



Newsletter - Thursday 5th November 2019

Let's start with celebrating what is happening around the school first!

SCHOOL DISCO

Congratulations to all our Year 8 organisers! The kids loved dressing up or dancing to the '80s theme which made some of the staff and parents relive their younger years and spontaneously sing to a few classic hits.



Overall the Year 8's put in a huge effort behind the scenes and on the night to make this event successful and enjoyed by all. In the process, they learnt a lot about budgeting, hiring equipment, getting creative in accessing local resources, choosing appropriate playlists...etc...

They also learnt about the effects on our fire alarms of body heat from blacking out the hall windows and smoke machines. They unfortunately went off during the Kawaka disco but thankfully although there was no real fire, the fire engine soon pulled up and our local firefighters jumped out ready to go. A huge thanks and apologies to Steve Perry and his team!



Afterwards, we all laughed at ourselves (and reflected on a more serious note too Steve!) as we knew a little commonsense and extra planning would have avoided this. We then laughed even harder the next day when numerous children said it was the biggest highlight of their night having the fire truck and firemen turn up to the school disco!



On another good note, it was great to see our impromptu fire drill went incredibly smoothly thanks to the parents and kids who were there.

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS

Last Saturday, 21 children in 3 teams competed in the Wellington Regional Tournament of Mind competition in Wellington. Tournament of Minds involves teams of students working collaboratively to solve problems in one of four disciplines, these being: The Arts, Language-Literature, S.T.E.M, and Social Sciences. Students work together to solve both spontaneous and long term challenges and are judged on their lateral thinking processes and their ability to communicate effectively and work together as a team.

“DREAMS COME IN A SIZE TOO BIG, SO THAT YOU CAN GROW IN TO THEM!”

The long term challenges required each team to prep for 5 weeks prior to the competition (with minimal teacher input) in order to present a solution to two problems in one of these disciplines. One of our Year 7/8 challenges was “Design a Media Campaign – to convince a made-up country to take part in the International Trade Conference”. Our Year 7/8 team took on this challenge with great gusto. Jayden Pretorius-Hartley even learnt how to write and speak some of the script in Russian from Education Perfect online programme to make it more realistic. The judges were incredibly impressed by this!

The “Spontaneous Challenge” involved all team members listening carefully to the challenge which is given at the start orally. They are given between three and five minutes of preparation time, in which they are judged on their effective use of time and creativity of their ideas, amongst other criteria. They are then given one or two minutes to present the solution. All teams did an incredible job.



Congratulations to our Year 5/6 team who came 2nd in their Primary section!

SENIOR PRODUCTION COMING UP

The Kauri Syndicate are working on their student-led production called “Performing Arts through Time”. It is student-led as the children have written, produced, choreographed, composed (yes...most of the music has been made from scratch on the computer or with the school band) etc. There will be Shakespeare items, Circus performances, Kapa Haka Items, Dances and a Music Video. Come along to see their creation.

There will be two performances to choose from.

Tuesday 17th (Night Performance) starting at 6.30pm

Wednesday 18th (Matinee) starting at 11.00am

Arrive early to get a seat. Gold coin donation for entry.

CELEBRATING FATHERS DAY OR “INSPIRATIONAL MEN’S DAY

Last Sunday it was Father’s Day. Kids around the school were busy making surprise cards and gifts, which was wonderful to see. It was also an important time for our children to realise that families come in all different configurations. For a few children, they may not have a dad for a variety of reasons so we also emphasised celebrating the men in our lives that support and inspire us in different ways from the traditional “dad” model.

Whether that is our dads, step-dads, foster dads, uncles, brothers, big buddies, grandfathers, sports coaches, Scout Leaders, friends dads, neighbours, male teachers, school caretakers, local volunteers, Lion’s Club readers, Greytown Trustland Members, District councillors, men in our community of all ages etc...the list goes on!

We hope all the men in our community enjoyed this day and we want to say...

“Thank you for being an inspiration to us and for supporting our kids in lots of different ways!”



Here are some photos from the Kawaka Syndicate who made Body Scrubs with the help of Denise Dry from Home Cottage Gardens to say thank you. They came up with some catchy labels too eg: “Scrub your worries away”, “Thanks for scrubbing up so well”. Scrub Recipe:

2 cups plain salt , 1 heaped tablespoon of coconut oil

2-3 drops of your favourite essential oil

(If you don't have oils use: fresh rosemary, lavender or your other favourite herb just cut fine and mix through).

Mix together and pop in a recycled jar or other container.

