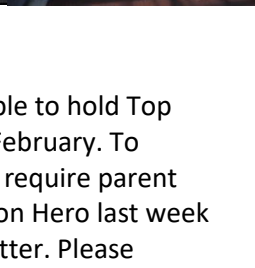




65 Grants Road, Timaru
Phone 684 7706
Absences text 027 684 7706
Email: office@grantleadowns.school.nz
www.grantleadowns.school.nz



1 February 2023 Newsletter No 1



Tena koutou, Welcome to the new school year.

My name is Richard Kidd, and I am looking forward to the challenge of being the new principal of Grantlea Downs.

I taught in Auckland and Northland before moving to Mid Canterbury to be Principal of Mayfield School. I was Principal at Mayfield for nine years.

I have two teenage daughters and my wife is also involved in education. She works as a Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour in Timaru. In my spare time I enjoy participating and watching sport.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone, learning about the school community and working together so we can all best support the learning and development of our students. If you have any questions, or would like to have a chat, feel free to phone or stop in at the office.

NEW STUDENTS

We welcome the following students and their families to Grantlea Downs this week: Tabitha Firmin-Tavener, Madison Butt-Bain, Vanessa Yorston, Matilda Russell, Jahsiah Williams, Avahlee Quine-Mannix and Maliyah Kleinow.

NEW STAFF

We welcome Miss Georgina Stocks who is teaching in Room 7 and Miss Kate Wilson in Room 15. Georgina has come to us from Christchurch and Kate previously taught at Beaconsfield School.

We also welcome Mrs Sharlane Kelliher back to Grantlea Downs. Sharlane is a Hauora Specialist Teacher focusing on student and staff well being.

TOP TEAMS

We are looking forward to be able to hold Top Teams this year on Thursday 9 February. To enable this to go ahead, we still require parent help. Information was sent out on Hero last week and is included with this newsletter. Please contact the school office on 684 7706 if you are able to help with this fun event.

2023 Classes

Opihi Syndicate		Teachers
Room 1	Yr 0 &1	Mrs Sandra Annett (Syndicate Leader)
Room 2	Yr 0 &1	Mrs Rachel Gilchrist
Room 3	Yr 1/2	Miss Stacey Herd
Room 4	Yr 1/2	Mr Hamish Campbell
Room 6	Yr 1/2	Miss Alice Austin
Waipopo Syndicate		
Room 7	Yr 3/4	Miss Georgina Stocks
Room 8	Yr 3/4	Mrs Linda Gordon (Syndicate Leader)
Room 9	Yr 3/4	Ms Sharon Allen
Acacia Syndicate		
Room 10	Yr 5/6	Mrs Kirsty Stone
Room 11	Yr 5/6	Mr Vaughan Skea/Mrs Emma Kingan
Room 12	Yr 5/6	Mrs Ange Hide (Syndicate Leader)
Kereta Syndicate		
Room 13	Yr 7/8	Miss Megan Shaw
Room 14	Yr 7/8	Mr Sam Carlaw (Syndicate Leader)
Room 15	Yr 7/8	Miss Kate Wilson

Reminder: School CLOSED, Monday 6th February to observe Waitangi Day.

Newsletter

SCHOOL PICNIC

Our annual school picnic will be held on Wednesday 8th February 2023 from 5.00-7.00pm. Bring a fish'n'chip tea or picnic and relax with your children and friends.



TERM DATES 2023

Term 1 Tues 31 January – Thur 6 April

Term 2 Mon 24 April – Fri 30 June

Term 3 Mon 17 July – Fri 22 September

Term 4 Mon 9 October – Fri 15 December

THANKS

Many thanks to Derek Vogel and Lance Cassidy for preparing the grounds over the holidays. Thanks also to Sonyia Ramsay and Cathy Moffat for having the rooms cleaned, ready for our return to school.

HOME AND SCHOOL – HELP REQUIRED

We need volunteers for a fundraiser that we do annually for the Classic Motor Racing Event, by manning the entry gate at Levels Raceway.

If you are able to help on Saturday 11 February or Sunday 12 February anytime between 8am and 3pm we would be very grateful of your time. Please ring Andrea in the office on 684 7706 if you are able to spare a couple of hours over the weekend.

CONTACT MEDICAL AND PERSONAL DETAILS

If you have shifted and changed your contact details or your emergency contacts have changed, please inform the office as soon as possible. It is vital that we hold correct emergency contact details including all cell phone numbers in case of emergencies.

