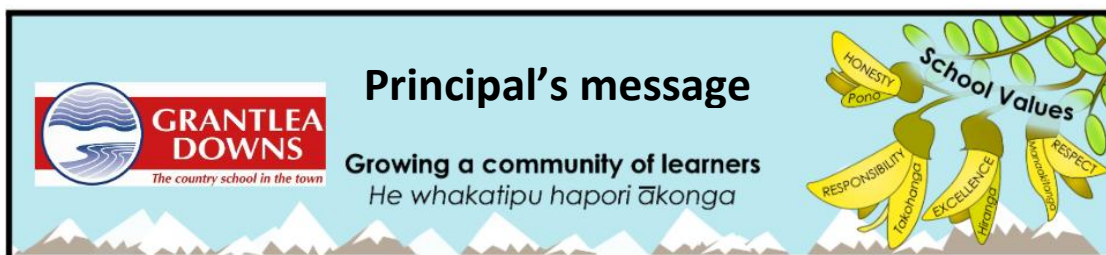




65 Grants Road, Timaru
Phone 684 7706
Absences text 027 684 7706
Email: office@grantleadowns.school.nz
www.grantleadowns.school.nz



25 June 2025
Newsletter No 10



Tena koutou Katou

As we draw to the end of a busy Term 2, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past few months. It has been a term characterised by colder days, brisk frosts, and muddy wet fields, yet filled with warmth from community spirit and enthusiasm for learning.

Term Highlights

This term, our students have been involved in a variety of enriching events. Our house leaders had the opportunity to attend the National Young Leaders Day, an inspiring event that encouraged leadership and community service. We also celebrated Pink Shirt Day, spreading kindness and awareness against bullying.

The Hui Waiata was another highlight, where our choir sang beautifully, showcasing their hard work and talent. Our cross country event brought out the competitive spirit in some of our students, while the Life Education sessions provided valuable lessons for all.

Book Night was a success, fostering a love for reading among students and parents alike. Last week, we enjoyed our Matariki breakfasts—a truly lovely occasion that brought the community together to celebrate this significant time of year.



Reports on HERO

On Friday evening, you will receive your child's mid-year report on HERO.

The mid-year report provides a comprehensive overview of your child's academic progress in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. It details specific goals for each subject area that your child is currently working towards and highlights their achievements and areas for improvement. The report includes a general comment on your child's attitude towards learning, evaluating how they embody our school values of Excellence, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. Additionally, it assesses how they demonstrate key competencies such as managing themselves, participating and contributing, and relating to others. We hope you find the insights in your child's report informative and encouraging. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the report further, please feel free to contact your

Newsletter

classroom teacher to arrange a meeting. Additionally, we have scheduled learning conferences in Week 3 of next term, where you can engage in deeper discussions regarding your child's academic progress and well-being.

Jump Jam Extravaganza

Last Thursday, we witnessed the vibrant Jump Jam Extravaganza, where four teams performed energetically. A heartfelt thank you to Bethany Marrett and Julia Trushin for their leadership and coordination in making this event a success.



Farewells and Welcomes

This week, we bid farewell to Rachel Gilchrist, who will be relocating to Christchurch. We are grateful for her immense efforts at Grantlea Downs and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

As we say goodbye to Rachel, we welcome Mrs. Joan Constable, who will be starting in Room 2 when we return from our holiday break.

Additionally, you may notice a new face at the front desk. Mrs Andrea Garven, after 13 years of being the welcoming presence at our front desk, is moving on. Andrea will be helping our new office administrator, Mrs Fiona Cameron, transition into her role over the next few weeks. On behalf of the Grantlea Downs community, I extend my gratitude to Andrea for her years of service, her calm presence, and her welcoming demeanour, which have left a lasting impression on many.

We also welcome four new teacher aides next term: Mr Paul Christie, Mrs Olivia Damian, Mrs Tracey O'Malley, and Mrs Mikayla Templer, who will be joining us to support our students and enhance their learning experiences.

