



Reunification Forms and After School Care Survey

Thank you to all those parents who are able to return the reunification forms last week. We now have only 50 to get. If you're one of those who has forgotten to do this, can you please do it ASAP. Those parents who haven't returned the form, will receive another paper copy either today or tomorrow.

We are also sending a paper copy of the After School Care Survey home to all families. I wonder whether the low level of return last week was because we didn't supply a hardy copy.

Gracefield Greatest award recipients:

- ◆ Emily Hayes for being respectful (whakaaro nui)
- ◆ Gautham Muthukumaran for being conscientious (pukumahi)
- ◆ Aaaon Wallis for being respectful (whakaaro nui)
- ◆ Emma Johnston for being a thinker (āta whakaaro)
- ◆ Pheonix Whitman (week 3) for being a thinker (āta whakaaro)
- ◆ Macgregor May (week 4) for being a thinker (āta whakaaro)
- ◆ Mikayla Sola for being a thinker (āta whakaaro) and a communicator (whakawhiti kōrero)
- ◆ Room 7 Ben Westwood for being a thinker (āta whakaaro)
- ◆ Room 9 Jake

X-Country

A big thank you to all those parents/caregivers who are able to come along to the X-Country last Tuesday. It was a wonderful success with children loving having parents and whanau there to support them. A big thank you also to the PTA who bought and served the ice blocks for the children and to Natasha Corrales who organised the whole event.

The children who performed well will now go on to represent the school at the inter school event.

EOTC Sausage Sizzle

Sausage Sizzle is this **Thursday, 25th May**. Please use the form below to order and return to the office by **3pm on Wednesday, 24th May**.

Behaviour and Attendance Data

At last week's board meeting members were presented with the behaviour and attendance data for term one 2017.

The behaviour data was extremely good, being the best results we've ever had. Fewer children are getting on step which is a wonderful thing. It is our belief that being consistent and the use of restorative justice, are playing a large part in this.

However the attendance data was close to being the worst we have had in the six or so years we've been recording this. When we analysed why, it was obvious that it is because many people are now taking children on holiday during term time. There were 27 children in fact who took holidays last term. It's also obvious that this is an increasing trend.

While there's not much we can do about this, it is worth noting that there is a direct link between academic progress and attendance at school. I appreciate that every occasion is different, and that a visit to a country with a significantly different culture to ours is a worthy educational experience for children. But I am also aware that some of these trips are holidays that could easily be taken during term breaks, but aren't because parents are choosing to travel when airfares are cheaper. With this in mind I would urge parents to think carefully before choosing to take a lengthy break during a term.

Pasifika Talanoaga

Tomorrow evening, **Tuesday 22nd May**, we will be holding our Pasifika talanoaga in the staffroom at 7:00pm. We will be planning ideas for Samoan Language Week, which is next week, talking about our Poly group, and any other matters that arise. At our last meeting, we had two families represented and it would be great to see more there. It is very informal, friendly, and childcare and food will be provided!

Lost Property

Sadly we had to send a large amount of unclaimed lost property to the Salvation Army last week. Beba Brooks very kindly sorted through all of the items and managed to return about 15% of them (these are ones that have been named). The moral of the story here, is if you would like to have your child's clothing back (when it gets lost) it really does pay to name it. If anyone has lost a light blue, size 8 Kathmandu rain jacket, this was mistakenly taken home by a parent and will be brought back to school tomorrow.

Te Rerenga Korero o te Wiki- Phrase of the Week

The phrase for this week is:

Pō mārie tamariki mā

Good night children (Pō mārie=good night, tamariki mā=children)

Fruit & Veg Co-op

Many of you may not know that Gracefield School is a drop off point for the Waiwhetu Fruit and Vege Co-op. This is a once a week opportunity to purchase high-quality fruit and vegetables at a fantastic price of \$12. The food is ordered the week before and dropped off on a Tuesday for pickup. There are two ways parents can pay, either by internet banking or cash at school. If you want to know more about this, you can contact Katrina (our parent contact) on 027 6777776, or go to the website at:

<http://www.stpaulslowerhutt.org.nz/waiwhetu-fruit--vege-co-op.html>

Netball

Monday 22nd May

Gracefield	Playing	Time	Court
Gracefield Black	Wa Ora 2	4:45pm	Court 4
Gracefield Silver	Boulcott 3	4:00pm	Court 4

Saturday 27th May

*****Gold coin day at the netball courts*****

Gracefield	Playing	Time	Court
Gracefield Red	Belmont 3	3:00pm	Court 3
Gracefield Blue	Sts P&P	2:00pm	Court 4

Netball fees are due. Netball fees are now overdue. Please make your \$40 payment to Robyn asap.