There have been incidents in the past when parents and caregivers could not be contacted.

If for any reason your child's medical details have changed, please make sure the office is notified so all relevant records can be updated i.e. allergies, or allergic reactions, vaccinations etc.



UNIFORM REMINDER

Sun hats – compulsory red floppy.

A reminder that all students are required to wear a school sun hat at break times during terms 1 and 4.

Please ensure your child's hat and all school uniform items are clearly named.



PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES –

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 1.00PM – 6.50PM

INCLUSIVE

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 3.30PM – 5.20PM INCLUSIVE

SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT

12.30PM ON THIS DAY, IT IS

ONLY OPEN DURING THE

AFTERNOON FOR CONFERENCING



Bookings will be open from today Wednesday 1 February. Just a reminder that if you are going to make consecutive bookings that you leave a 10 minute slot between interviews to allow you time to get to the next appointment. 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

STEP 2 Enter in the following code where it says

“Parents School Event Code” **fy96p**

STEP 3 Type in your email address (this is so a confirmation of your interview booking can be sent back to you) 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. 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.

JUNIOR BLOCK REFURBISHMENT

Over the school holidays work started on the refurbishment of the Junior block. This area is fenced off for safety reasons while the work is being carried out during Term 1. Rooms 1 and 2 are working out of the Library, Room 3 is using Room 16 (Class at top gate) and Room 4 are set up in the Hall.

ASSEMBLIES - TERM 1

Our first Assembly next week will be a Special Assembly to welcome Richard Kidd to our school and will be held on the court area at 2.15pm. Assemblies for the rest of the term will be in the Hall as usual, but there will be limited space.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS ARE DUE
BACK THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2023**

PRACTICAL MATTERS

Ten ways you can help your child and the school

1. Ensure that your child arrives at school from 8.30 am and well before 8.55 am. Children who arrive late interrupt the class and do not have time to adjust to the start of the school day.
2. If your child is going to be absent ring or text the school or send a message via the Hero App, by 8.55 am. If the child has not arrived the school will telephone parents/caregivers but we prefer that the office staff spend as little time as possible undertaking this task. This is a measure to ensure children are safe.
3. Make sure that children have adequate and healthy snacks. We do our best to ensure that the children eat enough at lunchtime.
4. Monitor your child's television viewing, 'screen time' such as computers, ipads, digital devices and have them in bed at a reasonable hour.
5. Look after the reading books that are sent home. Please return them daily. Encourage your child to read every night.
6. When sending money to school, please put it in an envelope with the child's name on it, the amount, and its purpose.
7. Keep children who are sick, at home. This limits the spread of infection and is best for the child's recovery.
8. Please let us know as soon as possible if you have a change of address, or if a contact number has changed.
9. Name children's clothing and check for anything that is mislaid. The Lost Property box in the office foyer can be accessed at all times during school hours.
10. Maintain communication with the school staff. We are here to do our best for your children.

Welcome to all new & existing parents and caregivers for 2023

This year the Home & School would love to get some new members on board, so if you are keen to come along and find out more, keep an eye out on Hero, in the Newsletter or the schools Facebook page for notification of upcoming meetings.

About the Home & School

We work with the school to maintain and build close links with the community. Our aim is to plan and implement fundraising projects to support the school and its students.

Who can join the H & S?

Anyone! Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Caregivers – you are all welcome :-)

Things you should know...

- ❖ We need more committee members
- ❖ We don't expect you to come to every meeting
- ❖ We don't expect you to help at every event
- ❖ We value all input and fresh ideas
- ❖ We are a fun laid-back bunch



For more information please feel free to call the office on 684 7706

We need your support to succeed

BOT NEWS

The first meeting of the Board will be Tuesday 14 February 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Administration Office Board Room.

All parents are welcome to attend.

School Docs – Please also see the attached flyer

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.

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BIKES/SCOOTERS LEFT AT SCHOOL

A reminder that if child brings their bike or scooter to school, that they must take it home again the same day. The bike and helmet shown was left over the school holidays. If you recognise it please ensure it is collected asap.



CAMP DONATIONS

Donations towards the Kereta or Acacia camps can be paid at the school office or online. These donations help support us in bringing these great learning experiences to the children.

