

GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL

Newsletter No 31

19th September 2011

Kia Ora

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It was great to see a number of Green Island School families out and about in the weekend, enjoying the festive atmosphere in our vibrant city.

SADLY – we farewell our 6 popular 3rd Year Teacher Trainees at the end of this week. We have really enjoyed having them at our school this year. They have come a long way with their teaching and are now ready for the challenge of securing a teaching position. Thank you so much for everything that you have done for our children and best wishes for the future.

Y6 CAMP – preparations are moving along very smoothly. The camp to Berwick starts this time next week (26th Sept). We are very proud of our Outdoor Education programme at Green Island School. This is not offered by every school so I wish to recognise the huge contribution made by Mrs Spiers, Mr Warrington, Mr Gallagher, Support Staff, BOT, FOTS and parents. Without your support and hard work, we would not be able to offer this exciting (and challenging) experience. **All camp fees must be paid in full before your child attends camp. Payments due by this Friday (23rd September). Thank you.**

CAMP RAFFLE – results are as follows:

1st Prize – Bain Family
2nd Prize – Cullen Family
3rd Prize – McDonald Family
The other 16 winners have been notified. Many thanks to all who supported this fundraiser.

FOTS (Friends of the School) – have very generously donated \$3000 to our BOT. Their next major fundraiser is the Christmas Raffle. We are now asking for donations of the following items from each class Room 9 – Bottles (no alcohol), Room 8 – Snacks, Room 7 – Laundry, Room 6 – Bathroom, Room 5 – Toiletries, Room 3 – Packets, Room 2 – Cans or tins, Room 1 – Sweet treats
Please bring to the box in the office.
We are also looking for some cane baskets suitable for putting our prizes in.

UNIVERSITY – of Otago “Play Study” Researchers are now collecting in the permission slips that were given out to a number of classes. They can be posted back in the letter provided or sent along to the Office for us to deal with.

A REMINDER ABOUT THE PLAY STUDY AND GIVING YOUR CONSENT FOR YOUR CHILD TO TAKE PART.

Rooms 2, 3, 5 and Room 6

This is a reminder that on Monday, 26th September a group of researchers from the University of Otago will visit Rooms 2, 3, 5 & 6. They will measure all the children who have consented to take part in the Play Study and will also give them an accelerometer belt to wear for the week. An accelerometer is a small watch-like device worn around the waist on a stretchy belt. **All children in Rooms 2, 3, 5, and 6 have been invited to take part in the Play Study and on 12th September were given an envelope to take home to their parents/guardians.** The envelope contains an information sheet with further details about the research and what will be involved for your child.

If you and your child would like to take part please contact the research team *by Thursday, 22nd September* to give your consent. There are three different ways you can do this:

1. Complete the consent form and post in the Freepost envelope provided so the research team receive it *by Thursday, 22nd September*. That way when the researchers visit Green Island School on Monday, 26th September they will be prepared for your child to take part.
2. Email the researchers at play@otago.ac.nz saying that you are happy for your child to participate. Please include your child's full name, their date of birth, the class they are in and that they attend Green Island School. Please put “Play study” as the title of your email.
3. Text the words ‘Play study’ to (021) 02963356 and the researchers will call you back.

We hope you decide to take part in this exciting research.
Thank you so much!

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Mc DONALDS – receipts are collected in by the FOTS. Just ask McDonalds for your receipt when you next visit. We collect in the receipts and then get 20% of their total value in return.

SCHOOL UNIFORM – is being updated over the next 18 months. Please feel free to see Justine about the options that we are looking at, at the moment. We are obviously sticking with our famous green and gold colours but our new school shirt will have more green in it than gold – hopefully it will be a lot easier to keep clean.

MINI HOCKEY – practise for the 5 to 7 year olds who signed up earlier this year, will take place in the Hall during the lunch break on Wednesdays at 12:55pm. The first Saturday skills session and game is set down for this coming Saturday (24th Sept) at the hockey turf on Harbour Terrace, from 1-2pm. Please remember to pay your \$35 to the Office as soon as possible please. Any other 5 to 7 year olds are most welcome to join up.

SMALL WHEELS DAY – this coming Wednesday and Thursday **ONLY** for those children wearing their fluoro **SAFETY VEST**. In an effort to encourage the wearing of these important safety items, we will only have children scooting and rolling around our school (on Wednesday and Thursday) during break times, who are wearing their safety vest.

WELL DONE – to all of the children who have been doing some fantastic reading recently. Listening to their progress each week, is certainly one of the best parts of my job. We are growing some enthusiastic “bookworms” at our school this year.

SPORTS ASSEMBLY – this coming Friday, 23rd September, in the Hall at 2:30pm. We are hoping that our winter sports coaches will be able to attend.

YIPPEE – we have won \$1000 worth of free advertising with “MediaWorks”. We thank the radio stations associated with “MediaWorks” very much and will use this in the very near future. Stay tuned!

SCOUTS – Scouts New Zealand is offering a **FREE ONE MONTH TRIAL MEMBERSHIP** to anyone interested in joining us in the adventure. SCOUTS New Zealand had been providing outdoor opportunities for over 100 years. We have a passion for providing young people from all walks of life with new experiences, as well as encouraging personal development and community involvement. To download a **FREE ONE MONTH TRIAL MEMBERSHIP** simply head to www.scouts.org.nz, click ‘Join Now’ and fill out the details or call 0800 SCOUTS to find the local group.

ATHLETICS - I would like to invite you to join Athletics Taieri for this coming season - Registrations are on Sunday 2nd October between 11am-1pm at the clubrooms, Memorial Park, Mosgiel, and every Tuesday from the beginning of the season. Opening Night is - Tuesday 25th October @ 6pm - Memorial Park. 'Have a go Night' Tuesday 11th October 6-7pm. Everyone welcome, come along, has fun & learn some new skills. Enquiries for Kiwi/Children's section to Bevan Mears on 489 5855 or Senior section (12yrs +) Alex Merrilees on 484 7030. Or phone Lyn Mackay on 489 3587

VALUES – The Value we are focusing on this term is Responsibility. In the Library this means issuing books correctly, returning books on time, putting browsing books back in the correct place, looking after books you borrow and using the library sensibly at all times.

REMINDERS – Chocolate bar fundraiser money is now due back please.
- Polynesian Festival DVDs on sale for \$30 at the Office

Nga mihi nui/Best wishes

Steve Hayward
Principal

P.S. Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a crocodile.
*Don't worry, you'll soon **snap** out of it!*