



Newsletter

6 December 2023 Newsletter No 20



Tena koutou katoa

As this will be the last newsletter of the year, I would like to say thank you to everyone that has helped the school in some capacity this year. The old saying "it takes a village to raise a child" is certainly true in a primary school like ours as we rely on the support of our school community in a variety of ways. We wouldn't be able to offer the range of activities we do without your support.

At the end of term, we say goodbye to our Year 8 students as they head off to secondary school in 2024. We wish them all the best and hope they make the most of the opportunities secondary schools can offer. We also say goodbye to our School Librarian Mrs Jan Lees who is retiring after nearly 24 years at Grantlea Downs. Jan has made a wonderful contribution to our school and her cheerful and positive demeanour will be missed by all of us.

Thank you for the wonderful response we had to the community survey. The Board has looked at your feedback and pulled out the main themes. From the adult question about skills, abilities and values you want your child to leave with; the main themes were to continue to focus on teaching Reading, Writing and Maths and the school values of Respect, Responsibility, Excellence and Honesty. The other main theme was for children to leave our school confident. From the children's perspective, learning the core subjects of Reading, Writing and Maths and the school values was important to them.

Next Friday your child's general comment will be on their digital school report, published on Hero. Please take the time to read the comments with your child and discuss the many positive points with them.

We hope you all have a fantastic summer break.

Regards
Richard

NEW STUDENT

We welcome the following student to Grantlea Downs recently: Bianka O'Connor.

TALENT QUEST

It is with immense gratitude that we extend our heartfelt thanks to two of our incredible local supporters, CBay and Movie Max.

CBay and Movie Max have generously donated thrilling prizes for our upcoming talent show, being held **tomorrow, Thursday 7 December, at 2.15pm**. CBay has contributed the excitement of a swim and slide experience, while Movie Max has added a touch of VIP glamour with movie tickets that promise an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Their contributions not only elevate the stakes for our talent show but also demonstrate a shared commitment to making our community vibrant and engaging. As we eagerly anticipate the talent show, we invite you to join us in expressing our sincere appreciation to CBay and Movie Max for their generosity.

Once again, a huge thank you to CBay and Movie Max for their invaluable support.

Reminder: School finishes at 12.30pm on Friday 15th December
The bus will leave at the earlier time of 12.40pm. Morning tea will be provided instead of lunch.

MRS LEES TOOK A LOOK

Mrs Lees the Librarian, saw a little book. She thought it looked lovely, so she took a look inside the book.

Indeed it looked very beautiful, how very beautiful it looked.

I hope Mrs Lees keeps this very peculiar book.

By Aurora

Have you returned your library books



ALL LIBRARY BOOKS ARE NOW DUE BACK
(There is still a very large number of books
outstanding, please return to the library asap)

Class Awards and Values Champions

Class Awards - Week 7

JJ McCarthy Wederell, Ayune Greenfield, Mikayla Rose

Values Champion – Week 8

Mia Thompson, Jada Wills, Lucy Clark, Aria Henry Evans

STATIONERY 2024

Your child's class stationery list for 2024 will be coming home soon. As an option for purchasing your stationery online, we have sent our class lists to the following stationery providers. You can visit the following sites as below:

Officemax at www.myschool.co.nz/grantleadowns

Qizzle at www.schoolpacks.co.nz

Warehouse Stationery at

www.warehousestationery.co.nz

We encourage reusing any unfinished books and stationery items left over from this year.

DIGITAL REPORTING

Reports will be going live from next Friday. These can be accessed via the Hero App.

FINISHING THEIR TIME WITH GRANTLEA DOWNS

A number of families will finish their association with the school at the end of the year, with their children completing their Year 8 year. For some families this association has spanned many years.

We acknowledge the following families support and thank them for all they have contributed. Barriball, Bool-Turner, Butt Bain, Faris, Flavell, Geary, Johns, Kerrison, Lister, McGartland, Milligan, Nixon, Pennell, Rogers, Smith-Baird, Upston, Whakarau, Winiata, Winter.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check the lost property in the office if you are missing any items of uniform, clothing, lunch boxes or drink bottles. All unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the year.

2024 CLASSES

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

SOUTH CANTERBURY ATHLETICS

Last Tuesday 28 November, we sent a group of students to compete in the South Canterbury Primary Schools Athletics Competition.

Once again the students' effort and behaviour was exceptional, as were the results which were fantastic. Thank you to all the parents who came and supported our children and helped supervise.

Well done to all students who competed, in particular:

Liam Cunningham – 2nd U12 100m

Dylan Pennell – 3rd 12&over 100m, 1st Senior 200m

Morgan Palmer – 3rd 12&over 100m, 2nd 11&over Long Jump, 1st equal 11&over High Jump

Riley Wentworth Smith – 2nd Senior 800m





From the Grantlea Downs Home & School Committee.
Thank you for your support and patience during this year and we look forward to your continued support for our up and coming 2024 fundraising events.