Reading Data Update

We are tracking well on the whole, and most students are making progress. 72% of our student population is working at or above the expected level in reading. 26% of our Māori students are working towards their expected level. This is 7% of the school population.

33% of our NZ European/Pakeha students are working towards their expected level. This is 18% of the school population. 37% of boys and 20% of girls are working towards their expected level. This means 63% of boys and 80% of girls are working at or above the expected level.

If you would like more ways and ideas to help support your child with their reading at home, the link below to the New Zealand Education Parent Portal has many ways for you to support at home. Of course, you can always approach your classroom teacher for ideas and support.

[Parent Portal](#)

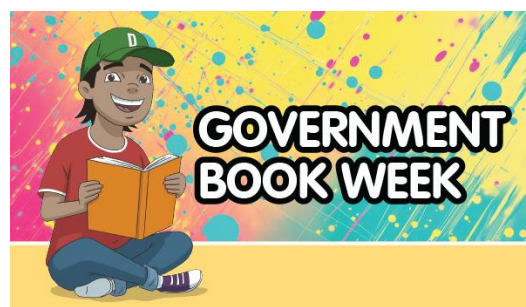
Thank you for your continued support and engagement with our school community. I hope you all enjoy a lovely and relaxing holiday.

Ngā mihi nui
Beth Wills

DUFFY BOOKS IN HOMES

Book Offer 2 - Government Book Week 23 – 27 June

This week the children will be receiving their Duffy Books for Term 2 to bring home. Earlier this term the children chose four books from a catalogue. They will receive two of these books, the cost being fully covered by the Government, no cost is incurred by the school or funding partner.



ADVANCED NOTICE!

School will be finishing at 12.30pm for students on Wednesday 30th July for Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences.

Lunches will still be provided.

Booking information to follow in the first newsletter of next term.

IMPORTANT POLICY UPDATE: DOG RESTRICTIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

We wish to inform all students, parents, and staff that starting from Term 3, there will be a change in our school policy regarding dogs on school grounds. From Term 3, dogs will no longer be allowed inside the school premises unless they are part of an approved educational activity.



Dogs brought in for educational or support purposes must have prior approval obtained from the Principal. This new policy is implemented to maintain a safe and conducive environment for all members of our school community. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in adhering to this policy change.

MUFTI DAY

Our mufti day held on Friday 13 June in support of Cardiac Kids Mid and South Canterbury raised \$335.00. Thank you or your donations.



UNIFORM

A reminder that the correct uniform is required to be worn. Puffer jackets etc may be worn to and from school but not while on school grounds during the day. **PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED** to help us get these back to the rightful owner if misplaced.

Class and Values Champions

Class Awards – Week 7

Brayden Clifford, Deacon Adams, Scarlett Yorston, Addison Fox, Leo Dunnage, James Willmott, Caleb Gavan, Caiden Hough, Scoutt Tee

VISITING PERFORMER – ‘SPEAK UP FRIEND’

Last week, we had a visit from Co Theatre Physical. The show was about having the courage to speak up for your friends, being brave, friendship, spiders and weaving broken things back together.



Key Dates – Events Coming Up

27 June	Assembly 2.15pm
27 June	Reports go live
27 June	Last day of Term 2
Term 3	
14 July	First day of Term 3
18 July	Visiting Performer – NZ Playhouse
21 July	Visiting Author
25 July	Assembly 2.15pm
30 July	Parent/Teacher Conference 1-7pm
31 July	Parent/Teacher Conference 3.30 – 5.30pm
1 Aug	Visiting Performer – Maybe a Miracle
5 Aug	BOT Meeting 6.30pm
8 Aug	Assembly 2.15pm
30 Aug	Assembly 2.15pm
1-5 Sept	Scholastic Book Fair Week
2 Sept	BOT Meeting 6.30pm
5 Sept	Assembly 2.15pm
12 Sept	Mufti Day – Hospice
19 Sept	Assembly 2.15pm
19 Sept	Last Day of Term 3

SC Primary Schools Cross Country 2025

Congratulations to the 14 children that represented us at Waihi School for the annual Primary Schools Cross Country. The children ran through a tough course with two water crossings and obstacles to climb over in cool temperatures. Well done to all the children who put in a fantastic effort and represented our school with pride. A special mention to Ruby MacGregor who placed 10th in the Year 7 girls race.

