

IMPORTANT DATES

Term One

- 03 Feb School starts
- 08 Dec Waitangi Day Holiday
- 09 Feb Meet the Teacher
- 12 Feb IF & GTT start
- 12 Feb Powhiri
- 16 Feb BoT Meeting
- 22 Feb New Entrant Parent PM tea
- 22 Feb KOS Parent Meeting
- 24 Feb Waikanae Pool
- 01 Mar Movin' March
- 03 Mar Yr5/6 Sports Day
- 09 Mar Yr3/4 Sports Day
- 23 Mar Yr1/2 Sports Day
- 2-6 Apr Easter Break

Assemblies

- 26 Feb Puāwai
- 12 Mar Māhuri
- 19 Mar Kano

2021 Term Dates

- Term 1 03 Feb - 16 April
- Term 2 03 May - 9 July
- Term 3 26 July - 1 Oct
- Term 4 18 Oct - 15 Dec

Useful Links

- greenacres.school.nz
- schooldocs.co.nz

Wednesday 3 February 2021

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Tālofa lava, Kia orana, Nameste, Ni hao, Shalom, Kumusta, As-salāmu ‘alaykum and Greetings

Nau mai Haere Mai! Welcome back to school! It was amazing seeing the tamariki skipping back into school this morning full of excitement and enthusiasm. I trust you all have had a brilliant summer and are as excited as the children and teachers about the coming school year.

Over the break the building works have been completed. The maintenance crews have been busy tidying the grounds, and the teachers have been flat out setting the rooms up so they are welcoming, attractive and functional. I hope you agree school is looking great. Feel free to pop into Puāwai and check out the upgrade.

As outlined in our Newsletters and communications last year, the main change for 2021 is that we will have three Learning Teams as opposed to four last year.

Kano Year 1-2	The Seed - the planting of a seed, the beginning of the Greenacres learning journey as tamariki are nurtured and cared for and encouraged.
Māhuri Year 3-4	The sapling or young tree - A growing tree of learning becoming stronger, more independent and confident.
Puāwai Year 5-6	The Blossom - Our senior students / tuakana blossoming as they grow as leaders and role models in our school. Tamariki are proud, strong and well prepared for the next phase in their learning journey as they leave Greenacres as confident learners.

Our Collaborative Teams are an important and well established organisational structure at Greenacres and have been for many years. We are very excited to keep building on this approach. The wellbeing of tamariki is always at the forefront of our minds. As outlined in our Growing Greenacres Charter, to be successful at school our children need to feel safe, included and valued. We strive to develop and maintain strong connections with our tamariki and whānau. The 4Cs and RKMCs help guide and support us as we connect and learn each day.

This is supported through our ongoing Kahui Ako work in relation to Restorative Practices, hauora and Tawa Tu. Indeed, as a staff we had the opportunity to attend a Kahui Ako day on Thursday alongside all Tawa schools, where the importance of strong connections with children and whānau was reinforced.

In 2021, the children will be in the excellent position of having three, and in the case of Puāwai, four teachers working to support them; as well as a Teacher Aide at different times of the day. We continue to provide a variety of learning opportunities to best meet the needs of all our tamariki. This can be seen through co-teaching within learning teams eg. two teachers could be working together to introduce a new activity while the third teacher is able to provide more personalised support for some.

Teachers continue to collaborate with each other sharing planning, ideas, strategies and problem solving together. This will afford a vibrant and exciting environment for the students to grow their learning and relationships. Tamariki will be able to grow their 4Cs (Communication, Critical Thinking, Creativity Collaboration) as they have opportunities to work with different children and teachers.

The children will have lots of interaction with all of the Learning Team staff. They will quickly learn that they all care, know them and are there for them. As a parent/caregiver, you too will be able to interact with all the Learning Team staff according to the situation. For example, if you had a question about your child's reading, then you would make contact with the teacher working with your child for reading. If you had a pastoral, health or other personal matter, you would be able to talk with any of the Learning Team teachers. The exception to this is in Puāwai. With the Year 5/6 numbers being higher than usual, we have decided that it is best to establish a 'Home Room' with a specific 'Home Room Teacher'. The teachers will be available for informal catch ups and information sharing each morning from 8.30am. You are welcome to schedule a meeting with teachers if needed.

2021 Learning Team Organisation

Kano

Year 1-2: Mrs Paver, Mrs Ros and Miss Symon

Māhuri

Year 3-4 Mrs Seebeck, Mr Conway, Ms Alve
Ms Alve will be working four mornings a week in Māhuri.