Grantlea Downs Volunteers and Helpers - Thank You

We want to say a huge thank you to all the wonderful parents, families, caregivers and supporters of our school who have helped us throughout the year.

If you have helped coach or manage a team, or were a parent helper on day trips, been on the Home & School, the Board of Trustees, helped out with Sports Days, School Events or anyone who has volunteered to make our school the great place that it is, THANK YOU!



FRIDGE MAGNET – 2024 Term Dates

Coming home with your child today is a fridge magnet showing next year's term dates and the school's contact details.

TERM DATES 2024

Term 1 Wed 31 Jan – Fri 12 April
Term 2 Mon 29 April – Fri 5 July
Term 3 Mon 22 July – Fri 27 Sept
Term 4 Mon 14 Oct – Tues 17 Dec

KEY DATES 2023:

6 Dec Year 8 Dinner
7 Dec Talent Show 2.15pm
8 Dec Year 8 Boating Day
14 Dec Junior Prize Giving 2pm
14 Dec Senior Prize Giving 6pm
15 Dec School finishes 12.30pm

2024 TERM 1 - Weeks 1 - 6

24 Jan School Office open for enquiries
31 Jan First Day of Term 1 2024
5 Feb Waitangi Day Holiday (Observed)
7 Feb School Picnic
16 Feb Assembly 2.15pm
21 Feb Goal Setting Conferences 1 – 7pm
22 Feb Goal Setting Conferences 3.30 – 5.30pm
29 Feb Triathlon
1 Mar Assembly 2.15pm
8 Mar SC Triathlon

TOTS TO TEENS MAGAZINE

The latest issue is jam-packed with content to help Kiwi parents <https://issue2312.totstoteens.co.nz/>

What's in this issue for parents?

- » How to slow brain drain over the holidays?
 - » Craft: Cutest ever Santa's beard cards and posters
 - » What's on these holidays near you
 - » Holiday recipes by foodie Michael Van Elzen
 - » Why are our literacy levels waning?
 - » Use declarative language to build a stronger connection
 - » Free printables for families
 - » Puzzle fun for kids
- + EPIC GIVEAWAYS including a holiday activities package





AT SCHOOL MUSIC LESSONS



Singing; Piano; Guitar; Bass; Drums; Recorder; Ukulele; and Theory. Students are taught by experienced musicians at your school

\$190 per Term : 30 min sessions : 6 to 8 students
or \$260 per Term : 20 min Individual sessions

**BOOK NOW
FOR 2024**

Contact: Jannette Aldridge 027 686 4877
jannette@mrsasmusicschool.co.nz @mrsasmusicschool.co.nz





COLOUR FUN RUN 2023

It was a great, fun afternoon last Friday at the Colour Fun Run.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to our fundraiser. We raised approximately \$5000.00 which will be going towards a sensory swing and sensory equipment.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

Community Dental Service will be closed for the holiday period:

Closed from: Monday 25 December 2023

Reopen: Monday 08 January 2024

Four of our community dental clinics will be open during January 2024 (from Monday 8 January 2024 – Friday 26 January 2024):

Northcote (24 Tuckers Road)
Aranui (240 Breezes Road)
Hillmorton (80-82 Sylvan Street)
Timaru (18 Woolcombe 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 back

Aidan Theatre Presents
A Purveyors of Ominous Productions

Timaru's Annual Christmas Pantomime 2023

Hansel & Gretel

The Perfect Treat For All The Family!

Simply Not To Be Missed !!

A Fun-filled, family friendly show filled with tasty tunes and colourful characters.

DATES: DECEMBER
Fri, 22nd, 7pm | Sat, 23rd, 2 & 7pm | Sun, 24th, 2 & 7pm

VENUE:
The Scottish Society Hall, 20 Barnard Street, Timaru

TICKETS:
Newmans MusicWorks, Stafford Street, Timaru
Phone: 03 688 5597

CASH only Door Sales and Refreshments

Timaru District **creative**nz COMMUNITIES

THE AIDAN PLAYERS
Inspiring • Engaging • Intimate • Theatre



FREE ART MONTH

JOIN US FOR A FREE ART MONTH FOR KIDS. WE HAVE OVER 100 DOWNLOADS AND PRINTABLE'S, AND OVER 200 VIDEOS JUST FOR KIDS TO CREATE THEIR OWN BEAUTIFUL ARTWORKS.

Free access to any new courses and workshops we run during the month you sign up.

