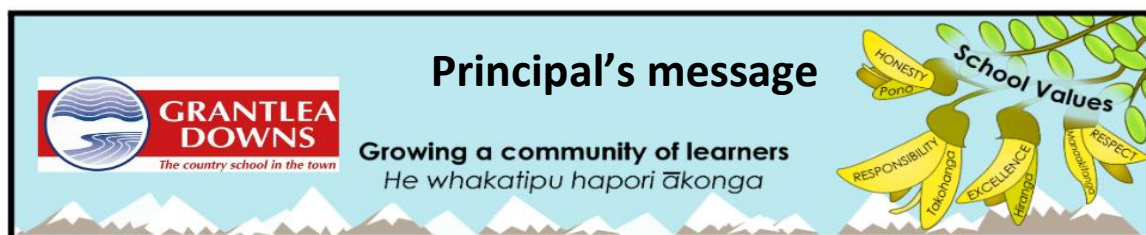




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www.grantleadowns.school.nz



19th November 2025
Newsletter No 19



Tena koutou Katou

As we find ourselves in Week 7 of Term 4, with about four weeks remaining for the 2025 school year, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers and hardworking students. This time of year is pivotal as we conduct end-of-year assessments to celebrate the progress made throughout the year. These assessments not only highlight the areas where our students have excelled but also guide us in identifying opportunities for professional development for our staff. We are eager to share your child's end-of-year report with you soon, reflecting their achievements and growth.

Looking Ahead to Newsletters in 2026

In 2026, we plan to transition away from our traditional newsletter format. Instead, we will be using HERO to upload individual posts, ensuring timely and focused communication. I will continue to send out a standalone fortnightly Principal's message, which will undoubtedly be the most important HERO message to read! 😊

Kereta Camp at Wainui

I had the privilege of joining the Kereta team at their three-day camp in Wainui. The weather was stunning, and it was a joy to see our Year 7 and 8 students embracing challenges, forming new memories, and strengthening friendships. I am incredibly proud of their exemplary behaviour, even when faced with fatigue. A huge thank you to the parents who joined us: Dallas, Stephanie, Alana, Anna, Kate, David, Marc, Daryl, Scott, Matthew and Steve.

To our dedicated Kereta teachers—Sam Carlaw, Alice Austin, and Vicki Evans—for their commitment and hard work in making the camp a success. We will soon celebrate our Year 8 students as they transition from Grantlea Downs, marking an exciting yet bittersweet milestone.



Newsletter

Insights from the Rob Cope Parent Evening

The recent Rob Cope parent evening was a significant event, drawing a diverse crowd of about 160 parents, with 30 of them hailing from Grantlea Downs.

Rob Cope's presentation was both hard-hitting and confronting, but as a parent, I found it to be incredibly meaningful and enlightening. It opened my eyes to the critical role we play in safeguarding our children in the vast and often challenging world of the internet.



His insights were not only thought-provoking but also empowering, equipping us with the knowledge needed to better protect our children online. I wholeheartedly recommend that if you have the chance to attend one of Rob Cope's workshops, you seize the opportunity. Looking ahead to 2026, I will share snippets of information from Rob Cope in my Principal's messages, offering invaluable advice on how parents can effectively support their children in navigating the complexities of the digital age.

Support Our Raffle



We have a raffle at the main office! Tickets are only \$2, and all proceeds will contribute to the junior playground.

A special thank you to Adam Lambert from Cloudy Peaks Butchery for donating a \$50 voucher. The raffle will be drawn on Friday, December 12th, so there's plenty of time to get your tickets.

Thank you to everyone who supported the sausage sizzle, and we look forward to seeing you at the Bunnings Community BBQ on Sunday, November 30th.

Athletics Update

Our athletics event was a great success despite the rain on Thursday afternoon. Friday turned out to be perfect for competition. We wish our students competing in the South Canterbury athletics all the best. Many thanks to Alice Austin, Sam Carlaw, and our Mountain View student helpers and Fiona Hurst, as well as Dallas Brown on the BBQ, for their outstanding efforts. Also, to Mr Vogel for preparing the grounds for the events.

Our Strategic Plan

Throughout the year, we gathered valuable input from our community and staff to shape our strategic plan for the next three years. We are excited to present a plan that reflects our community's priorities and aligns with government initiatives. Our three pillars are:

1. **Belonging and Engagement** – Enhancing our school events to foster a sense of community.
 2. **Learning that Matters** – Focusing on the new English and Maths curriculum.
 3. **Thriving Learners** – Developing initiatives that meet learners where they are and focusing on the whole child.
- We look forward to sharing more details of our strategic plan next year.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we are shaping a vibrant and nurturing environment for our students to thrive.
'Growing a community of learners'.