Puāwai

Year 5-6 Mrs Peacock, Whaea Vanessa, Mr Calder, Mrs Wear
Puāwai tahi: Mrs Peacock
Puāwai rua: Whaea Vanessa
Puāwai toru: Mr Calder
Mrs Wear will be working three days a week in Puāwai.

Communication is a high priority. Each Learning Team has a dedicated formal learning team meeting each week, as well as daily communication, information sharing and responding to any immediate issues.

We are committed to growing our partnership (whanaungatanga) with you throughout the year. You will be receiving a Seesaw post today from each Learning Team and weekly updates from there on in. We look forward to sharing what's happening in the learning teams, what's coming up, and any information that you'll need. Look out for these posts and the Newsletters! We're looking forward to seeing you all at our Meet the Teacher evening, coming up on Tuesday 9 February.

I will endeavour to be available on the gate before and after school as much as possible and am always keen to talk. Please approach me (or other staff) if you have a question or comment whether that be a concern or a positive observation.

Events Coming up for Your Diaries

Meet the Teacher

Next Tuesday 9 February will be our annual Meet Our Teachers evening that begins in our school hall. You'll get to meet all the teachers and share a few key aspects of 2021 to keep growing Greenacres as a place of rich learning for our students.

The format for the evening is:

- 5.30pm - presentation in the hall
- 6:00- move to classes for first round of teacher presentations
- 6:15 - second round of teacher presentations.

Powhiri

Friday 12 February at 2pm. We are excited to welcome all our new whānau and students (manuhiri) to school and we'd love to have current parents join us as tangata whenua. New students starting today are

Kano Evie-Piper Cherrington, Jacquan Dien, Marcus Jun, Faizaan Khan, Maxwell Leota, Liliana Marsden, Evie Morrison, Hunter Mowatt-Nelson,

Māhuri Jayden Dien, Alice Jun

Puāwai Justin Dien

Waikanae Pool Trip

Wednesday 24 February (9.30am- 2.30pm) is our fun day at Waikanae Pool. We hope you can join us.

More information about these and other events will be in next week's newsletter.

Hats / Potae

Aren't we lucky to have started the year with beautiful warm sunny weather? Just a reminder that hats with brims are essential (no caps) this term. It's a great idea to have a spare hat that you can keep at school so you've always got one.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for 2021. The following whakatauki seems appropriate especially when we think about how well we worked together to overcome the challenges of 2020.

Kaua e rangiruarua te hāpai o te hoe:

When we paddle together in unison - Our canoe will reach the shore!

Ngā mihi

Mike Thomas

Message from the Board of Trustees

A warm welcome to students and whānau for 2021. It's an exciting time for everyone. Of course there will be some nerves for some. Mr Thomas, teachers and all staff have been working hard to ensure everything is in place to make Greenacres a great learning environment for our tamariki.

The Board is looking forward to the opportunities this year as we all continue to support the school.

Garrick Wood
Chairperson

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Children LOVE learning how to Cartwheel, Round-off, Handspring and Flip at **BIGAIR GYMs Classes!** Children develop strength, flexibility, balance, proprioception, plus determination and self-confidence as they achieve new skills! **BIGAIR's GYMNASTICS, TUMBLING, FREE RUNNING & TRAMPOLINE** classes are excellent for fun and fitness! We focus on safety, technique, fundamental skills, right through to more advanced skills, such as summersaults and twisting. Bigair Gym is a clean, pristine, exciting, kid friendly, state of the art gym facility! Our experienced coaches run structured & fun gym classes. Children learn amazing life skills through these classes, including self-confidence, achievement, determination, persistence, pride and how to respond proactively to feedback. Classes start on 1st FEB, so don't miss out! **Book for Term 1 NOW** at www.bigairgym.co.nz, or contact Bigair Gym Owhiro Bay 383 8779 wgt@bigairgym.co.nz, or Bigair Gym Tawa 232 3508 office@bigairgym.co.nz.



Arty Farty Kids - are running a Mixed Media Class in Term 1 @ Tawa Community Centre. Come along and join us for some creative fun! For further information please contact Sara Rich - office.artyfartykids@gmail.com .
Message directly on Arty Farty Kids FB page or text 022 174 8558.

Tawa Music Centre

Enrolment is Saturday 13 February, Time: 9 am - 10.30 am, Venue: Tawa Intermediate School hall. Lessons are held on Saturday mornings during school term time between 8 am - 12.15 pm. Lessons start this year on 20 February. The Tawa Music Centre is part-funded by the Ministry of Education and offers small group lessons on lots of different instruments at a very reasonable price. All details are in the Prospectus.