The donations we are asking for are:

Kereta Yr 7/8 Camp	\$80
Acacia Yr 5/6 Camp	\$50

Grantlea Downs Top Teams

Thursday 9th February - Week 2

This annual event involves the children climbing, running, sliding, getting wet and working as a team to complete a series of challenges. Below is some important information to remember for the day:

Children are to come to school dressed in their house colours. Please see your child's teacher if you are unsure.

Gould = Blue

Grant = Red

Evans = Yellow

Jellicoe = Green

- Please remember togs, towel, rash vest/t-shirt, sunhat, sunscreen, extra lunch (if required) and a drink bottle
- If the weather is inclement, please check Facebook/HERO in the morning. **Please do not ring the school.**
- The senior event (Yr 5-8) runs from 10.00 – 12.00
- The junior event (Yr 1-4) runs from 12.30 – 2.20
- Parents and family members are most welcome to come along and watch
- Parents of junior children will be able to take their children home AFTER the activities have been tidied away – **if plenty of parents lend a hand at this stage this will not take too long.** Children will still need to be dismissed from class by their teacher.

IMPORTANT!!

We have a very short timeframe to organise parent helpers. We need at least six for seniors and six for juniors.

If you are able to help, please fill in the slip below and have your child return it to Miss Austin in Room 6 or to the office or phone on 684 7706, by Friday 3rd February.

Any older High School siblings are also welcome to help with games.

Please return to Miss Austin in Room 6 or to the office or phone on 684 7706, by Friday 3rd February.

I am able to assist with Top Teams in the morning (Years 5-8)

☐

I am able to assist with Top Teams in the afternoon (Years 1-4)

☐

(you are welcome to tick both!)

Name: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____

Information for the school community

Staff, parents, and whānau.

About SchoolDocs

SchoolDocs was established in 2006 as a user-friendly policy platform for schools in Aotearoa.

Based in Ōtautahi Christchurch, the SchoolDocs team partners with schools across the motu to develop policies and procedures that keep pace with the changing educational environment.

SchoolDocs sites make policy information accessible to the whole school community. Each site contains a set of policies and procedures that is tailored to the school, and feedback from community members helps to ensure that the site reflects how the school operates.

Using the site

SchoolDocs sites have a unique web address for each school. All members of the school community can access the site using these details.

Website	grantleadowns.schooldocs.co.nz
Username	grantleadowns
Password	grantsroad

SchoolDocs sites are organised into sections that reflect operational requirements. The table of contents shows the key policy for each section, with dropdown menus that show supporting policies and procedures.

- To find a policy or procedure, use the **search function** at the top left with a topic name or keyword. Related topics will appear in the table of contents window. Clicking on the topic you want to read and then closing the search will show where the topic sits in the table of contents.
- For a list of important policies and procedures, search for the **Quick Links** topics that are available for school staff, and parents and whānau.

Reviews and feedback

All SchoolDocs schools follow a 3-year review schedule that ensures content stays up to date. Each term, the school community is able to provide feedback on the content and implementation of policies and procedures that are under review.

The SchoolDocs team uses feedback from all schools, along with research and external consultation, to make changes to core content. The team notifies schools of any action that is required.

- Topics that are under review have a **review button**, which allows school feedback to be sent to both the school and the SchoolDocs team.
- All topics also have a **feedback button** that can be used to send general feedback or queries about a topic directly to the school.

[Start your review](#)



Grantlea Downs Term 1 Calendar 2023

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	30	31 First Day Term 1	February 1 Newsletter	2	3
2	6 Waitangi Day	7	8 School Picnic 5-7pm	9 Top Teams	10 Assembly 2.15pm
3	13 Acacia Parent Camp Meeting 5pm Kereta Parent Camp Meeting 5.30pm	14 BOT Meeting 6.30 pm	15 Newsletter Goal Setting Conferences 1 - 7pm	16 Goal Setting Conferences 3.30-5.30pm	17
4	20	21 Kereta Camp Wainui	22 Kereta Camp Wainui	23 Kereta Camp Wainui	24 Kereta Camp Wainui Assembly 2.15pm
5	27	28	March 1 Newsletter	2 Triathlon	3
6	6 Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren Group 9am	7 Triathlon PP	8 Woodend Camp Acacia	9 Woodend Camp Acacia	10 Woodend Camp Acacia Assembly 2.15pm
7	13	14	15 Newsletter	16	17 SC Triathlon - Temuka
8	20 Duffy Needs His Space Performance- Whole School 1.30pml	21 BOT Meeting 6.30 pm	22 Open Hour 11.30-12.30	23 Swimming Sports	24 Assembly 2.15pm
9	27	28 Kid's Lit Quiz	29 Newsletter	30	31 SC Swimming Sports
10	April 3	4	5	6 Last Day of Term 1 Family Fun Run	7 Good Friday

Do You Know Your School Signs?