COME AND JOIN US AT
www.sarahsstudio.co

CLICK ON THE MONTHLY SIGN UP AND USE CODE: **LETSCREATE100**

in partnership with:

Napier City Council

and

creative**nz**
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

COMMUNITY NOTICES

AKOTECH

CodeCamps Summer School Holidays - FREE PRIZE & EARLY DISCOUNTS

Our holiday camp allows children from the ages of 7-12 to develop 21st century skills in a fun and action packed environment. Create and train your own AI Avatars, make games, code drones & go to work for a simulated Tech Gaming Studio to build games for a big pretend client.

Develop confidence & initiative through design, creativity, solving problems, presenting & collaboration. Create your own games, worlds and apps to make our world a better place.

We also have **Literati Lab** just for girls

Enter our competition to win a FREE 4 day pass to one of our CodeCamps

Venues: Canterbury Uni & St Andrews College

Dates: 8th - 11th & 15th - 18th January

Book Now at www.akotech.nz

Competition: www.codecamp.co.nz/competition

EarlyBird Save Up to 21% Until 14th December

Siblings Save 6%



He Manu Hou

ENROLMENTS OPEN NOW

FOR 0-6 YEARS
FROM 8:30 AM - 02:30 PM

Welcoming families to join the only bi-lingual early childhood centre in South Canterbury.



APPLY NOW

He Manu Hou Early Childhood Centre

90 Bridge Road, Timaru | @hemanuhoutrust
020 458 3464 | admin@hemanuhou.nz
www.hemanuhou.nz

TIMARU SQUASH CLUB
22 Brunswick Street, Timaru

HAVE A GO!

Mondays & Wednesdays
3:30pm- 4:15pm

Free of charge
Equipment supplied
Non-marking shoes please
AGE: 5-11 YEARS

Just turn up or contact Jen Moorhead 021685441 for more info

TRY IT. PLAY IT. LOVE IT.



Are you the next Star of Christmas?

Win the opportunity to record a Christmas carol in studio with Nathan King from Zed

The grand prize
Record a Christmas carol in studio with Nathan King from Zed, return flights to Auckland for two (if you live outside of Auckland), hotel accommodation for one night and a studio tour.

To enter
Must be under 13 years old. Email yourself singing a Christmas carol to christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz before entries close 11 December.

Newstalk ZB

Free Coding Holiday Activity

Summer 2023/24

Educational? Yes!
Fun? Yes!
Affordable? Yes! (it's free!)

Suitable for beginner to advanced coders. Ages 9 & 10, 11 & 12, 13 & 14, 15 to adult.

SIGN UP NOW:
codingnz.com/freeactivity

Limited spots available



CODINGNZ

COMMUNITY NOTICES

DECEMBER 23

SUMMER

14 | 22
DEC | DEC



**M.A.S.H.
GLENITI**

WHAT'S ON THESE HOLIDAYS....



14 DEC **CHRIMBO COREOGRAPHY**
Get your best dance moves out! Time for some just dance and musical statues.

15 DEC **FESTIVE FANANZA**
Scavenger Hunt, Minute to Win It. Lots of exciting Christmas activities! Christmas mystery game, minute to win it, challenges.

18 DEC **SCHOOLS OUT FOR THE SUMMER!**
Disco dancing, party games, pin the nose on the reindeer, blindfold grooming Santas beard.

19 DEC **CRAFTY CHRISTMAS**
'Tis the season to be jolly. Lets make some jolly tree decorations

20 DEC **SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!**
The big bearded man will be coming down the chimney very soon, lets make sure he feels welcome! Make some him some welcoming

21 DEC **CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK**
Off site we go to enjoy the sun! We will have a shared lunch and play some backyard cricket! Maybe Santa will come visit us!

22 DEC **SUMMER FUN!**
Create lasting memories with Time Water balloons, bouncy castle - check with Gleniti school

BOOK NOW



WWW.MASHKIDS.CO.NZ



JAN 24

SUMMER


What's on.....



