

# Newsletter

Thursday 11 February 2016



**Greenmeadows**  
Intermediate School

Piki ki te rangi - Reach for the sky

Dear Parents and Whanau,

What a fabulous start of year we are experiencing here at Greenmeadows. It was a great feeling to welcome so many students, along with their families and whanau at the powhiri last Thursday. We received more Year 7's this year in comparison to the last few years and extend a special welcome to the large number of students and families choosing to come to Greenmeadows from Everglade Primary.

We encourage our parents and caregivers to keep in close contact with us at school - especially if your child is settling in as a Year 7 student. Send an email, make a phone call or pop in to see us at anytime. If you do want to see a teacher, an appointment outside of school time does usually need to be made but someone from the Senior Leadership Team (myself, Lali, Karen or Nevis) is always available to help with any queries or questions - we are happy to listen and help if we can. Email addresses follow the same pattern for all staff [jblogs@greenmeadows.school.nz](mailto:jblogs@greenmeadows.school.nz)

Cathy Chalmers  
PRINCIPAL

## STAFFING 2016

We warmly welcome Leena Maharaj, Dean Williamson and Tyrone Falasia to our staff. Leena is teaching Year 7 in Room 21, Dean Year 7 in Room 6 and Tyrone is a welcomed addition to our support staff. Detailed below is the organisation for each team.

### KERERU TEAM

Joe Lukupa (Team Leader)	Room 1	Y8
Braden Owens	Room 2	Y7
Pooven Naidoo	Room 5	Y7
Jessica Stowers	Room 12	Y8
Leena Maharaj	Room 21	Y7

### KOTARE TEAM

Amy Mostert (Team Leader)	Room 8	Y8
Lu Lu	Room 11	Y7
Ben Ngata	Room 9	Y8
Kathy Todd	Room 18	Y8
Byron Springveldt	Room 10	Y8

### SPECIALIST TEAM

Kade Forsyth (Team Leader)	Technology
Debbie Gill	Technology
Adam Heke	Visual Arts
Skye Lee	Performing Arts
Iki Valivaka	Te Reo Specialist

### KOKAKO TEAM

Samantha Gemmell (Team Leader)	Room 3	Y7
Nick Ferguson	Room 4	Y8
Rose Santos	Room 20	Y7
Dean Williamson	Room 6	Y7

### LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM

Melanie Ormsby	Teacher Aide	Justine Kanapu	Teacher Aide
Sunita Smith	Teacher Aide	Tyrone Falasia	Teacher Aide

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter comes home alternate Thursdays. You can have this emailed to you by registering your email address. Lots of students neglect to give parents newsletters so this is a very good option! If you would like this to happen send an email to [gis@greenmeadows.school.nz](mailto:gis@greenmeadows.school.nz) with "Newsletter" in the subject line and we will add you to the list.

## DRIVEWAYS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

We are having a number of issues with parents coming up the driveway before and after school to drop children off. Please don't do this as the congestion of cars causes a real health and safety hazard.

## BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

Notices have already gone home regarding BYOD for 2016. Our ICT engineer is in the process of setting up student accounts for managing these at school. As soon as this is ready (hopefully next week!) students are able to bring their own laptop or Chromebook to support their learning as soon as they have signed the BYOD use agreements.

For more information regarding BYOD check out our school website or email Kade Forsyth [kforsyth@greenmeadows.school.nz](mailto:kforsyth@greenmeadows.school.nz)

P: (09) 267 6255

F: (09) 268 0159

E: [gis@greenmeadows.school.nz](mailto:gis@greenmeadows.school.nz)

29 Greenmeadows Ave,  
Manurewa,  
Auckland.

[www.greenmeadows.school.nz](http://www.greenmeadows.school.nz)

## SCHOOL RECEPTIONIST JOB OPPORTUNITY

We seek a positive, friendly and professional person with the right skills to be an outstanding receptionist! You need to have good computer skills, a clear, friendly telephone manner and attention to detail. The successful applicant will have all of these qualities! Work hours are Monday to Friday, 8.00 a.m. to 3.30p.m. Term time only. Previous experience would be an advantage, but not necessary for the right applicant. Please find a full job description and application form on our school website [www.greenmeadows.school.nz](http://www.greenmeadows.school.nz). CV applications must be accompanied by the school's application form. Please email to [rlowen@greenmeadows.school.nz](mailto:rlowen@greenmeadows.school.nz) by Wednesday 24th February.

### Would you like to work in a School Tuckshop?

Part time, sole charge positions available in some South Auckland schools. You will need to like working with children and have some baking skills. Full training given. If you are interested or would like more information. Call Julie on 021 101 4997.

## CELLPHONES

A number of students do bring cellphones to school and we accept this as a way of life for young teenagers. HOWEVER, parents and students do need to understand the following conditions:



- Purchasing an expensive phone is a huge risk and we don't recommend it!
- All cellphones need to be named.
- Students are responsible for handing their cellphone in to the teacher at the start of the day. They are locked away and given back at home time.
- Students caught with a cellphone during the day will have their cellphone confiscated. It will then be held in the office until a parent comes in to collect it.
- The school is not able to accept any responsibility for cellphones that are lost or stolen. If students bring them to school, this is a risk parents and students need to recognise and understand!

