



Newsletter

8 August 2018
Newsletter No 13

Tena Koutou Parents and Friends

Congratulations to Mrs Joy McGillivray who last Friday celebrated 20 years of service at Grantlea Downs. We wish to acknowledge and thank Joy for her dedicated service to our school. She has made a huge difference to the lives of many children and staff over these years and we are very lucky to have her as part of our team.


As you will all be aware, teachers and principals across New Zealand will be striking next Wednesday the 15th of August and consequently our school will be closed. Please refer to the letter from our BOT Chair Erin Anderson in this newsletter.

It is not an easy decision for teachers and principals to have to take strike action but it is very concerning that currently 40% less teachers are being trained, up to 40% are due to retire in the next ten years and a significant group are leaving the teaching profession in the first five years to change to other careers. Schools have been under funded for a long period and the demands on the profession have continued to grow. Both primary teachers and principals feel the Ministry's June offers did not address workload issues, extra learning support or ways to stem the growing crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers. At the very heart of the matter teachers and principals are wanting change so our students can have a teacher in every classroom, the learning support they need and teachers are recognised as the professionals they are.

The strike action is about the quality of education that your child receives. There is a very serious and concerning crisis occurring in Education. We need to be encouraging more people into the profession and ensuring that those already in the profession feel supported, valued and want to stay.

Staff are very grateful for the support shown by our school community.

Nga mihi nui
Collette Sandilands



KEEP LEARNING
EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF

Keep Learning – me ako tonu

To accomplish great things in life, you have to keep learning. It doesn't matter how smart you are or how knowledgeable you are in certain areas. You can always learn more. If you were to interview the most successful people in the world today, there is a common denominator: they say they are always learning.

MUFTI DAY – THIS FRIDAY 10TH AUGUST 2018

We will be holding a Jeans Only Mufti Day in support of the Hospice. Thank you in advance for your support.



NEW STUDENTS

We welcome Scoutt Tee to Grantlea Downs this week.

FLAVA Festival

Good luck to our students participating at FLAVA Festival next Friday 17th August.

Board of Trustees Important Information

Re: The Board of Trustees can't provide teaching for students during the upcoming strike

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The NZEI has advised the Grantlea Downs Board of Trustees that the principal and teachers at our school will be taking strike action from 7am to 7pm on Wednesday 15 August 2018.

The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff, and unfortunately decided that we can't provide the normal teaching services during the strike. It's important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

The school will need to close during this strike.

I know that this is inconvenient for parents and students alike, but please be assured that student safety is our main concern.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Erin Anderson
Chair Board of Trustees

**NOTIFICATION
OF CLOSURE**



On Monday 6th August the students from the Literacy Quiz team travelled to Christchurch to listen to the finalists in the NZ Book Awards. The six authors were both fiction and non-fiction writers. We all enjoyed the various discussions which covered everything from NZ great white sharks to kidnapping and Scotts adventures in Antarctica. Thank you to Mrs Lees and Mrs Annett for taking the team to Christchurch.



With commission from the Scholastic Book Fair held last term, the Library was able to purchase some books and a new book display unit for the graphic novels. Thanks for your support.

**PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER GOAL SETTING
CONFERENCE - WEEK 7, TERM 3**
**THURSDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER, 12.50PM – 7.30PM
INCLUSIVE**

ADVANCED WARNING
SCHOOL WILL BE FINISHING AT
12PM FOR STUDENTS ON THIS DAY

Bookings will be open from Monday 13th August. It is expected that each family will attend. If a booking is not made a time will be allocated to you. If you do not have internet access you can book at the school office. A reminder on how to book in for an interview time by following the steps below.

ON-LINE BOOKING SYSTEM

STEP 1 Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz Click on **MAKE A BOOKING**

STEP 2 Enter in the following code where it says "Parents School Event Code" **4x5n3**

STEP 3 Type in your name, then your child's name (if you have more than one child at school use the drop down box so more 'Student's Name' lines appear. Also type in your email address (this is so a confirmation of your interview booking can be sent back to you. Press **GO**

STEP 4 Choose your child's teacher from the drop down list. Press **GO**

STEP 5 Choose the times you would like to see each teacher then press **GO**. The time you have booked for each student will appear. Once you have finished press 'Finish' then an email will be sent to confirm your parent interview booking. If you have preferred times we suggest you book early.

DISCO – HELD THURSDAY 2 AUGUST

The Home and School wishes to thank those who supported our ‘When I Grow Up’ disco held last week. The costumes were very interesting, showing an insight into what our students would like to be when they grow up. The dancing was awesome too!
The winners of the ‘Best Dressed’ and ‘Best Dancer’ competitions from junior and senior discos.

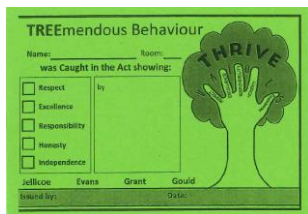


TREEmendous Behaviour Values Draw Winners

Below are the recipients of the TREEmendous Behaviour Values draw. Children are given a green card when they are observed showing actions in line with our school values

Week 2 - Term 3

- Winning House: Gould
- Jorja K – Rm 10
- Ethan – Rm 6
- Lucas – Rm 9
- Dyllin – Rm 10
- Hunter – Rm 7



