize Giving and Break-up (Year 5-8)

7.00-9.00 pm, School Hall, Wednesday 14 December

Please make sure all students are wearing a clean, tidy uniform. All senior students are to arrive by 6.40 pm please.

Parents are asked to be seated 5 minutes prior to both events starting.

Any junior students attending the senior prize giving are required to sit with family.

LAST DAY 2011

The last day for students is **Thursday 15 December**.

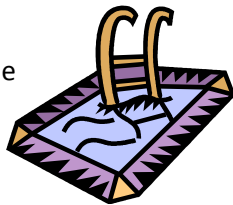
School will finish at 12.00. The school bus will run and leave school at this early time.

FRIDGE MAGNETS

You will receive home fridge magnets with Term Dates for 2012 with this newsletter. These are great to put on your fridge at home.

SCHOOL POOL

We wish to encourage families to use the school pool out of school hours. The cost of running school pools is significant with many schools now opting to close or demolish them. We are absolutely determined to keep our school pool operational and in the best condition possible, in order to have a facility for teaching swimming and one that can be used by school families throughout the summer months. The small cost (\$35 for existing key holders and \$40 for new key holders) goes some way to meeting the expenses of keeping the pool heated and clean. Keys are available from the school office.



On payment the school office will issue you a receipt, which you then take to Allied Locks in Bank Street, who will electronically code your key, allowing you both access to the grounds and pool area. They will charge you \$3 for this.

All key holders must abide by the rules stated in the agreement which you will need to sign and retain a copy of.

Young children with soiled nappies/diapers must **NOT** enter the water or be changed on the side of the pool.

It has been proven that the more time children spend in the water, the greater the confidence and the skill level.

GOLD AWARDS

Students, who have attained their Gold Award in Term 4, will be presented with them by the Mayor, Janie Annear, on Monday 12 December.

PLATINUM AWARDS

These will be awarded at prize giving.

BRASS BAND SCHOLARSHIPS

Alpine Energy Brass Band continues to support the school by offering five scholarships to new members.

This provides them with an instrument, and tutoring for the first year free of charge.

The following students have scholarships for 2012, Chloe Kinsman, Eul Jaan Su, Asha Hirsi, Lucy Barnes, Adam Alexander

SCHOOL FEES AND DONATIONS FOR 2012

The following amounts have been set for School Fees and Donations for 2012.

Paper Levy	\$15.00 per student (this is a fee that must be paid, it is not a donation)
School Donations	\$70 for the first child and \$20 extra for each sibling.

If the school donations are paid before the end of Term 1 (Thursday 5 April, 2012) a \$10 discount will be given per family. Please note that school donations are tax deductible and a 1/3 of the payment will be reimbursed by the IRD, after returning their donation claim form to them.

FAMILIES FINISHING THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE SCHOOL THIS YEAR

Adams Family; Afasene-Wilson Family; Alloo Family; Aspden Family; Chambers Family; Dellow Family; Fairbrother Family; Finlay Family; Godwin Family; Goodman Family; Hoskins Family; Johnson Family; Knipe Family; Lewis Family; Mann Family; McCord Family; Nausu Family; Patrick Family, Robinson-Wells Family; Shimmin Family; Stretch Family; Sutcliffe Family; Switalla Family; Talbo Family; Van de Wiel Family; Wharepapa Family; Winn Family



CRICKET

We have purchased some caps for cricket and softball teams, thanks to a successful grant organised by the Home and School Committee.

MOUNTAIN BIKE GROUP

Mr Hawkey and a keen group of senior students have enjoyed various mountain bike rides on Fridays after



school.

The plan is to enter a group into the Pass to Pub, mountain bike race next year.

CANTEEN

We have sold the existing canteen and are at present remodeling the dental clinic which will be used as a canteen from the beginning of 2012.

MUFTI DAY – CHANGE IN DATE

This Friday, 9 December is a mufti day not Thursday 15 as indicated on the Term 4 calendar. A coin donation for Purity our sponsored child would be appreciated (any coin).

ITINERANT OPPORTUNITIES AT GRANTLEA DOWNS IN 2012

In 2012 the same opportunities for itinerant lessons will be on offer during school hours at Grantlea Downs. In the back of this newsletter are advertisements for the various opportunities available. Please either contact the itinerant teachers directly or complete the slip in the newsletter and return to the school office. – note that the slips will be collected AFTER the holidays by the itinerant teachers so you will not be contacted until the New Year. Spaces are limited, so be in quick!