## WRITING

### Powhiri

Zoom went all those cool capable Year 8's laughing with each other. I thought to myself, aren't they nervous to start intermediate? Then I realised that this was their second year and they knew everyone.

After I finished paying for my stationary, I looked around at the enormous school. It was a different environment compared to my primary but better in many ways. I waited anxiously for the bell to ring. Suddenly, kids went crazy, rushing to the hall. In my opinion, they looked as excited and hyped as if they were at a 5 Seconds of Summer concert (I can't blame them because I am a big fan myself).

Walking into the hall, I could feel chills coming down my spine. I saw astonishing Year 8's and Mr Lukupa standing proud with confidence doing the haka. It was very nerve wracking to walk into the hall. At first, seeing all those new faces, I was impressed with how the school made us feel welcomed. I knew at that moment that this was the school for me! My journey at GIS has just begun.  
- Nakita Tupua, Year 7, Room 11

### Powhiri

Well this morning the powhiri was so loud that I got a little shocked myself. As soon as the karanga finished, Mr. Lukupa starting shouting out the exact same haka as the one that they welcomed me to. It made me remember how I first came to this great school - and from the looks on the new Year 7s faces, they looked nervous just like how I was.

The boys and Mr. Lukupa were outstanding. They led us like we were at war, or something like that. That was from my point of view and I think we all did a great job of welcoming the new teachers and students.

Written by Sinalolo Asitomani  
Year 8  
Room 8

### ONE

One name,  
can change your life.  
One child,  
can bring a lot of happiness.  
One experience,  
can make you shine.  
One teacher,  
can help you a lot.  
One letter,  
can start a friendship.  
One friend,  
can support your feelings.  
One trophy,  
can start your career.  
One cheat,  
can ruin your life.

By: Tanveer Bhatti. Room 10

### ONE

One pen,  
can finish a poem.  
One book,  
can make you smarter.  
One coin,  
can change your life.  
One step,  
can make a mile.  
One hug,  
can make someone happy  
One brush,  
can create true art.  
One mind,  
can change the world .  
One weapon,  
can start a war.

By: Hoang Ngo Room 10

## STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please make sure you let us know. You can;

- Phone the school
- Report an absence through the school website
- Email the teacher or send a note.

Please note that overseas holidays during the school term are not classified as a justified absence from school. If your child needs to leave early, parents need to collect them from the office and sign them out.



### **JOHN PARSONS - Keeping Ourselves Safe in a Digital Environment Parent Workshop - Thursday 3rd March at 6.30pm**

John Parsons is an internet safety consultant to schools who delivers really engaging parent cybersafety workshops. This age is when students really start to engage with the online world of social media and it is vital that parents and their children are aware of how to remain safe within this environment.

John will be working with students on the 3rd and 4th March and he will be facilitating a parent workshop in the evening of Thursday 3rd March. We encourage parents to attend and are also extending an invite to the Year 6 parents of our feeder schools as we know that they will also be interested in hearing what John has to say.

## MANA KIDZ - RHEUMATIC FEVER PREVENTION

Thank you to parents and teachers for supporting our health team in 2015, and to the wonderful children who make our days so bright and fun. Don't forget that RHEUMATIC FEVER is an illness that starts with a sore throat caused by the strep germ, which can lead to serious long-term heart problems if not treated. Remember taking all doses daily of your antibiotics will prevent Rheumatic Fever. A sore throat needs to be checked every time. Don't be alarmed if your child needs to be treated more than once. This strep A infection is easily spread by droplet infection that is transmitted through coughing, talking or sneezing.

Please wash hands before and after eating, coughing or sneezing. Sneeze into your sleeve. Don't share food or drink bottles. Any child who is sick should sleep on their own. Drink a lot of fluids and include fruit and vegetables in your diet. **An ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of treatment.**

### **PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDES:**

1. Vision screening by Hearing / Vision team.
2. Daily throat screening for the bacterial throat infection called Strep A.
3. Twice a term class screening by throat swabs for all students.
4. Please ask for a consent form for your child if you have not been given one at the front desk.
5. Free treatments are provided for positive results or you can see your own family doctor.
6. Skin checks and treatment provided for free. Referrals will be made to your family doctor for any fungal infections, infections on the face, ears, nose mouth or on the bone.
7. Boostrix immunisation program for Year 7. A video will be shown to all students before immunisation is given, to answer questions and provide information about the vaccine.
8. HPV immunisation for Year 8 girls only. Three doses are given within 6 months. A video will be shown to all girls before immunisation is given, to answer questions and provide information about the vaccine.
9. Parents will need to fill out consent forms and return them to the nurse for both programs. Early returns would be highly appreciated.
10. Other referrals for general health Issues. Please visit us at the health clinic at any time in the morning or make a booking with me to discuss any health issues for your family or your child.
11. Please make sure the school has up to date contact details so the health team are able to reach you.



Public Health Nurse May Kennedy: Clendon Office Kids First 09 2593851. Fax 09 267776. Work mobile 0212739508.