



# Newsletter

## 28 February 2024 Newsletter No 3

Tena koutou katoa

Thank you to everybody that came to the Goal Setting Interviews last week. Your child's education is a partnership between home and school so it is important to address any questions or concerns you have early in the year. If you didn't manage to make your interview, please contact your child's teacher to book another time.

Crucial to your child's success at school is regular attendance. Regular attendance is defined by the Ministry of Education is 90% of school days, however there is no 'safe' level of non-attendance as every school day missed has an effect. It is much harder for children to achieve to their potential and develop positive friendships if they are missing school on a regular basis.

Tomorrow is the school triathlon, we look forward to seeing you come along to support your child.

We are aware of some parents using the bottom car park as a pickup spot in the afternoons. Please remember that this car park is for staff only and is also the pickup spot for the bus so needs to be kept clear.

We have received some good news from the Timaru District Council that the pedestrian crossing outside school, on Grants Road, is soon to be raised. This will slow down traffic and make the crossing more visible. The work is expected to start in a couple of weeks.

Regards  
Richard

### NEW STUDENT

We welcome the following student to Grantlea Downs in the last fortnight: Aroha Kumar.

### COVID REMINDER

As cases appear to be increasing in the wider community, please be aware of the symptoms your child may have if unwell. Please continue to follow good practices when it comes to your own health and the health of your whānau and the school community.

### DUFFY BOOKS IN HOMES

It was exciting to receive the first books for the year from the Duffy Books in Homes Programme. These books are for the children to keep at home and are from their own selections made earlier this term.



### EMERGENCY DETAIL UPDATE FORMS

We have a number of forms outstanding that were given out at Parent/Teacher Interviews last week. If you have not already done so, please return your checked and updated Emergency Detail Update Form to the school office asap. This ensures we are able to get hold of you if required in an emergency.



We need your muscle to help us dig a trench to place our tyre eel/tuna in.

Please contact office ph 03 684 7706 if you are available at any part of the day.

## Grantlea Downs School Board Casual vacancy for a parent representative

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative.

The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection. If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:

*Errol Johns*

*Grantlea Downs School Board*

[boardchair@grantleadowns.school.nz](mailto:boardchair@grantleadowns.school.nz)

by: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## Principal Awards – Term 1 Week 4

Olivia Marshall, Jayda Tairaki Houia, Tiaki Whyte, Will Pelvin

## Class Awards and Values Champions

### Class Awards - Week 1

Theo McCarthy, Lavida Dyer, Vanessa Yorston, Lucy Clark, Wiremu Thomson

### Values Champion – Week 2

Bianka O'Connor, Finley Hunter, Sophia Kirk, Chase Reweti, Bella Ford, Jaxon Hough, Mason Masters-Simelhay, Brooke Willetts

### Class Awards - Week 3

Dhyan Renjith, Zahalia Townsend, Mila Stringer, Blake Gordon, Brax Brady, Brooklyn Thomson, Aria Henry-Evans, Ella Lindsay, Marley Henry, Romeo Yerbury, Tawhirimatea Whyte, Phoebe Kiddey, Jack Johnston

### Values Champion – Week 4

Aliviyah Pairama-Wishnowsky, Te Aika Reihana, Loki Vakalala, Connor Bruce, Ronald Milne, Emma Wilkins, Dotte Cadigan, Lyall Firmin Tavener, Nubian Salwy, Brylee Taylor

## TOP TEAMS – Week 7 - 12 March 2024

This year Top Teams will be run a bit differently. This is being organised by Sports Canterbury with a variety of new, fun challenges for the children to complete. The Year 5 – 8 students will start at 10.20am – 12pm. with an early lunch at 12pm. The Year 1 – 4 event will run from 1pm – 2.30pm. Lunch will be at the earlier time of 12pm.

A notice containing more information will be sent home tomorrow. We require parent help to ensure the day runs smoothly.

## TOTS TO TEENS MAGAZINE

Follow the link for the latest issue of Tots to Teens magazine [issue2402.totstoteens.co.nz](https://www.totstoteens.co.nz/issue2402)

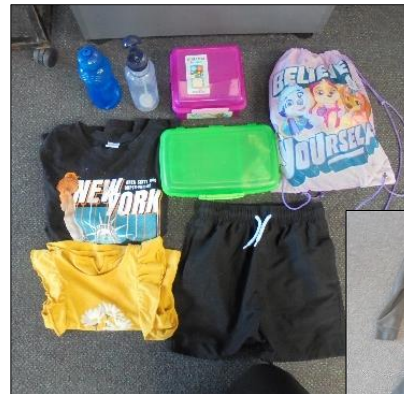
### What's in this issue for parents?

