



Thursday 18th May 2017

Greetings, Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Malo e lelei, Taloha, Ki Orana, Ni Hao, Buenos Dias, Chao Malo Ni, Namaste, Habari Dobar Dan, Bula Vanaka!

Dear Parents,

There have been a number of great opportunities for students to “learn outside the classroom” this week. 30 students went off to the Auckland Writers Festival on Tuesday 16th May at the Aotea Centre. They enjoyed listening to the storytelling of David Hill and Lauren Child, Frances Hardinge and Glenn Colquhoun as four very popular authors for this age level.

We also enjoyed hosting the Fonterra Science Roadshow this week and 140 of our students found visiting the roadshow a valuable learning experience.



HOME AND SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP EVENING

We have our first Home and School Partnership evening on Wednesday 24th May from 7.00 - 8.00pm in the school hall. The focus of this workshop will be on Literacy and Maths activities which you can do at home with your child. Come and enjoy a fun filled and informative evening with us. It will be a very hands on, practical evening – I am sure you will find it very worthwhile attending!

APPA MUSIC FESTIVAL

The choir will be attending a rehearsal at Papakura Normal School on Tuesday 30th May. Notices have gone home. Permission slips and \$5.00 contribution towards the bus needs to come in as soon as possible.

PINK SHIRT MUFTI DAY

Next Friday 26th May we are having a “Pink Shirt Mufti Day” to support the national “Anti-Bullying” campaign. This is always a fun day for our school and we will be having prizes for the most inventive outfits!

GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES

An early reminder to parents of students who catch the bus that you will need to make other arrangements to collect your child on Tuesday 4th July at 12.30pm. While we supervised students last term, this was a “one off” as the bus company gave us such short notice that they wouldn’t come at 12.30pm like they have in the past. Supervising students was never intended as a sustainable option as all staff are involved in conferences. However, using our i-hub after school care service IS an option so keep this in mind as we get closer to the end of the term.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Our next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Monday 22nd May at 6.30pm in the school staffroom.

ICAS TESTING

ICAS Testing starts next week with Digital Technologies on Tuesday 23rd May.

SPELLATHON

Next Friday we will be launching our "Spellathon" programme at our school assembly. We are using a "spellathon" as a way to "kick start" a school/whanau focus on the importance of accuracy when we spell. Over 80% of our students are currently not spelling at an age appropriate level and we are keen to improve this statistic! Each child will receive 25 words they are to learn each week for four weeks, starting Monday 29th May. They will be tested each Friday and results recorded in their Spellathon folder. We are going to use this as a fundraising activity for the school as well and hope our families will get behind us by helping their child get sponsors.

All students who raise more than \$25 will go into a range of draws for prizes including double movie passes, Lego packs, Rainbows End tickets and two scooters valued at \$150 each. Keep an eye out for the Spellathon Pack next Friday!

VISITING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

At the start of next term we will be hosting 10 international students from Beijing, China for four weeks. We are keen for this to be a positive experience for these students and are looking for host families to homestay these students. What would this involve? It would mean that:

- They would live with you and your family for the four weeks they are attending our school and would come to school with your child.
- There would be a payment to you of \$250 per week, per child, to cover their living expenses. (ie \$500 per week for two students).
- There is no expectation that you would need to do anything different to what you would normally do as a family - if anything, they just wish to be treated as one of the family!
- It helps if there is wifi available in the home so they are able to Skype their family back in China on occasions.
- Health & Safety checks have to be carried out as required for all international students - this includes caregivers being police vetted and Lali Hopkins needs to visit you at home.

If you are interested in helping us out with this exciting new venture, or would like more information, email Lali at lhopkins@greenmeadows.school.nz or give her a ring at school.

STUDENT'S WRITING

On the Court

She has a narrow, oblong face with angular cheekbones and a pointed chin. Her slit-like eyes are a clouded hazel; her thinly plucked eyebrows are shaped into a deceptively perfect arch that followed the slight curve of her eye. A long nose hooks over her dry, parched lips. Her thin, satin like hair was up in a high ponytail (which swayed like anything on the court). The sharp features of her face are a distinct reflection of her entire body structure; the muscles on this woman are immense. Her vibrant, pink Asics stand out like a sore thumb on the court. Her posture is firm and solid; she walks in long strides. The expressions on her face resemble the way she performs, aggressive, fierce and dominant. Sharni Layton, what an outstanding netball player - just a shame she's an Aussie.

By Maia Taua'a - Room 1

Kendrick Lamar

As he steps onto the stage, he wrecks the microphone with his rough voice. His long, frizzy hair bounces up and down as he jumps frantically all over the hard, wooden stage. His fans are fascinated with his outfit. The crowd waves their hands in sync to Kendrick's words, which are going faster than a runaway train. He runs around and acts like a bull in a china shop; he is wearing a lustrous, golden puma jacket with a great pair of golden Air Jordan's to go with it. As he changes the world with his lyrics, you can see his eyes, which are shaded with a strong bronze glow. Kendrick Lamar ends the concert with a "thanks".

By Luke J. Hopkins - Room 1

P: (09) 267 6255

F: (09) 268 0159

E: gis@greenmeadows.school.nz

29 Greenmeadows Ave,
Manurewa,
Auckland.

www.greenmeadows.school.nz