Thank you to the parents who came and helped with supervision and transport -Nicola Warren, Amber Derrett-Rolton and Renee Butler - it was very much appreciated and we could not do this event without your support.

TOTS TO TEENS MAGAZINE

Winter is upon us, and our latest issue is jam-packed with content to help Kiwi parents: [issue2506.totstoteens.co.nz](https://www.totstoteens.co.nz/issue2506)

What's in this issue for parents?

- » The ultimate winter getaway list — epic family spots across Aotearoa
- » Why your child needs to rewatch that same video (yes, really)
- » How to tell if it's fussy eating or undiagnosed coeliac disease
- » Neurodivergence isn't a weakness — it's a different kind of brilliance
- » Starting school: is your child actually ready, or just the right age?
- » Plus: messy rock play, sweet + savoury bakes, fab printables, and prizes galore!



COMMUNITY NOTICES



New Zealand
GARDEN BIRD SURVEY
Run by Manaaki Whenua

28 June – 6 July 2025

Join us and make our birds count!

gardenbirdssurvey.nz

Manaaki Whenua
Landcare Research

Are you spending the School Holidays in Christchurch?
Join the research fun!
Come play with us!



We are trying to understand how common interruptions – big and small – affect the moments you share with your child.

We're looking for parents and their child aged 5.5 to 9 years, to take part in a fun play session and interview. The session takes about 1.5 hours, takes place at the University of Canterbury, and is happening on Saturdays and Sundays. Sessions are available during the school holidays. You and your child will receive a gift as a thank you for your participation.

WANT TO TAKE PART?
To get involved, email or scan the QR code to learn more and register interest

Scan



olivia.caccioppoli@pg.canterbury.ac.nz

Human Research Ethics Committee approval reference: HREC 2024/11

UC
UNIVERSITY OF
CANTERBURY



CHILDREN'S Event

Mid - South Island Women's Refuge & Family Safety Services

FREE EVENT FOR THE WHOLE WHANAU!

SUNDAY 13TH JULY 2025
TIMARU CAROLINE BAY HALL
1PM - 3PM

ENTERTAINMENT - ANIMALS - BBQ - ICECREAMS
CRAFTING - EMERGENCY SERVICES - GAMES - DISCO
FACEPAINTING - PRIZES - COMPETITIONS AND HEAPS MORE!!!

DRESS UP COMPI!
Dress up as your fav superhero!

International Squash
Coming to Temuka

Your chance to watch players from 13 countries compete for the title

Trust Aoraki Midlands PSA
Wed 25 – Sun 29 June
2 King Street South, Temuka

Get your tickets at:
Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/4iZeGuJ>

Standard tickets \$10
Corporate tables available
Courtesy buses available from Timaru

Find out more on Facebook: Trust Aoraki Midlands PSA and District Squash Open

Proudly supported by:

TRUST AORAKI
TEMUKA SQUASH
PSA SQUASH TOUR
SQUASH
Venture Timaru

DANCE PLAY
Dance Studio Timaru



HIP HOP DANCE TIMARU

ENROL FOR TERM 3 | **JULY 24TH 2025**

Follow Us
danceplaydst@outlook.co.nz

Spaces are limited
0273734544

Timaru District Libraries

Mythical Creatures

School Holiday Programme
30 June – 11 July 2025

Check out our website, Facebook and Instagram for details.
Holiday programme calendars out soon!



TIMARU DISTRICT LIBRARIES

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY
JUNK TO FUNK

Get crafty - **upcycle a record** from the Crows Nest into a functional masterpiece - perfect for entering the Junk to Funk competition!