Assembly Awards

Principals Award Week 10 Term 2

Lochie Wilson, Grantlea Downs Choir

Principals Award Week 2 Term 3

Brylee Taylor, Rubie McCarthy

Excellent Effort – Week 1 Term 3

Anaru McCoy, Henry Thomas, Freya Forward, Teiria Tungia, Bailey Clarkson, Isabelle La Grange, Riley Annear, Caiden Simonsen, Murphy Geary, Taylor Hurst, Kale Smith-Baird, Shania Saunders, James Grice, Jack Bennett, Blake Fairhall, Orla Motley, Cassidy Anderson, Flame Brazendale, Stanley Bryant, Amy Nixon, Blake Parker, Niamh Motley,

Values Focus Award – Week 1 Term 3

Mason Fitzgerald, Tiaki Whyte, Hunter Hopkinson, Jack Ryan, Oscar Bennett, Boston Davis, Azaria Kleinow, Chloe Holden, Miglia Schicker, Oscar Whyte, Blake Coombes, Tevita Latu, Brendan Phillips

Achievement Award – Seals of Approval – Week 1 Term 3

Jeremiah Barrett, Greer Hurst, Archie Kotua, Gabby Milne, Amelia Piggin, Tegan Graham, Sergio Bryan, Cassidy Anderson, Emily Flavell

Excellent Effort – Week 2 Term 3

Brodie Penty, Braxton Smith, Reid Brazendale, Eilah Holden, Pyper McGiffert, Jesse Agnew, Mady Anderson, Jesse Clements, Tylah Whakarau, Leon Liu, Rubie McCarthy, Tameko Burke, Hayley Milligan, Jayda Hull, Madaysha Winder, Amiee Honatana, Harvee King Brookland, Kawend Kuang, Amelia Maynard

Values Focus Award – Week 2 Term 3

Romeo Yerbury, Mason Adonis, Charlee Rogers, Zanixx Wilson, Thomas Vincent, Addyson Rogers, Elina Carson, Jai Wilson, Harriet Baxter, Billy Sherborne, Alex Elder, Emma Reynecke

Achievement Award – Seals of Approval – Week 2 Term 3

Honor Walkinshaw-Dee, Jax Rolton, JJ Gates, Ava Maraku, Michaela Dockerty, Cooper Kelliher, Jess Beeby, Miglia Schicker, Summer Culshaw, Ase Kuruduadua, Mollie Phillips, Niamh Motley,

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Ranui Free Kindergarten are having an open day every Friday for Term 3, from 10am to 12.00, for children aged 2 to 5 years old. We have a new team and a great learning environment, so come along and enrol your children now.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



FlipOut Timaru's Ninja Agility Programme is under way again for Term 3. Two instructors per class, a lot of fun and learn new tricks to impress your friends.

With a Free Trial Class why wouldn't you give it a go! Classes Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays. Call us on 6882807 or email timaru@flipout.co.nz to find out more.

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR SCHOOL APP YET?

NEVER MISS IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION AGAIN!



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- * Notices
- * Notifications
- * Absentee
- * Newsletters
- * Permission Slips



Simple free download:
In the Play Store and
App Store search
'Skool Loop NZ'
and choose our school
once installed.



Totally Locally GERALDINE WEARABLE LIGHTS COMPETITION

IT'S FREE TO ENTER CALL FOR ENTRIES

Totally Locally Geraldine is proud to bring you the 2nd Annual Wearable Lights Competition

\$1000 in CASH PRIZES **Friday 10 August 6.30pm Woodbury Hall**

TO ENTER: Call Michelle@Tervoll Trading 027 431 3362
Merran@Joseph 05 895 9002
or visit Totally Locally Geraldine on Facebook

Hall hire sponsored by Geraldine Landscapes & Hire

FIVE AWESOME WEARABLE LIGHTS CATEGORIES

1 COSTUME DESIGNED 16 YEARS & UNDER Frankie Did It	4 LANTERN OR BAG OPEN The Valley Brewery
2 COSTUME DESIGNED BY TEENS & OVER Geraldine Orchard Farmshop & Cafe	5 THEMED PAIR/GROUP OPEN The Tin Shed
3 HAT OPEN Quality Tyres & Auto Services	SUPREME AWARD LOUX NZ Clothing

ENTRIES CLOSE 5PM FRIDAY 27 JULY 2018

A tip from the Parenting Place

For more useful tips visit www.theparentingplace.com

Three mindful parenting tips to get you started

1. Give your brain a break

For most parents, busy is normal. A busy brain is, however, only a few steps away from a stressed brain. It is surprisingly simple to shift your brain from a state of stress to a state of calm.

One way to do this is by consciously paying attention to the sights and sounds of your environment. For example, every morning I make a coffee and instead of thinking of my to do list, I focus on the sounds, smells, tastes and sensations of those few minutes. I do the same in the car on the way to school. Each time, I feel my brain relax. After those two or three minutes, I feel calmer, more confident and ready for the day.

2. Be present

It is possible to spend a whole day with your children without actually being present. Our minds are so busy thinking about the past, considering what we should or could have done, or worrying about the future. Learning to be mindfully present is a gift, especially for your children.

It's as simple as making eye-contact and listening with your undivided attention, with no agenda or expectation of what should be said. I call it the cushioned brain – the brain that can marvel at your children's creativity, unexpected ideas and challenging opinions with curiosity and kindness, without jumping in with your own.

3. Accept all emotions, not all behaviours

Creating a family culture where it is okay to feel and express your emotions is the safest way to ensure we don't learn to suppress or get stuck in them.

Reflecting back a child's emotions before trying to solve them lets them know that it is okay to feel angry, sad or scared. When their emotions are discouraged, for example when we tell our children they are fine when they have fallen, or they are making a fuss when they are upset, will either cause them to ramp up the emotion or learn to suppress how they feel. When their emotions are validated – for example, by saying, "That must have really hurt" – their brains calm down and creative problem-solving comes naturally.