



65 Grants Road, Timaru
 Phone 684 7706
 Absences text 027 684 7706
 Email. office@grantleadowns.school.nz
 www.grantleadowns.school.nz



Newsletter

19 February 2025
Newsletter No 2



Kia ora koutou,

As we embark on a new term, I'm thrilled to share our focus on kotahitanga, the Māori concept of coming together and working as a team. Our theme for the year, "He waka eke noa," reminds us that we are all in the waka together, journeying from the mountains to the sea—*ki uta ki tai*. This philosophy is beautifully embodied in our school logo and a new art project, the Korowai displayed in our hall. Last year each student contributed to making a feather, symbolising the strength and beauty of unity. Through this project, we embrace the values of respect, responsibility, honesty, and excellence, creating a thriving, supportive environment for all.



In our Relationship unit, we explore "Te whare tapa whā," focusing on health and well-being, and how we can support one another. By fostering these values and teachings, we aim to nurture a happy and safe space where everyone can flourish.

Community School Picnic

Last Wednesday night, our community gathered for a delightful school picnic, celebrating the spirit of *kotahitanga*—coming together as one. The event was a beautiful demonstration of our collective strength and unity, reinforcing the idea that we are all part of the same waka, journeying together. Thank you to Temuka Transport for the use of your spectacular BBQ. The chefs did a great job too!



The Importance of Good Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial for student success. We encourage all students to attend school consistently, as every day offers new opportunities for learning and growth. Please speak with your teacher if you need support in getting your child to school.

Parent Conferences

This week, we are holding parent conferences on Wednesday and Thursday. **Please note that school will close at 12:30PM on Wednesday only.** These conferences are a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate successes, and explore ways to support their learning journey. It's also a perfect occasion to address any questions or concerns with your child's teacher, who knows your child best.

Communication

We love hearing from our families! Whether it's celebrating successes or addressing challenges, open communication is key. If your child is facing any difficulties, please reach out to their teacher to set up a time for a thoughtful discussion. Our team is committed to working collaboratively to resolve any issues. Should further support be needed, our senior leadership team is here to assist. We strive to make Grantlea Downs a welcoming and safe environment for all and encourage early communication before concerns escalate. As always, we uphold our values of respect, responsibility, honesty, and excellence in all our interactions.

We look forward to seeing you at the conferences.

Ngā mihi nui,
Beth Wills

Upcoming events:

Learning conferences (Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th Feb)
School Triathlon (Thursday 27th Feb)
Room 9 (Assembly (Friday 28th Feb, 2.15pm)
Acacia Camp (Wednesday 12th, Thursday 13th & Friday 14th March)
Room 14 Assembly (Friday 14th March, 2.15pm)
Teacher Only Day (Monday 17th March)
Swimming at C Bay for Teams Kereta and Acacia (18th of March to 27th March)
Mufti-day Charity Bike Ride (Friday 21st March)
Top Teams (Thursday 27th March)
Room 12 Assembly (Friday 28th March, 2.15pm)
Colour Run (Friday 4th April, 2pm)
Room 10 Assembly (Friday 11th April, 2.15pm)
Last day of Term 1 (Friday 11th April)



SCHOOL CLOSED -
ADVANCED NOTICE
We have a Teacher Only
Day scheduled for Week 7
MONDAY 17 MARCH 2025



NEW STUDENTS

We welcome the following student to Grantlea Downs this week: Jayden Kannemeyer.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER GOAL
SETTING INTERVIEWS –
WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 1.00PM –
6.50PM INCLUSIVE

THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 3.30PM – 5.20PM INCLUSIVE



SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT 12.30PM TODAY, IT IS
ONLY OPEN DURING THE AFTERNOON FOR
INTERVIEWS

Principal Awards - Term 1 Week 2

Georgie Morris, Ciaran Campbell, Gemma Halkett-Doull,
Sophia Bubbert

Class and Values Champions

Class Awards – Week 1

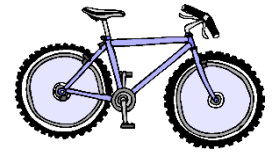
Aliana Ryan, Scarlett Yorston, Evie Hokai-Gage, Aroha Blissett, Athreya Ashwinkumar, Dontae Jamison, Aania Chand, Lavidia Dyer, Briar Marshall, Kingsley O'Neill, Chevelle Thomas, Riley Welbourn, Maynard Jamieson

Values Champion – Week 2

Docxon Waiperi, Aleiyah Richards, Connor Hough, Bonnie Cross-Papuni, Brax Brady, Emily Harris, Manvi Maneesh, Tristan Greenfield, Dan Akagi-Taynee, Luka Pratley, Hazel Hutton, Danni Steedman, Xhyon Gordon-Patterson, Lucy Thornley



Grantlea Downs Triathlon



A reminder that the Triathlon is on next Thursday
27th February

Time	Event	Order
9.30-10.40am	Year 5/6 Individual	Girls
		Boys
11.00-12.30pm	Year 7/8 Individual	Girls
		Boys
1.30-2.15pm	Year 0-2 Individual	Girls
		Boys
2.15-3.00PM	Year 3/4 Individual	Girls
		Boys

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

We encourage parents and family members to come along and support their child.
Ophi children can have either bikes or scooters.

