

GIS Newsletter

Thursday 7 September 2023

Principal's message

Kia ora whanau,

Last week 63 students spent a very special week on Kawau Island enjoying the great outdoors. They were such a great bunch of students who were so engaged in all the activities on offer. Of course, experiences such as this don't happen without the support of some pretty awesome people who are willing to give up their time to help with the organisation prior and the supervision of students while at camp. We are very grateful for our parent volunteers Mani Fagundes Dos Santos, Karl Kasi, Danelle Penehio, Coral Purcell and Lana Paraha - an absolutely outstanding bunch of parents!! We are also very grateful to Yura Jung, Gary Mons, Justine Kanapu and Ange Pafalani, the staff who came along as well - how lucky are we in the commitment that our staff show towards making sure our students get these experiences! Finally, I have to mention Joe Lukupa who is the driving force behind the camps that our kids get to go on. He always seems tireless on camp - he is always energetic, passionate and fun! Thanks Joe!



We return from camp and head straight into the final preparations for our Mighty Minds and Talents Show. This is always an amazing showcase of the performance talents of our students - and this year will be no different! If your child is in the show, please do make sure that you read about the organisation for MMT below - and don't forget to buy a ticket! They always sell out fast and we do not do door sales on the night.

This newsletter includes information about:

- Community Survey
- MMT (Mighty Minds and Talents) Show
- Extended absences during term time
- Manurewa Rehu Tai competition
- Pizza Reading Challenge
- Athletics homework

Have a wonderful week ahead!

Ngā mihi

Cathy Chalmers

cchalmers@greenmeadows.school.nz

Community Survey

Thanks to the 64 parents who so far have completed the Community Survey. The Board was really hoping for a larger number of responses, so I am putting it out there one more time in the hope that those who haven't had a chance to complete it might do so over the weekend. Many thanks!

[Click here to complete the Community Survey!](#)



MMT Show

Students have been working hard to develop their skills and talents in preparation for our Mighty Minds and Talents Show which will be held on **Tuesday 19th September**. There is a matinee during school time on Monday 18th September which some of our feeder schools are attending.

MMT full rehearsals take place next week and it is our fervant hope that all students who are in the show will attend school every day unless they are sick or there is a good reason for them to be absent.

Parents of performers should be receiving a separate note shortly (probably an email) from the tutor with information that is specific to the group they are performing in. Some parents may well receive a few emails, as we have some students in multiple performances! However, below is the general information parents of performers will want to know.

Performers need to be here at school at 6.00p.m. on the night of the show. Kapa haka will need to be here earlier as it takes them longer to get ready. Groups have been allocated rooms to get ready in and will be supervised by teachers. There is no need for parents to stay with the groups unless they have been specifically asked by a teacher to help with getting students ready.

The Mighty Minds and Talents Show starts at 7.00 p.m and will run through until approximately 9:00 p.m. **All students will need to be collected from their designated classroom at the end of the performance (approximately 9.00 p.m.)** Parents who are not attending the show need to please make arrangements to collect them by 9.20p.m.

Tickets can be purchased from the school and cost \$10.00 for an adult, \$5.00 for a child. Alternatively you can purchase them through our online Kindo store. **Students who are performing do**

not need to pay for themselves - only their whānau needs to buy tickets.

If you know your child is NOT going to be available for the matinee OR the show itself, PLEASE let the tutor know so they can adjust their performance - it is always so hard for tutors if students just don't turn up on the night.

If you have any questions or need more information surrounding the evening please do not hesitate to contact the school or the teacher in charge of your child's group.

Extended planned absences during term time

We are finding there are an increasing number of students who are absent from school because they are going on holiday or overseas during term time. As parents are aware, the Ministry of Education is cracking down on student attendance and schools are expected to have systems in place for tracking and/or justifying cases when students are absent for extended periods of time.

We have now developed a form for parents to complete if they wish to take their child out of school for an extended period (ie more than one week). Please complete the form below and email it to me (cchalmers@greenmeadows.school.nz) before your child takes time out of school. The signed form will then be kept on your child's file at school.