Ngā mihi nui,
Beth Wills
Principal

REMINDER:
SCHOOL PHOTOS DUE BACK
By Friday 21ST November

Caught being Good Award Term 4, Week 5

Azaeh Tuari, Aviana Foster, Casper Kovacs
Nico Clifford, Chase Reweti, Harper McIntyre

Class Values Awards Term 4, Week 6

Mei Huang, Amber Cox, Bonnie Cross-Papuni,
Shannon Bates, Kai Cariaga

The pool mural is finally complete!

Planning began back in 2023, with some of our Year 8 leavers contributing to the initial design.

This year, Miss Penni and the 2025 Year 7 and 8 students refined and finalised the artwork at the start of the year, although progress was delayed by uncooperative weather.

Our seniors have worked tirelessly during their lunch breaks to ensure the mural was finished in time for the swimming season. In total, more than 40 students have contributed to creating this vibrant artwork, which now spans five walls outside the changing rooms. We hope to host an open day soon, so everyone has the opportunity to view the mural in its entirety.



KIDSARTWORKS Calendar Fundraiser

Missed the cut off for ordering items from KIDSARTWORKS? You're in luck. We have opened a second order for you to purchase goodies made with your child's artwork (or add your own image). These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends. To order any of these affordable Calendars, Cards, Diaries, Mouse Mats and Sketch Pads, follow the instructions below. Another copy of your child's artwork and order code/information was sent home yesterday.

Follow these instructions to place your order online:

1/. Go to www.kidsartworks.com

2/. Use the Entrance Code: KZ1534

3/. Enter your child's room & name when prompted

The order is open now until 1 December 2025

Payment can be made over the website via credit card or account2account.

If you have any questions please contact the school on 03 684 7706



Our yummy school lunches are always appreciated.

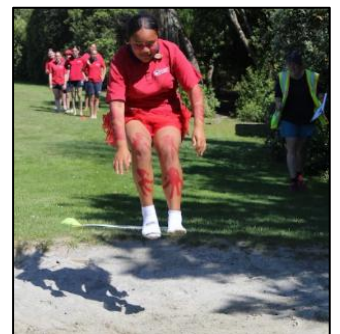
A huge thank you to Fiona and kitchen team 😊

Junior Sprints held on 11th September - Results

5 Year Girls	1st	Anna McAuliffe Aliana Ryan	2nd		3rd	Rosie Leslie
5 Year Boys	1st	Harlow Corbin	2nd	Jayden Kannemeyer	3rd	Ollie Smith
6 Year Girls	1st	Chloe Ferguson	2nd	Bianka O'Connor	3rd	Margot Stringer
6 Year Boys	1st	Mika Akagi	2nd	Waimarama Hiri-Harris	3rd	Dhyan Renjith
7 Year Girls	1st	Irie Corbett	2nd	Freida Bennet	3rd	Addison Fox
7 Year Boys	1st	Max Yerbury	2nd	Theo Hart	3rd	WB/Frankie McArthur

School Sprint results from 18th November

Event	Age Group	1 st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
70	U8 Girls	Bella Ford	Ksenia Streltsova	Harla Brinsdon	Maddison Valentine	Lavida Dyer	Te Aika Reihana
	U8 Boys	Louis Dennis	Chase Reweti	Max Yerbury	JJ McCarthy Wederell	Ayson Kannemeyer	Tyler Ferguson
	U9 Girls	Avante Watene	Manvi Maneesh	Elexir Jamieson	Lilly McGrail	Lucy Clark	Athena Rejeesh
	U9 Boys	Skyler Felizardo	Luke MacGregor	Noti Fakasiieiki	Ciaran Campbell	Henry Morris	Akulan Ashwinkumar
100	U10 Girls	Te Arika Corbett	Sisilia Fakasiieiki	Aria Henry Evans	Ayla Kerridge	Bailee Armstrong	Bhavya Gopakumar
	U10 Boys	Leo Dunnage	Hunter-Jay Paisley	Lawson Kavanaugh	Luka Pratley	Wiremu Kotua-Tekoronga	Arshik Rinsh
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Harper McIntyre	Lavanya Renjith	Lucy Thornley	Hannah Kavanaugh	Francesca Russell
	U11 Boys	Axle Ramsey-Turner	Tawhirimatea Whyte	Casey Holden	Mason Pratley		
	U12 Girls	Scoutt Tee	Ruby MacGregor	Manaia Evans	Tiani Rongonui	Payton Tairaki	Honor Walkinshaw-Dee
	U12 Boys	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Jozac Ioka	Mason Fitzgerald	Xhyon Gordon-Patterson	Tristan Phipps	Jax Rolton
	O12 Girls	Kristy Goundar	Bailey Clarkson	Ella Lambert	Ola Latu	Eilah Holden	Kassi White
	O12 Boys	Archie Kotua	Vann Agnew	Caleb Gavan	JJ Leger	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga	Caiden Hough