Break times will remain the same and lunch will still be provided.

Students are expected to remain at school after the completion of their triathlon, please do not take your child early.

We still require parent helpers. If you can spare some time next Thursday, we would love to hear from you on 684 7706.

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

The first meeting of the School Board will be Tuesday 25 February 2025 at 6.30 pm in the Administration Office Board Room. All parents are welcome to attend. Please note that while members of the public can attend this meeting, it is not a public meeting meaning the public do not have speaking rights.

The following policies are currently being reviewed on SchoolDocs this term: Health, Safety, and Welfare Policy; Safety Management System; Risk Management; Worker Engagement; Participation, and Representation; Healthcare; Recording and Reporting Accidents, Injuries and Illness.

School Docs

All of our School Policies are located on the SchoolDocs website. Below are instructions on how you can view these.

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on *Search for your school* in the top right hand corner
2. Type in Grantlea Downs, and click on the prompted school name
3. Username is grantleadowns
4. Password is grantsroad

There is a **Quick Links for Parents** topic with links to the most relevant policies and procedures.

“Copyright: Except where stated, the content on this site is the copyright of SchoolDocs Ltd. It may not be reproduced without written permission from SchoolDocs Ltd.”

SCHOOL DONATIONS – GOVERNMENT SCHEME

Last year the Grantlea Downs School Board, decided to continue to 'opt in' to the Government Donations Scheme. By our school 'opting in' this means that we will not ask parents for school donations except for overnight camps (as per the Education (School Donations) Amendment Bill).

What is **not covered** by School Donations **and is still payable to school** is the following:

- Any voluntary stationery e.g., new entrant stationery packs.
- The 'take home' component of TTEC (Technology fees) – please note you have agreed to pay these fees on your enrolment form when you enrol your child.
- Weekend or after school sports fees e.g., netball, touch rugby, basketball, softball/t-ball etc
- Visiting drama or music groups (**please note we currently do not ask for payment for this**)
- After-hours/lunchtime culture activities
- After-hours/lunchtime sports activities
- School uniform

In addition to the government donations scheme, our students are fortunate to be receiving free fruit in schools and free school lunches – not all schools receive these benefits.

Please note: If at any time the government does not offer the School Donations – Government scheme, or the Board decides to opt out of this scheme, then donations will need to be requested to provide the opportunities that your child currently receives.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



JUNIOR REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025 FOOTBALL SEASON IS NOW OPEN!!



For all **new** or **returning** players (6th-13th Grade)
PRE REGISTER NOW or come to our **'HAVE A GO - REGISTRATION DAY'**



When: Sunday 2nd March, 2025
Time: 2pm
Where: ANZAC Square (Rose Street, Timaru)

For any queries please contact
Rebecca Shepherd (Junior Coordinator)
timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com

Also 'Like' our Timaru Thistle AFC Facebook page to stay up to date with all of our club information

If you would like to **PRE REGISTER** or are **UNABLE TO MAKE IT** please **EMAIL** the **REGISTRATION INFORMATION** below to:

timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com

Child's full name
Date of birth
Address
Phone number
Email address
Parent's names
Child's clothing size

WE NEED COACHES!!

Please let us know if you are interested in coaching a junior team **this season.**



CELTIC JAB RUGBY REGISTRATION

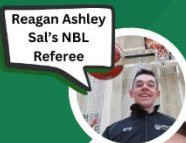
Saturday Feb 22nd at Fraser park
10:30am - 12:30pm
Sausage sizzle for the kids
&
Monday Feb 24th at
the Celtic Clubrooms
5pm - 7pm




BASKETBALL Referee Course

Transform Your Passion for Basketball into Expertise with Our Referee Course!

With South Canterbury Basketball Referee Development Officers




Reagan Ashley
Sal's NBL
Referee



Brittany Young
Tauhi Referee

**February 24 At
4:30 PM**

Register via the link in the post or scan the QR code





Good men in the making

Join us at our Open Day
**Sunday 9 March,
1pm - 3pm**

Learning Together
Growing Together

www.timaruboysschool.nz