Please note that if a student is absent from school for more than 20 days and does not return to school on the date stated on the form, we are obliged to remove them from the roll and inform the Ministry of Education for follow up.

Student Extended Absence Form

Manurewa Rehu Tai Competition

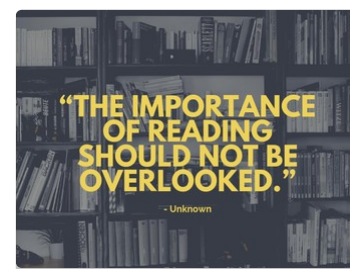
On Friday 25th August three of our most talented public speakers represented our school at the Manurewa Principals Association Rehu Tai speech competition which was held at Reremoana School. A massive congratulations goes out to Ethan Baluyut, Ariana Clarke-Te'o, and Bethany Gross. We were so proud of all three of them!

There were four different presentation categories: Spoken Word, Speech, Flash Talk, and Rap. Our students were excited to participate in the event and all of them delivered their presentations to a high standard. Two of our students placed in their respective categories. Ethan Baluyut was awarded 2nd place for his flash talk and Bethany Gross was awarded 3rd place for her rap.



Pizza Reading Challenge

It was great to see so many students acknowledged in Assembly today for completing their reading challenge this fortnight and therefore have received a pizza voucher. We are finding more and more students are starting to read in their own time and this is very gratifying, especially as the teachers are working really hard to promote its importance!!



It is a known fact that the number of adolescents reading novels is decreasing as they invest more and more time on social media or gaming online in preference to reading a book! Unfortunately, this will not aid them in achieving NCEA English qualifications! We are very proud of the efforts the students below have been making to read regularly! What we spend our time on matters!

Hell Pizza Reading Challenge 2023 @ GIS

Congratulations to all these students who have achieved a pizza wheel this fortnight:

Room 1: Nafanua

Room 3: Isitolo, Ethan, Matthew, Meijing, Praise, Queny, Rainal

Room 5: Aiden, Akatahinu, Akeelah, Ella, Jayda-Lee, Jaydezay, Kaidan, Marley, Millie, Rehutai, Trey

Room 6: Hiiona, Khalani, Maringirangi, Laura Anne, Mihi, Navia, Talon, Te Urutaua, Tererangi, Tokapuia, Kalarney

Room 7: Irihapeti, Luke, Shania, Adrian, Hunter, Jorawar

Room 8: Anzac, Evaan, Leo, Lusi, Madison, Pelesea, Rob, Robert, Tyler, Zubair, Aasha, Drishya



Hell Pizza Reading Challenge 2023 @ GIS

Congratulations to all these students who have achieved a pizza wheel this fortnight:

Room 9: Simarjot

Room 10: Malia

Room 15: Rijane, Cleveland, Cyprus, Amy

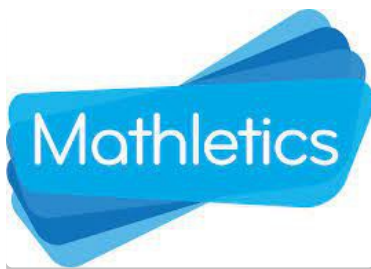
Room 16: Hama

Room 17: Kritika, Prabjot, Prateeti, Ah-lizah, Maria

Room 21: Simran K, Azhar, Sophia, Eden, Lacey, Erica, Manvir, Janet,

Simran K, Li-Li, Hybiscus, Julius, Sebastian, Sukhman, Cain, Gensin,

Danny, Gurjot, Manav, Ahaan, Logan, Daze, Aaryadeep, Sarah



Mathletics Homework

Just a reminder to parents that the school pays for every child to have a subscription to Mathletics to support their mathematics progress and achievement - and this is expensive! **The expectation is that students do 30 minutes Mathletics homework every week.** Not all students do this regularly (and probably tell their parents they don't have any homework!) and we are asking that parents try to make sure they do!

We all know how much learning our kids missed because of Covid - Mathletics is a way we can catch them up before they head off to high school. I have just analysed our school Maths data - what I noticed is the students who have made the most progress have made use of Mathletics to add to their classroom learning.