



Newsletter – Thursday 3rd February 2022

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

Well, didn't the weather live up to expectations this past weekend? I hope that everyone managed to stay dry. Fortunately, our school did not suffer any water damage or loss of power.

With Omicron cases increasing over the last week, and with cases now in the Wairarapa, it is only natural that feelings of uncertainty come with that. As a school, we have prepared as best we can to support students and families. Each student should have come home with that “just in case” pack that would be used in the event that the whole school is closed. We hope to avoid this situation but as some other schools have found, this isn't always possible. We are also prepared for teaching students both in-person and at home, which is a likely scenario as the close contacts and cases increase. Please if either you or one of your family members is required to be tested or awaiting results, keep us informed.

Please be assured that we will communicate with you about any Covid situation that impacts our school. I would ask you to download the app if you have not done so and to join the class Seesaw when you are sent the QR code by the teacher. These are two of our key communication methods. We will post information to Facebook but in terms of direct communication, that will come to those affected directly and Facebook will be more generic messaging.

Staff news:

Some of you will have seen we have an office vacancy advertised at the moment. Jeanette (our Office Manager) has resigned to take up another role. Jeanette will be missed by the team but we wish her well in her new opportunities. Megan Wall will move into the role of Office Manager and so we are looking for administrative support in the front office. If you know of anyone who is looking for part-time work, please let them know about the advertisement on Seek or they can email their CV to principal@greytown.school.nz.

Chickenpox:

We have been advised that there are a couple of cases of chickenpox within the school community. Please follow the health guidelines for when children with chickenpox should return to school <https://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/chickenpox>

School Buses:

I want to acknowledge the frustrations being felt by our bus families as a result of the change of bus service this year. We have been in regular contact with the Ministry of Education and Kieran McAnulty to try to resolve this. As of today, our regular service appears to have resumed. I want to give a special thanks to Rachel Burt for her efforts, which have been above and beyond in terms of trying to get the right information to families and keeping our students' safety at the forefront of those

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

discussions. If you experience any problems with the bus service going forward, please do get in touch with us so that we can raise the issues with Go Bus and the Ministry of Education immediately.

School Picnic and Other Events:

We have made the decision to cancel (postpone) our family picnic night that was due to happen next week. I'm sure this will come as no surprise given the Red Light settings and the increased covid in the community.

We will be going ahead with school swimming sports, though the inter-school competitions have been canceled for this year. These will be done in syndicate groups to keep our numbers low and we regret that we cannot welcome families to the event at this time.

Our first learning conferences scheduled for 16th and 17th March will go ahead and booking information will come out to you shortly for this. We will make a call closer to the time about whether or not we will continue these in person or if we will move them to be via zoom.



*Ngā Mihi Nui (warmest regards)
Mrs Paula Weston - Principal*

Teaching Staff 2022

Syndicate Leaders

Kōwhai	Dorreen Mackenzie
Kawaka	Rhonda Jones
Kahikatea	Daniel Salter
Kauri	Kim Hill

Teachers

Room 1	Dorreen Mackenzie
Room 2	Nikki Regnault/Verity Adcock
Room 4	Mandy Smyth
Room 6	Jenn Mudgway
Room 7	Rhonda Jones
Room 8	Courtney Mei
Room 9	Tina Reynolds
Room 10	Miu Phillips
Room 11	Jody Hart
Room 12	Kim Hill
Room 13	Brodie Wilson
Room 14	Rachel Burt
Room 15	Daniel Salter
Room 16	Derek Walker

Dates For Your Diary

1st March	Kawaka Swimming Sports
2nd	School Swimming Sports
8th	Kōwhai Swimming
16th	Learning Conferences school finishes at 12.30
17th	Learning Conferences school finishes at 12.30

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



Before



After



On Friday, Mrs Smyth (Room 4) had 43cm of her hair cut off to be made into a wig for someone in need. All donations to her Give a little page will go directly to the Cancer Research Trust.

All donations and shares on social media are greatly appreciated.

The page will be open until March 3rd 2022.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/losing-my-locks>