- » The terrible twos
- » Getting the most out of Open Days
- » Gut health for young athletes
- » Tempting chocolate treats
- » Healthy eyes for a better future
- » What is your child's learning style?
- » 7 Tips for parents who have ADHD
- » How to talk about periods.
- » The ultimate party-planning guide
- » PLUS awesome giveaways



## LOST PROPERTY

If you recognise anything, please collect it from the lost property in the office foyer.



## SAVE 💰 and REDUCE WASTE

You may be aware that the school kitchen is providing children, not only with a yummy lunch, but also with fruit, yoghurt, and now an extra snack too!

Given that plenty of food is available at school to keep your child healthy and attentive, you can help by reducing the amount of packaged food coming to school in lunchboxes (such as muesli bars and chips). At the same time, this will reduce the amount of non-recyclable rubbish ending up around the school grounds, such as the ones in the photo 🤮. And this will keep our caretaker very happy 😊!





# Grantlea Downs Triathlon

Thursday 29th February



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. Below is a copy of the day's programme so that you can get some idea of when your child will be racing. As with any school event, times are always approximate.

## YEARS 5-8

9:30 – 12:30 pm

Time	Event	Order
9.30-10.40am	Year 5/6 Individual	Girls
		Boys
11.00-12.30pm	Year 7/8 Individual	Girls
		Boys

Any questions can be directed to Sam Carlaw in Room 14.

## YEARS 1-4

1:30 – 3.00pm

All children in Years 1-4 will be participating as individuals in the triathlon.

Time	Event	Order
1.30-2.15pm	Year 3/4 Individual	Girls
		Boys
2.15-3.00pm	Year 0-2 Individual	Girls
		Boys

Any questions can be directed to Alice Austin in Room 6

**See you tomorrow!**

### They will need:

- Bike and helmet Yrs 3 -8 (as the year 3 and 4 course is on the grass a bike will make it easier for your child)
- Scooter – Year 1 & 2 and helmet
- Swimming togs and towel
- House coloured top
- Drink bottle

**PLEASE DO NOT RING THE OFFICE TO ASK WHEN A SPECIFIC YEAR LEVEL WILL START – RACES WILL BE RUN IN THE ORDERS ABOVE UPON COMPLETION OF PREVIOUS RACE**

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

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



**Have your bulk fuel purchases support our school!**

For every 1,000L of bulk fuel you get we receive \$5



Call Fern on 0800 99 99 89 to start supporting us today!

**PRIMARY SCHOOL KIDS**  
It's challenge time ... Big Easy style!

Fun & Educational  
**CODING LESSONS**



Learn to code with expert tutors.  
Gain the ability to create with technology (instead of just consuming it).  
All skill levels welcome.

Grab a free trial lesson at [codingnz.com](http://codingnz.com)

Ages 9 to 11  
12 & 13  
14 to 16

**CODINGNZ**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH**



**JOIN OUR CHILDREN'S CHOIR AGES 7-12**

**FREE TO JOIN AND NO AUDITIONS !!**

- Learn basic note reading skills and harmonies
- Work towards Royal School of Church music Voice for Life singing medals
- Sing at a 10am Sunday Service once a month

**WHERE: ST MARY'S CHURCH, 24 CHURCH STREET, TIMARU**  
**WHEN: FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
**TIME: 5-5.45PM**

Contact: Catherine Anderson Director of Music at [st.marys.timaruextra.co.nz](mailto:st.marys.timaruextra.co.nz) for more information or to sign up



**Junior 'Have A Go At Football' and 'Registration' Day 2024**



For all new and returning junior players (6th-12th Grade), if you are interested in having a go at football this season, come along to Thistle's 'Have A Go At Football' and 'Registration' Day. Have fun meeting others, kick a ball around, and try out a range of drills and skills.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR DRINK BOTTLE!**

**When: Sunday 10th March, 2024 Time: 2pm**  
**Where: ANZAC Square (Rose Street, Timaru)**

For any queries please contact  
**Rebecca Shepherd (Junior Coordinator)**  
[timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com](mailto:timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com)

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


**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO MAKE IT, PLEASE EMAIL THE REGISTRATION INFORMATION BELOW TO:**

**Rebecca Shepherd (Junior Coordinator)**  
[timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com](mailto:timaruthistleafc@hotmail.com)

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


**INTERESTED IN COACHING?!**

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



**mrs A's music school**

# BUS BAND



**Igniting musical passion and fun**

GROUP LESSONS  
INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED  
VARIETY OF GENRES

- We have all the equipment and instruments on board. You get to experience Keyboards, Ukulele, Guitar, Bass, Drums and Singing. You can try a few instruments before you settle on one.
- It's in school time, Primary school students pop out of class for 30 minutes per week and for the first few terms in a group minimum 3 maximum 6.
- As students become more competent it will be time to advance to one to one lessons at the studio after school.

**PRE ENROL AT**  
[www.mrsasmusicschool.co.nz/enrol](http://www.mrsasmusicschool.co.nz/enrol)

**\$190** per term.

Travel cost: outside Timaru will be extra.