FINANCE

Accounts have gone out this week. Please make sure payment is made for any amounts owing by **THIS Friday 9 December – AT THE LATEST**. If you need to discuss payment options please phone Leanne in the school office on 6847706.

All outstanding amounts for Year 8 students must be made before the end of their schooling at Grantlea Downs otherwise alternative arrangements will be made to recover amounts owing.

Library Books



These should have been returned on Monday. If you have not already done so **PLEASE** return these tomorrow otherwise invoices will be issued.

Reading Books

Could all class reading books especially the Juniors' books be returned as soon as possible if they haven't already. There will be an amnesty for ALL books

Year 8 – Free Dental Care

All Year 8 students will have received a dental form to fill out and bring back to school **as soon as possible** to ensure they will receive free dental care to the age of 18. If you have not returned your child's form **please do so immediately** to ensure they will receive free dental treatment.



Join Alice and her mother on a fantastical adventure into Wonderland.

To a world of tea parties, crazy characters and a very bad tempered Queen. This hilarious version of the timeless tale features your favourite characters as well as some new ones.

With songs, dance and giggles galore this is the perfect Christmas treat for all the family.

Playhouse Theatre
Church Street
TIMARU

Mon 19th Dec
2pm and 7pm

Tue 20th Dec
2pm only

Wed 21st Dec
2pm and 7pm



Book now at www.iticket.co.nz
(keyword: Alice)
or freephone 0508 iTICKET

FOR SALE

2 x MVHS Blazers Size 80
\$180 each
Phone Jane on 686 9339

Assembly Awards Weeks 5

Excellent Effort			
Week 5 Term 4		Values Focus Award	Achievement Award Seals of Approval
Rm 1	Abby Lister	Ebony Strudwicke Ella Smith	Hadley Hammond
Rm 2	Makaia Day-Brown Holly McCulloch	Rakanga Smith	Mollie Phillips
Rm 3	Bailey Patterson-Page, Peyton Powell, Andrei Chpliko, Luke Mitchell	Ashton Sandford	Courtney Young
Rm 4	Maddox Peneamene, Harmoniee Smith	Tyson Coombes	Alexis Gracia
Rm 5	Alexi Cook Isabella Wilson	Summer Ruddle	Kaleb Flavell
Rm 6	Elish Price	Jessica Attewell	Emma Fairhall
Rm 7	Conor White, Ila Dorgan-Bower, Kieran Biggs,	Rebecca McTague	Jacob Coyle, Mia Ryan,
Rm 8	Kahu Day-Brown, Brayden Stevenson	Isaac Hargraves-Darren	Ava Blisset
Rm 9	Caitlin Alexander, Kristie Goodsir, Kenneth Cowie	Lleyton Phillips	Dylan Dalrymple
Rm 10	Jakob Fraser, Ethen Ferguson, Angel Small	Beth Haley	Nikita Iggo
Rm 11	Brodie Anderson, Michaela Kennedy, Hannah Rempala	Alexandra Gregory	Laurence Chapman
Rm 12	Ethyn McTier, Nathan Mackay	Chloe Frew	Amelio Page, Shavaughn Bell, Tracey Ellis
Rm 13	Ross Godwin, Shay Perry, Abby Taylor	Isaiah Wharepapa	Julia Fairbrother (Week 4/5)
Rm 14	Week 4 – Danielle Welch, Samantha Alloo, Jesse Moffat Week 5 – Katrina Beattie, Todd Phillips, Paul Lewis	Susana Stuart Korlina Volkov	Brendan Ferguson Kenya McLaughlin

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Simple traditions

Most parents want to create a treasure trove of memories that their children can look back on, filled foremost with the traditions and rituals that we create for them, especially at a time like Christmas.

If you're sometimes overwhelmed by trying to create the 'perfect' childhood, remember that a tradition is simply something you do regularly. It doesn't have to be spectacular, expensive, or involve a huge amount of planning. The little things that we're already doing, like playing the same cheesy Christmas carols CD while decorating the tree, or spending a morning making shortbread for friends and family, are just as precious to our kids. Why not ask them this year – "What's your favourite thing that we always do at Christmas?"

Loving unconditionally

Most parents would say that they love their children unconditionally – no matter what they do, they'll always be loved. To really communicate this to your children, make sure that there are some family routines and rituals which can never be threatened by poor behavior. In spite of what they've done, family movie night or the Saturday morning pancakes, or whatever it is you do, is never off the menu. When they mess up, they need to know more than ever that their family is a secure and a welcoming place for them.

Looking for a fun way to spend your SUMMER holidays???