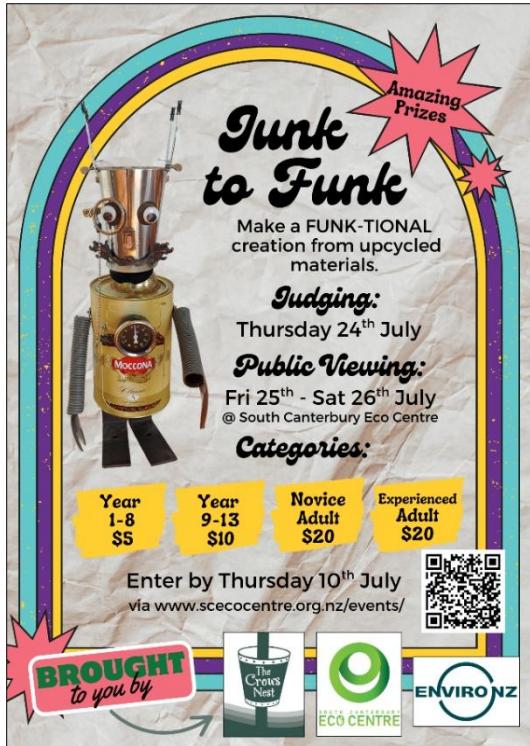
Tuesday 8th July
10am – 12pm
\$5 per person
SC Eco Centre

Spots are limited - book now!
Pre book by Sunday 6th July
www.scecoecentre.org.nz/events/



ECO CENTRE

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Junk to Funk
Make a FUNK-TIONAL creation from upcycled materials.

Judging:
Thursday 24th July

Public Viewing:
Fri 25th - Sat 26th July
@ South Canterbury Eco Centre

Categories:

Year 1-8	Year 9-13	Novice Adult	Experienced Adult
\$5	\$10	\$20	\$20

Enter by Thursday 10th July
via www.scecocentre.org.nz/events/

BROUGHT to you by The Cretic's Nest, ECO CENTRE, ENVIRO NZ

Amazing Prizes



Timaru Girls' and Timaru Boys' High School's Combined Production of

GUYS AND DOLLS
A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY

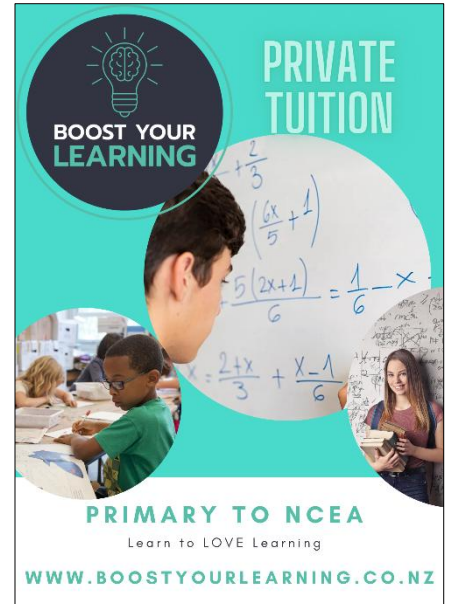
Nora Dickie Hall
Timaru Girls' High School
25-28th JUNE 2025
Adults \$20 Students \$15

Scan for Tickets!

Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon

Music and Lyrics by **FRANK LOESSER**
Book by **JO SWERLING and ABE BURROWS**

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).



PRIVATE TUITION

BOOST YOUR LEARNING

PRIMARY TO NCEA
Learn to LOVE Learning

WWW.BOOSTYOURLEARNING.CO.NZ

Good news for Term 3 | Metro double decker on T2 school route starting Monday 21 July

Metro have been monitoring the number of passengers using school bus services and we know that the bus – especially the T2 service – can be quite full.

Current Metro school buses can legally take up to 60 people - this includes standing and seated passengers. New Zealand Transport Authority Waka Kotahi (NZTA) determines the loading limit for every passenger service. This means that if the bus is loaded to capacity, no further students will be able to board.

To allow for more passengers on the T2 route, a double decker will be introduced from Monday, 21 July 2025.

Additional capacity improvements are planned for other Timaru school and Temuka routes under our new contract with Ritchies, though these changes are not expected to take effect until mid-2026.