Player still needed:

Gracefield Silver team is on the lookout for an extra player. This needs to be either a year 5 or 6 boy or girl. If you are interested please come and see Natasha Corrales in Room 4 asap.

Cross Country

What a great afternoon had by all at our school cross country last Tuesday. Thank you to those parents and caregivers who were able to come along and support their child. And thank you to the PTA for supplying each runner with an ice block.

The results for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place are:

Year Group	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
NE/Year 1 girls	Anita Prak	Kasharna Te Roihi	Poppy May
NE/Year 1 boys	Phoenix Kahi	Avy Uili	Hadley Butchart
Year 2 girls	Ruby Kennedy	Vayda Pou	Anya Obruchkova
Year 2 boys	Nico Mitchell	Ashton Kahui	Decklyn Churchill-Greig
Year 3 girls	Ruby Steed	Rayner Gilbert	Payton Feehan
Year 3 boys	Jake Allen	Logan Hughes	Ollie Blackie
Year 4 girls	Nikaya Pou	Pyper Ombler	Megan Halcrow
Year 4 boys	Leighton Stevens	Lachlan Kennedy	Kees Laulau
Year 5 girls	Lani Vaelunga	Ella Burns	Stacey Reddin
Year 5 boys	Ben Coubrough	Newman Liua Tauala	Riley Keatley
Year 6 girls	Jennifer Lukuru	Ruby Bannister	Zevanah Henare
Year 6 boys	Exavier Gilbert	Madoc Gregor	Devon Turner

St Bernard's College Open Day

St Bernard's College will be holding an open day on **Saturday, 27th May 2017** from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Prospective students and their parents are invited to visit during these hours to find out more about St Bernard's College and what it can provide.

St Bernard's College is a Year 7-13 Catholic boys college.

For further information contact the office at:

183 Waterloo Rd Lower Hutt Ph560 9250

Website: www.sbc.school.nz Email: office@sbcschool.nz

School Sausage Sizzle this Thursday, 25th May 2017

Please fill in the details below and return this form along with the money to the office by **Wednesday, 24th May** before 3pm at the latest.

Sausage Sizzles are **\$2** each.

Onions Y/N

Room: _____ Child's Name: _____ How Many? _____ _____

Room: _____ Child's Name: _____ How Many? _____ _____

Total Amount enclosed: \$ _____

PTA News

Whittaker's chocolate fundraiser:

2 MORE WEEKS TO GO to get your money (or unsold chocolate) to the office or pay by direct credit into the **PTA bank account 12 3142 0246966 00** ref: child's name, room number, Chocolate.

The family who sells the most chocolate will win an awesome prize!

Please have money back by **Friday, 2nd June** and save us having to chase you for it.
If have any questions please contact Kylie: 0275 928286 or kylie.keatley@huttcity.govt.nz

PTA DISCO – FRIDAY 23rd JUNE

The PTA Disco 'Glow in the Dark' is on **Friday 23rd June** 6pm-8pm. Please use the attached order form to order your children's tickets and return it with your payment to the office by lunchtime **Thursday 22nd June**. Tickets will be sent home on **Friday 23rd June**. There will be snacks, drinks and glow sticks available to buy at the disco.

DISCO PERMISSION SLIP

I give permission for my child/children to attend the Gracefield School
"Glow in the Dark" DISCO on Friday 23 June from
6:00pm to 8:00pm.

My child: _____ Room: _____
My child: _____ Room: _____
My child: _____ Room: _____

I enclose \$5 per child attending.

Total enclosed \$ _____

The adult dropping off and picking up my child/children will be (please print clearly):

Name _____

Contact Phone _____

Name _____

Contact Phone _____

I can/cannot help with setting up or cleaning up on the day/night

Name _____ Ph # _____

Signed _____

Parents are welcome to stay for the first 15 minutes, but due to limited space in the hall, we encourage you to leave and return at 8pm to collect your child.