KOWHAI WHANAU AFTERNOON - COME ALONG

The Kowhai Syndicate are getting ready for the Whanau afternoon. Room 5 have been busy learning about musical instruments and have now created their own. It was wonderful to see and hear their enjoyment as they started playing and composing their own class song. We look forward to seeing all their wider whanau coming in to see what they have learnt on Monday 16th September



SUMMER SPORTS SIGN UP TOMORROW

Tomorrow is the Summer Sports sign up day. Clubs from all over our local area come to tell kids about the different sports and leisure activities that they can sign up for. Please check out the information later in the newsletter to see what is available.

PET DAY 2019

We are in the early stages of preparing for our annual Pet Day. This will be held on Friday 25th October which is Week 2 of Term 4. The postponement day will be the following Friday 1st November. Children from across the school can enter their pets (or borrow pets from friends) to take part in the parades or enter other competitions with a Pet or Agricultural theme ie Pot plants, Scarecrow, Recycled Materials Family Pet competitions.

This is an incredible day that family and friends from near and far come to enjoy.

Please remember that this day school will finish early around 12.30pm after the final parade so parents can take their children and pets home to start the long Labour Day weekend.

Please see the information at the back of the newsletter for more details.

Now for some general housekeeping notices.

NEW SCHOOL APP

We have changed our school app so it is fresher, and aligns with our new school website so you can access more information. The school app is still FREE for parents and it is a major part of our school communication systems (ie: Notices, Updates, Reminders, Absences etc). We encourage families and local people who want to know what is happening in our school to join it. All you need to do now is



scan the QR code and subscribe, or go into your App store and download the Kiwischools App then follow their instructions to load Greytown School. Please subscribe to all for push notifications of notices and newsletters. Once you have done this please delete our previous school app as we will no longer be updating it as of Monday 9th September.

ABSENTEES, MEDICAL CERTIFICATES & OVERSEAS TRIPS

If your child is away from school in the morning please remember to let the office know before 8.50 am. You can do this in the following ways

- Ring the office and leave a message (name, class and reason).
- School App - Absentee system
- School Website - look for the absentee button at the bottom of the home page.

It is important that you tell us why your child is away because we can monitor the amount of sicknesses etc across the school. An example of why this is important is...If at any point we notice a large number of children away for the same reasons we look at possible causes, immediate response, future preventions eg: whether we need to contact our local Health Nurse for advice etc. As you realise this is particularly important if we have verified cases of Chickenpox or other infectious diseases that are contagious as we need to notify families within that class and non-immunised children in the school who may be at a higher risk.

If your child has a high absence rate within one term for health/medical reasons you will receive a letter requesting medical certificates from your local GP or specialist to verify these absences each time. This requirement ensures that not only are children off school for legitimate/legal reasons but more importantly to ensure that we are supporting your child and family in the right way eg: Temporary enrolment with the Central Health School, Public Health Nurse support etc.

If your child is going to be away from school for an extended amount of time due to family overseas trips, please email your request for leave from the principal (principal@greytown.school.nz) or school office (office@greytown.school.nz). We can then ensure that all legal requirements for enrolment and attendance have been correctly adhered to.

SCHOOL FEES 2020 AND BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

A few parents have recently asked me about the government budget announcement where they will pay \$150 per child to enable schools to no longer ask for school fees/donations. Unfortunately, we are a decile 8 school so this does not apply to us, as this allocation of funds is for kids in Decile 1-7 schools at present. Fingers crossed this will change in the future budget rounds to include decile 8 schools, as it will make a significant difference to parents and the schools lucky enough to receive it.

SENIOR BUILD UPDATE

A few parents have also asked about our Senior Build Project. Currently, we are in the process of locking in the placement of this building (5 classes). This process involves a lot of

practical thinking and planning of all the services etc that will need to be put in place at the chosen location, any changes needed to current infrastructure to make this possible and ensuring we have an overall school design plan for any possible future roll growth as the Greytown community expands. This process is very involved with a lot of work going on behind the scenes with representatives from the Board of Trustees, Senior Leadership team and Ministry of Education Property Team working together. Once this part of the project is completed we will share it with our community through our new BOT newsletter.

SWIMMING POOL DONATION

We want to say a huge thank you to the Sue Kiltie Trust and their trustees who have donated \$8293.27 towards future upgrades and maintenance of our School Pool. As you are aware our school pool is old and requires a lot of maintenance. This is an extremely kind and generous donation that will make it possible for our school to continue to have a swimming pool on-site that our younger children can use to learn how to swim, be more confident in the water and have fun on those hot Wairarapa days. Thank you!!!



Miss Patrice O'Connor

Dates For Your Diary	
6 Sept	Summer Sports SignUps
10 Sept	Year 7 & 8 Vaccinations
16 Sept	Kowhai Whanau Celebration
17 & 18 Sept	Kauri Production
19 Sept	Dance Splash Wellington

School Photos

Our School Photos will be online on Tuesday next week, at that time we will send through information on login instructions to follow along with the gallery access code to place your orders.