Athletics results:

Event	Age Group	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
High Jump	U8 Girls	Harla Brinsdon	Lavida Dyer	Ksenia Streltsova
	U8 Boys	Max Yerbury	Chase Reweti	Louis Dennis
	U9 Girls	Manvi Maneesh	Avante Watene	-
	U9 Boys	Luke MacGregor	Skyler Felizardo	Noti Fakasiieiki
	U10 Girls	Te Ariki Corbett	Sisilia Fakasiieiki	Bhavya Gopakumar
	U10 Boys	Leo Dunnage	Lihan Van der Merwe	Wiremu Thomson
	U 11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Hannah Kavanaugh	Lavanya Renjith
	U11 Boys	Tawhirimatea Whyte	Axle Ramsey-Turner	Ashton Wentworth Smith
	U12 Girls	Ruby MacGregor	Scoutt Tee	Tiani Rongonui
	U12 Boys	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Romeo Yerbury	Jozac Ioka
	O12 Girls	Kristy Goundar	Bailey Clarkson	Ella Lambert
	O12 Boys	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga	Olly Brown-Innes	Caleb Gavan
Long Jump	U8 Girls	Bella Ford	Lavida Dyer	Te Aika Reihana & Aaliyah Nausu
	U8 Boys	Max Yerbury	Chase Reweti	Louis Dennis
	U9 Girls	Avante Watene	Brooke Willetts	Elexir Jamieson
	U9 Boys	Luke MacGregor	Noti Fakasiieiki	Skyler Felizardo
	U10 Girls	Sisilia Fakasiieiki	Aria Henry-Evans	Jayda Tairaki-Houia
	U10 Boys	Hunter-Jay Paisley	Leo Dunnage	Wiremu Thomson
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Hannah Kavanaugh	Ava Lambert
	U11 Boys	Axle Ramsey-Turner	Leroy Johnston	Ashton Wentworth Smith
	U12 Girls	Scoutt Tee	Tiani Rongonui	Ruby MacGregor
	U12 Boys	Jozac Ioka	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Xhyon Gordon-Patterson
	O12 Girls	Kristy Goundar	Eilah Holden	Ava Maraku
	O12 Boys	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga	Caiden Hough	Caleb Gavan
Baseball Throw	U8 Boys	Tyler Ferguson	Theo McCarthy	Loki Vakalala
	U8 Girls	Harla Brinsdon	Ksenia Streltsova	Vanessa Yorston
	U9 Girls	Avante Watene	Brooke Willetts	Lucy Clark
	U9 Boys	Noti Fakasiieiki	Henry Morris	Luke MacGregor
	U10 Girls	Bailee Armstrong	Sisilia Fakasiieiki	Te Ariki Corbett
	U10 Boys	Leo Dunnage	Wiremu Kotua-Tekoronga	Blake Rolton
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Monica Backhouse	Neaka Morris
	U11 Boys	Axel Strudwicke	Tawhirimatea Whyte	Mahana McMillan-Lindberg
	U12 Girls	Scoutt Tee	Payton Tairaki	Ruby MacGregor
	U12 Boys	Xhyon Gordon-Patterson	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Jozac Ioka
	O12 Girls	Ava Maraku	Ella Lambert	Kristy Goundar
	O12 Boys	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga	JJ Leger	Archie Kotua
Shot Put	U8 Boys	Loki Vakalala	Chase Reweti	Theo McCarthy
	U8 Girls	Aania Chand	Vanessa Yorston	Aaliyah Nausu
	U9 Girls	Tessa Fifita	Avante Watene	Alaysia Ballantyne
	U9 Boys	James Willmott	Henry Morris	Luke MacGregor
	U10 Boys	Wiremu Kotua-Tekoronga	Blake Rolton	Leo Dunnage
	U10 Girls	Aria Henry Evans	Sisilia Fakasiieiki	Anabelle O'Connor
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Monica Backhouse	Keni Rogers
	U11 Boys	Axel Strudwicke	Mahana McMillan-Lindberg	Leroy Johnston
	U12 Girls	Scoutt Tee	Payton Tairaki	Tiani Rongonui
	U12 Boys	Mason Fitzgerald	Xhyon Gordon-Patterson	Jax Rolton
	O12 Girls	Indy Bates	Ola Latu	Heidi Fuller
	O12 Boys	JJ Leger	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga	Caleb Gavan