**M.A.S.H.
GLENITI**


<p>08 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Creepy Crawlies Go on the hunt for some creepy creatures!</p>	<p>15 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Multicultural Multicultural aoraki visit, make a lava lava, coconut buns.</p>	<p>22 JAN PROGRAMME DAY NBA Get your head in the game</p>	<p>29 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Ties & Tiaras Royalty Day with home-made scones, obstacle course with book on head, high tea party, make invitations and club sandwiches</p>
<p>09 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Move ya body! Time get your body moving!</p>	<p>16 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Geocaching at Scenic A Scenic walk to do some geocaching.</p>	<p>23 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Fire Wise Lets go to the fire station for an informative morning!</p>	<p>30 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Wild West Horse show game, make cowboy hats and line dancing.</p>
<p>10 JAN TRIP DAY Strathallan A fun Day at Strathallan, swimming and games.</p>	<p>17 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Minecraft Mania Build your own city with wooden blocks(?) , a tag with blow up a/c.</p>	<p>24 JAN TRIP DAY Disney Princess dresses, 101 dalmatian tag, Currella Devil wears a wig captures all her puppies, archery.</p>	
<p>11 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Summer Sports Cricket, tennis, tball, athletics, give it all a go!</p>	<p>18 JAN TRIP DAY SPCA visit Go to the SPCA to visit the animals!</p>	<p>25 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Rainbow Tie dye, playdough and connect 4 with coloured plates, fizzing icecubes.</p>	
<p>12 JAN TRIP DAY CBay Beach A trip to Cbay Beach.</p>	<p>19 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Hawaiin Hullabaloo Butcher paper surfboards, water slides/ balloons, visit to the bay paddling pool</p>	<p>26 JAN PROGRAMME DAY Superb Sand Sun, sea and sandcastles!</p>	

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Holiday Programme

18th - 29th December
MSD-Approved, Work & Income OSCAR Subsidy available!



Prices:
Full Day 8am-6pm: \$57
School Day 8am-3pm: \$50
Trip Day 8am-6pm: \$67

Waimataitai School Hall
25 Trafalgar Street
Timaru

Manager: 027 6011 247
Mon-Thurs 12pm-3pm
Email: waimataitai@skids.co.nz

Book now at skids.co.nz/waimataitai
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December

Monday 11th	Tuesday 12th	Wednesday 13th	Thursday 14th	Friday 15th
Term 4 Bookings	Term 4 Bookings	Term 4 Bookings	Term 4 Bookings	Term 4 Bookings
				

December

Monday 18th	Tuesday 19th	Wednesday 20th	Thursday 21st	Friday 22nd
CHRISTMAS COOKIE FUN Who stole the cookies from the cookie jar.....THAT'S OK we will just have to make some more	IT'S ALL ABOUT COLOUR Bring your whitest clothes to get covered in COLOUR. A colour run in the morning. And a water fight in the afternoon, who is in	TRIP DAY: WE ARE OFF TO THE BAY We're off to the beach and so much more so get ready for fun in the sun and some great activities.	XMAS FUN DAY (1) Let's get in the Christmas mood and get decorating. I wonder if it will snow for us.	XMAS FUN DAY (2) OMG Santa is almost here. We better get ready with some fun and exciting Xmas fun!!
				



Holiday Programme

8th January - 2nd February
MSD-Approved, Work & Income OSCAR Subsidy available!



Prices:
Full Day 8am-6pm: \$57
School Day 8am-3pm: \$50
Trip Day 8am-6pm: \$67

WAIMATAITAI School Hall
25 Trafalgar Street
Timaru

Manager: 027 6011 247
Mon-Thurs 12pm-3pm
Email: waimataitai@skids.co.nz

Book now at skids.co.nz/waimataitai
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January				
Monday 8th	Tuesday 9th	Wednesday 10th	Thursday 11th	Friday 12th
IT'S SCIENCE TIME Come along for the great experiment experience	FAIRYTALE STORIES What is your favourite story. We will have some fun activities to do with these stories.	GET THE TARGET Can you get a bullseye....well here is your chance to hit the mark.	ONESITE TRIP DAY CARNIVAL & PIRATES Dress as your best Pirate and come along for some bouncy castle fun.	EWWWW IT FEELS LIKE WHAT? A day full of sensory activities, with lots of smells, tastes, touch and things to see.
				
Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th
CARDBOARD CREATIONS Time to get your creative skills a flowing and get to building it today.	ROCK AND PEBBLE ART What can you create with rocks and pebbles. Will it be colourful or tall?	TRIP DAY: TEMUKA HERE WE COME Off we go to Temuka for some Putt Putt Golf and swim at the POOL!	TIME TO TYE DYE How many colours can you get on your tye dye creation. Wear your OLD clothes today.	CLAY CREATIONS Get your hands messy making something amazing or crazy with clay.
				
January				
Monday 22nd	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th
LEGO IS IN THE HOUSE Bring some Lego to share, or have a go of our Lego.	DESIGN A BASEBALL CAP & LIGHT FUN Design an awesome cap just the way you want it.	SUPER HEROS AND FARIES Dress up as a superhero or fairy for a magical and fun day.	TRIP DAY: IT A MYSTERY TRIP The bus is going to take us to.....? You will have to come with us to find out.	ORGANIC EXPERIENCES What can be created with some natural materials and foods?
				
Monday 22nd	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th
WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE Can you answer the questions and win the prize.	DANCE PARTY Let's celebrate the end of the holidays and the start of a new school year.	SCHOOL IS BACK	SCHOOL IS BACK	SCHOOL IS BACK
				