School Information	
Phone	06 304 9007
Email	office@greytown.school.nz principal@greytown.school.nz
Website	https://www.greytown.school.nz/
Bank Acc	03 0609 0124353 00

Papawai & Kaikōkiri Trusts

Papawai & Kaikōkiri Trusts are now accepting applications for 2020 Secondary School Scholarships. These are open to students going on to secondary School throughout New Zealand who can provide evidence of whakapapa to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and or Rangitāne o Wairarapa. These Scholarships are provided to support students with the purchase of school books, clothing, sports events, field trips, school fees, etc. The scholarship is for years 9 – 13. Please note the closing date is 31st October 2019. Website and application forms are available from <http://pktrusts.nz/education/>

Featherston goes *Gobbledegook*



Featherston Booktown and Gecko Press, Joy Cowley and Giselle Clarkson invite you to celebrate the release of *The Gobbledegook Book*.

Don't miss this chance to hear Joy recite gobbledegook poems and stories. There will be books for sale with Mr Feathers Den, Joy and Giselle will be signing and a scrumptious afternoon tea.

Saturday 14 September
2pm to 4pm
Anzac Hall
62 Bell Street
Featherston 5710

Please RSVP for catering purposes to office@geckopress.com




PET DAY - 2019

Greytown School Agricultural Day
Friday 25th October 2019 - Week 2

(Cancellation will Friday 1st November)

Students' artwork exhibits will be in the school hall. Each class will present artwork they have done through the term and these will be judged by Mrs Kirkland (our librarian).

All students except those with lamb and horse entries must be in school uniform.

ENTRY FORMS WILL BE SENT HOME WEEK 8/9/10 - TERM 3 .

The sections for this year are as follows (NB some of the times have changed).

Calves: Due to the 'Mycoplasma Bovis' outbreak we will not be having calves this year. Children who have raised a calf will be able to compete in a photo competition instead.

Lambs - 10.00 am Ringcraft (Calling & Leading)

Care & Attention (how well you've looked after your lamb; Type

Dogs - 10.00am - The dog must be registered to the child's family and be controlled by a handler.
Best Pet (calling & leading)
Best Overall Dog

Birds & Poultry - 11.00am

Cats - 11.00am (N.B must be used to a cage)
Care & Attention (child must be with cat)
Kittens, Best Overall Cat, Best Looking

Pot plants - 11.00am
(These come to school on the day).

Horses - 10.30am
Best Turned Out
Best Rider Around Ring
Obstacle course

Rabbits & Guinea Pigs - 10.30am

Miscellaneous Pets - 10.00am This includes all the following areas: Fish, Pet Rocks, Worms, Mice, Rats, Insects - needs to be stated on the entry form

Family Scarecrow - 11.00am: Create your own family scarecrow and bring it along with a suitable name.

Family Pet - 11.30am: Which this year is from recycled materials.

NB: If your child wins a trophy or a cup please bear in mind that it would be great if you could get it engraved with the year and your child's name.

Parade

To finish the day we have a Grand Parade where the students can participate with their pet and carry/lead their favourite exhibit of the day around the ring.

PLEASE NOTE: School begins at 9am and finishes around 12.30, AFTER the Parade.

Coffee from the Coffee Cart, BBQ sausages and cakes will be available to buy .

We need all children to supply baking to sell on the day.



Summer Sports Sign-Up Day

Friday 6th September 2019 @ Greytown School Hall 1.15 – 2pm

Sport Wellington NZ is currently focusing on children's well-being and the holistic approach when teaching P.E. or sport. It's well known that children require a strong sense of ritual, routine and belonging and what better way to encourage and develop this, with the beginnings of a life-long involvement in a team sport.

Greytown Sport & Leisure Society, in conjunction with its member clubs and Greytown Primary School, is holding its annual Summer Sport Sign-up Day this Friday 6th Sept.

Representatives from the following clubs will be there with information/ registration forms for all children to take home and see if there is something they wish to have a go at or continue on with over summer. Extra forms and info will be held at the school office.

Greytown Cricket Club **Wairarapa Spitfires Baseball Club** **Greytown Swim Club**
Greytown Tennis Club **Kia Kaha Twilight Hockey Competition**
South Wairarapa Taekwondo Club **Athletics Information**

For any further information or questions please contact Jackie Gray, Executive Officer at Greytown Sport & Leisure Society.



PO Box 106, Greytown, 5742
Greytown Town Centre, 89 Main Street, Greytown, 5712

06 304 8310 | 021 922 122
greytownsport@xtra.co.nz | www.greytownsport.org.nz | www.facebook.com/GreytownSportLeisure