In the meantime, we recommend families: Discuss backup transport options in case your bus is full. Encourage students to arrive early to secure a spot.

Feedback or questions? metro@ecan.govt.nz 03 366 88 55

Please Note: T3 is the service for Grantlea Downs



Wheelie Good Tip

RECYCLE BIN
No flexible plastics
e.g. soft plastics / wrappers
(nothing that can be scrunched up in your hand)

TogetherReducingWaste@environz.co.nz



COMMUNITY dental service

Tips for Healthy Teeth

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste
- Choose healthy snacks,
- Choose water or milk first,
- Have regular dental check-ups

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

The Community Dental Service will be closed for the upcoming school holidays

Closed from: Friday 27th June,
Reopening on: Monday 14th July.

Five of our community dental clinics will be open during this School Holiday period:

Aranui (240 Breezes Road)
Woolston (11 Hopkins Street)
Kaipoi (65 Raven Quay)
Ashburton (38 Elizabeth Street)
Timaru (18 Woollcombe Street)

If your child is experiencing any dental pain/discomfort, you can call us on **0800 846 983** and/or email: commdental@cdhb.health.nz and one of our clinicians will contact you.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

July School Holidays

Come join us at HitPlay - for the JULY School Holidays, our team can't wait to see you! For more information, call 03 423 2270 or 021 222 7770 or email info@hitplay.co.nz
HITPLAYGLENITI - 22 Heath Street, Gleniti, Timaru

hitplay

Pricing

Standard Day
8:30am - 5:00pm \$50.00

School Day
8:00am - 3:00pm \$40.00

Early Drop Off 7:30am
Late Pick Up before 6pm
Pricing online

Rakaia & Methven Transport
Pricing online

Trip costs as advertised online



BOOK NOW ➔

Monday 30 Pets 	Tuesday 1 FLIP IT 	Wednesday 2 Donut Day 	Thursday 3 SWIM & SLIDE 	Friday 4 PJ Party
Monday 7 Antartica 	Tuesday 8 MUSEUM <i>wow</i> World of wonder join us! 	Wednesday 9 Angry Birds 	Thursday 10 MOVIES 	Friday 11 Minecraft

What to Pack

- Food for the day and a drink bottle with water. We are happy to refill water bottles.
- Outside - a warm jacket and sun hat
Inside - the kids are welcome to bring slippers or spare socks
- Medicine - This must be signed in and in a labled zip lock bag
Sunblock - only if your child is unable to use ours.

Bikes & Wheels

- Bikes, scooters and all wheel related things are welcome. All children MUST have a helmet. Please keep wheels home on trip days or if expected to be wet.



BOOK NOW:
kats.aimyplus.com

JULY HOLIDAYS

30th June- 11th July

MONDAY 30th PAPER ART

Origami, paper planes, what will we make with paper today.



TUESDAY 1st DRESS UP DAY

Come dressed up in your fanciest, funniest or crazy outfit.



WEDNESDAY 2nd CHALLENGE DAY

Hit the target or win the challenge and maybe you will just win the PRIZE.



THURSDAY 3rd SMOOTHIES & SCONES

What will you put in your smoothie and do you like jam on your scone.



FRIDAY 4th CRAZY HAIR DAY

Come along with the craziest, wildest hair you can.



MONDAY 7th STAGE GAMES

Come along for some action packed fun games for the stage.



TUESDAY 8th ART DAY

What materials will we be using to get our creative flow going.



WEDNESDAY 9th TRIP DAY: FLIPOUT

Hope your legs are up for lots of bouncing today.



THURSDAY 10th HOW IT WORKS

There are lots of ways that things work, lets see what some of them are....



FRIDAY 11th DISCO PARTY

Come with your dancing feet and show us your moves



PRICING:

FULL DAY:

8am-6pm
\$57

SCHOOL DAY:

8am-3pm
\$50

TRIP DAY:

8am-6pm
\$67

Contact Information:

Call: 022 6556 7263

Email:

admin@katsschoolcare.co.nz

Location:

Waimataitai School
School Hall
25 Trafalgar St
Timaru