YMCA South and Mid Canterbury have two AMAZING holiday programmes organised for January 2012 and we would like YOU to come along!

Our **91 North Street** programme is running from **Monday 16th – Friday 20th January 2012**.

Our new **Life Kids** holiday programme will be running from **Monday 23rd – Friday 27th January 2012**.

For more information contact Amyie at YMCA South and Mid Canterbury: on 688 3682 or amyie@ymcasc.org.nz

SOUTH CANTERBURY GYMSPORTS Inc –

we are now to accepting enrolments for the 2012 Incentive Gymnastics season, beginning 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.

NIT-ENZ is SAFE, EFFECTIVE & VERY AFFORDABLE!

Simply use as a normal shampoo twice a week, normal conditioner afterwards, **and you won't have to worry about head lice again!**

Nit-Enz is NOW available from Timaru New World or for further details visit www.nit-enz.com.

\$15.35 NIT-ENZ Certified Organic Shampoo 225ml (will last approx a school term when used as directed)!

\$10.20 NIT-ENZ Head Lice Repellent Hair Gel 200ml or Hair Spray 165ml to be used daily!

Living Springs Summer Camp

8 - 13th Jan

Age 8 - Year 8

go to www.livingsprings.co.nz under 'Whats New'

or ph 03 329 9788 for all the details

HIP HOP/DANCE WORKSHOPS

For 5-14 year olds.
Beginning next year.
First session free.
Expressions of interest and for more information, phone Chantelle Litten after 3 pm on 027 588 5384

Timaru Boys' High School

2nd Hand Uniform sale
This Saturday 10th
December 9.30-11.00am
Hogben Hall

The 2nd hand Uniform shop will also be open on Saturday the 21st January from 10am -12pm

School Holiday Special

2 for the price of 1

Pay entry & skate hire for one person and a second person skates for free.

This voucher can be redeemed at any public session. Check below for times.

Valid until 1/2/2012.

SKATING at Caroline Bay

Marine Parade

26th December – 8th January

OPEN DAILY FROM 3 – 4.30 pm

20th & 22nd December Open 2 – 4pm

School Holiday Public Sessions 10th – 31st Jan

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday 2 – 4pm

Learn to Skate – Every Sunday from 2.15 – 2.45pm

Public Session – Every Sunday from 2 – 4pm

Entry - \$2.50 - Skate Hire - \$3.50

Spectators - Free

Please bring along a helmet and socks.

You're their lifeguard - Keep your Child safe at the pool this summer!



Over the Summer School holidays many families will be enjoying all the fun and excitement local swimming pools have to offer.

Water Safety NZ and NZ Recreation Association would like to remind families about the Pool Alone policy that public pools in New Zealand are required to adhere to:

Children under 8 must be actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or over.

Actively supervised means watching your child at all times; Able to provide immediate assistance*

Lifeguards are an important safety feature, but they are not intended to replace the close supervision of parents or caregivers.

Tragically many drowning deaths occur in the few seconds that parents are distracted. The role of a lifeguard is to ensure people are safe in the water - they are not babysitters.

Remembering this when you take your family for a swim will help our pools to remain safe and fun places for everyone to enjoy.

*Please note that some pools have a stricter policy than the one above

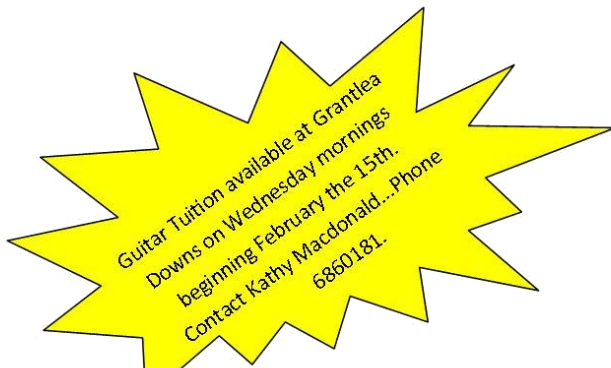


ITINERANT LESSONS - 2012

Expression of interest / enrolment in:

Student Name

		Intereste d and wish to	Definite enrolmen t	Already enrolled (continua
Piano				
Keyboard				
Drums				
Guitar				
Speech & Drama				



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 de-

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

www.spechnz.co.nz

DRUM LESSONS



\$20 for 20 minutes

Harriet Richards
BEd (Tchg)

6889408 or 027 388 2027
harrietrichards@hotmail.co.nz

Start Date: Thursday 9th February 2012