Be prepared when our children go back to school.



Speed limit change within school zone:

Reason: Reduce speed to the number displayed on sign. Higher risk period due to increased activity at or around schools. Police have a lower tolerance on speeding in this zone



Driver Action: Reduce speed to the limit or below displayed on the sign.



Active school zone signs:

Reason: Higher risk period due to increased activity at or around schools. Police have a lower tolerance on speeding in this zone.

Driver Action: Reduce speed be ready to stop.



P5 time limit parking signs:

Reason: A stop-drop-go point to keep traffic flowing and reduce double parking.

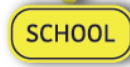
Driver Action: Drivers must not park and leave to take kids to class. If you need to take your child to class park at another spot where it is legal to park for longer.



Pedestrian crossing point ahead signs:

Reason: Alert drivers about a pedestrian crossing ahead.

Driver Action: Reduce speed be ready to stop for all pedestrians waiting to cross, not just school children.



School bus signs:

Reason: Bus carries school children. When the bus stops and school bus signs flash, the speed limit past both directions of the bus is 20km/h.

Driver Action: Reduce speed to 20km/h or less and be ready to stop.



www.scrs.org.nz

 @scrsnz

**DRIVE LIKE
THEIR LIVES
DEPEND ON IT.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Register TODAY
to secure your placement

2023 **Parenting Programme**

The Incredible Years

Family Works will deliver the Incredible Years Programme in Timaru dependent on sufficient enrolments.
20 parents committed to attending is essential to ensure delivery of this incredible programme!

For Parents of: Children 3 - 8 years:

Tuesdays:
28th February to 13th June 2023
9:30am to 12:30 pm

Wednesday nights:
1st March to 14th June 2023
6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Tuesdays ONLY: Childcare provided if required. (by pre-arrangement only)

These 14 week programmes will focus on practical step-by-step suggestions and support to help in handling the every day situations parents face. Sessions are held once a week for 3 hours, (excluding school holidays).

To enrol or for further information call
Liz Munro **NOW** at Family Works
03 688 5029 / 0274 688200
email: liz.munro@pssc.co.nz

Family Works
PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT
SOUTH CANTERBURY

VENUE: Family Works,
26 North Street, Timaru

Free

www.pssc.org.nz/family-works FW_21ze

Metro School Bus Services - New and Updated

Metro has three Timaru Schools services running this year, starting on 30th January 2023.

A new T3 service has been added as a replacement for children who would have used the Timaru Link. Starting with the new school term, the T3 will run a similar route to the Link, clockwise in the morning and anticlockwise in the afternoon.

The T1 and T2 school services have had some adjustments, so please check your route and timetable carefully.

Metro school services provide a very cost-effective way to get to school. Child fares are usually 95 cents with a Metrocard, and with the government's half-price offer, that's only 45 cents until the end of March.

Buses will pick up at any bus stop along the routes. Although the routes have been designed with the high schools in mind, primary school children are welcome to use them.

Relay For Life

South Canterbury Relay For Life

SATURDAY 11TH MARCH 2023
10AM - 10PM
CAROLINE BAY, TIMARU

Let's do something remarkable together...

Register today
relayforlife.org.nz/southcanterbury

Cancer Society
Te Kaitiaki Māngiapū
o Aotearoa

Brickstone 2023
Saturday 18th February
10am-4pm

Bluestone School

Come along to Bluestone School on Saturday 18th February.
Epic displays, play pits, competitions, food trucks, sausage sizzle and more!
Cost: \$10 family, \$5 adult, \$2 child

Proudly sponsored by House of Bricks and The Warehouse

the warehouse **HOUSE OF BRICKS**

southfuels
Keeping Primary Industries Moving

FUEL FOR SCHOOLS
Southlink School Sponsorship Programme

Fuel Up and Reward the School

You purchase 100 litres we get 50c

Every \$1000 earned means technology or sports gear for the kids

CALL 0800 99 99 89 TO GET INVOLVED