Athletics results continued

200 metres	U10 Girls	Te Ariki Corbett	Sophie Reweti	Aria Henry Evans
	U10 Boys	Leo Dunnage	Lawson Kavanaugh	Hunter-Jay Paisley
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Francesca Russell	Hannah Kavanaugh
	U11 Boys	Ashton Wentworth Smith	Tawhirimatea Whyte	
	U12 Girls	Scoutt Tee	Ruby MacGregor	Manaia Evans
	U12 Boys	Jozac Ioka	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Mason Fitzgerald
	O12 Girls	Bailey Clarkson	Kristy Goundar	Ava Maraku
	O12 Boys	Olly Brown-Innes	Archie Kotua	Manu Kotua-Tekoronga
400 metres	U10 Girls	Charlee Rawson	LM	Sophie Reweti
	U10 Boys	Lawson Kavanaugh	Arshik Rinsh	Hunter-Jay Paisley
	U11 Girls	Keeva Fitzgerald	Abby Thornton	Hannah Kavanaugh
	U11 Boys	Axle Ramsey-Turner	Ashton Wentworth Smith	Axel Strudwicke
	U12 Girls	Ruby MacGregor	Manaia Evans	Lydia Nelson
	U12 Boys	Jozac Ioka	TJ Kotua-Tekoronga	Gordon Crichton-Solomon
	O12 Girls	Bailey Clarkson	Ava Maraku	Kristy Goundar
	O12 Boys	Caiden Hough	Olly Brown-Innes	Caleb Gavan

Athletics day

On the 14th of November 2025, Grantlea Downs competed in their whole school athletics day. Athletics contains sports such as; 200 meter sprints, high jump, long jump, shotput, and softball throw. Students competed against one another for the chance to go to South Canterbury Athletics. It was a very competitive event with all four houses trying to gain house points. Athletics day is a great opportunity for everyone to participate and give their best effort. We want to say a huge thank you to Miss Austin and Mr Carlaw for organising the event, the Mountainview High School students for helping on the stations, and the parents for supporting us on the day.

By Araliyah and Honor

COMMUNITY NOTICES



The Kids Are in Charge!

Kids Big Christmas Market

10am - 1pm

Free Entry

Sunday 23rd November
Caroline Bay Hall

50 Stalls, all run by kids

Handcrafted Goods Sweet Treats & Baking
Quality Pre-loved Toys Books Trading Cards
3D Printed Toys Crochet Craft Kits
Kids Clothing Plants Kid Run Businesses!



South Canterbury Eco Youth Presents

ECO ECHO FEST

South Canterbury Eco Youth invites you to our
Eco Echo Music Festival

to see our talented school bands and students perform on

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER
4PM - 9PM

ECO CENTRE 55C REDRUTH ST, TIMARU
(NEXT TO THE CROWS NEST)

SCAN ME  GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!
TICKETS: \$10.00
UNDER 13: \$5.00

To register a band

www.sceocentre.org.nz/events/
This is a smoke, vape, and alcohol free event.

SCAN ME  To buy a ticket

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL

SOUTH CANTERBURY
ECO CENTRE
Te Pokapu Taiao o Aoraki

© ECO Youth



PLEASE CHECK YOUR STUDENTS UNIFORM

ARE YOU MISSING SOME ITEMS???

Our lost property box is overflowing. Unclaimed, un-named uniform items will periodically be disposed of.

If you are trying to locate a lost uniform item, please discuss this with your child's classroom teacher and feel free to check at the school office.

A black rectangular graphic with a red border. The word "NAME" is written in large white capital letters. A faint watermark "BTC Dog Tags" is visible diagonally across the bottom right of the graphic.

NAME

ALSO - PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE NAMED!

We strongly encourage the naming of all uniform items, including shoes, drink bottles, lunch boxes, and swimming gear.