

# Green Island School



Respecting our Past | Building our Future

Newsletter No: 4

Term 1

7 March 2023

## PRINCIPAL COMMENTS

Kia ora koutou e te whānau.

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting the mufti day to raise funds for those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. We raised \$377. Every little bit helps as people in the north try and piece together their lives going forward.

Teachers had a paid union meeting last week at which the latest offer on the table was rejected. There is a ballot about strike action which at the time of writing, the outcome of which is unknown. If strike action does happen, it is likely to be the same day as the secondary schools, Thursday 16 March. If this action does indeed happen, we will inform you via our usual communication channels, this will happen before the end of this week.

Finally, we are receiving a delivery of bark chips for our playground and need your help. On Sunday 12 March from 10am-12pm we will be having a **Working Bee**. If you have a wheel barrow and a shovel and are able to spare some of your time, it would be very appreciated. At 12pm, those that help will be fed with some pizza to say thanks. Hence the following whakatauki:

*Mā whero, mā pango ka oti ai te mahi. Many hands make light work.*

Ngā mihi nui

Aaron

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held last week are available at the office or by contacting Kellie for a copy to be emailed to you. [office@greenisland.school.nz](mailto:office@greenisland.school.nz)

## TEACHER ONLY DATE TERM 2

There is a lot of change currently happening in Education, especially around Literacy. To help understand a little more regarding Green Island School's philosophy, attached to this week's newsletter is some information to help keep you informed.

Following on from this, the New Zealand curriculum is being refreshed with a focus on Literacy and Numeracy. To help school implement this change, the Ministry of Education has given schools a teacher only day to be taken within the first two weeks of Term 2. To minimise disruption and to align with other local schools, the BOT have decided Monday 24 April as a teacher only day, to precede ANZAC day 25 April. The first day of Term 2 would then be Wednesday 26 April for students.

## WALK N' WHEEL WEEK

A big well done to all students that took part in the Walk n Wheels day. Going forward, Kerri at Sport Otago is taking some of our Year 6 students around our local streets to map safe drop off points. This initiative is aimed at trying to make the school gate a safer, less busy place. More on this will be in future newsletters.

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

We will be having our first school assembly this Friday 10 March at 2.15pm. It is the senior assembly with a junior assembly to be held on Friday 24 March. All are welcome to attend.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB – ISSUE 2

Orders are due back to the school office by 9am Friday 24 March or order online at [scholastic.co.nz/LOOP](http://scholastic.co.nz/LOOP)

3 Howden Street, Green Island, Dunedin 9018

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## KICKSTART BREAKFAST CLUB

KickStart Breakfast Club will be running in Room 1 from 8:30-8:45am with help from the Student Council. The KickStart Breakfast is WeetBix and Anchor Milk and all students are welcome.



## SPORTS

Links below for the sporting codes so you can get the draw easily each week.

- **Touch Website and draw**  
<https://www.otagotouch.co.nz/where-to-play-touch-1/Dunedin-Modules/metro-junior-module-oval>
- **Futsal Website and draw**  
<https://www.footballsouth.co.nz/FUTSAL-1/Futsal-Fixtures-Results-1>
- **Volleyball Website and draw**  
Posted on their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/volleyotago/>

## UPCOMING DATES

Mon 6 - 10 March - Junior Swimming, Piwakawaka Rm 1  
Friday 10 March – School Assembly – Seniors @ 2:15pm  
Sunday 12 March – Working Bee, 10am-12pm  
Friday 24 March – School Assembly – Juniors @2:15pm  
Tuesday 28 March – Board of Trustees Meeting, 5:45pm, Staffroom  
Thursday 6 April – Last day of Term 1  
Monday 24 April – School Closed for Teacher Only Day  
Tuesday 25 April – School Closed for ANZAC Day  
Wednesday 26 April – First day of Term 2

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## LITERACY AT GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL



We are continually enhancing our current successful balanced literacy approach to teaching reading and writing.

Through this approach the importance of language and quality books is highlighted with opportunities for children to be read to, read together and to read independently.

We embrace the Reading Recovery teaching philosophy which is based on decades of researched evidence that reveals the complex ways readers process information in the brain in order to read and write.

All children are given explicit and systematic teaching of phonemic and phonological awareness, letter ID and discrimination, phonics and advanced skills to decode unknown words when learning to read and record sounds for writing.

To further support the development of phonological and phonemic awareness across the school, our balanced literacy philosophy, incorporates the Code-ed approach developed by Joy Allcock, M.Ed.

In addition to good classroom teaching we provide additional support for children who have not been able to make sufficient progress after one year at school through the Reading Recovery intervention programme.

Reading Recovery is a proven early intervention for literacy learning. It is designed to help young readers and writers catch up with their classmates through intensive one-to-one support.

Children receive 30 mins a day tutoring by a specialist trained teacher for approximately 12-20 weeks.

Reading recovery does not replace the classroom programme, the primary source of literacy instruction for all children, but works as a secondary short-term intervention to help accelerate children's progress in reading and writing

To help meet the current level of needs in literacy among children in New Zealand Reading Recovery now offers a new enhanced support framework for schools.

### How it Works

Since 2021, Reading Recovery has evolved to provide an early literacy support framework that supports an all-school approach to building positive and equitable outcomes for children.

Building on the success of its one-to-one approach with children, it now offers a three-tiered support framework that will enable a broader range of children to access literacy support.

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The underlying concept guiding this strategy is the use of co-design teaching models that allow classroom teachers to benefit from the rich expertise of Reading Recovery teachers. Together, the teachers co-plan lessons that best suit the needs of their students.

Tier1: School wide learning

Tier 2: Small group learners – targeted group teaching in collaboration with the class teacher to support children who are not progressing in their literacy learning after their first 2 terms at school.

Tier 3 Individual learners – one to one support for after one year at school.

In 2022 we trialled this approach with Board of Trustees funded resources and had great success with all students involved making accelerated progress.

We are very pleased to be able to continue this approach as a part of the Ministry funded Reading Recovery programme this year.

Alongside this we are also integrating the Ministry of Educations latest phonics plus series of decodable text into class programmes and targeted groups across the school to support all children to become successful readers and writers.

See links below for more information on these approaches;

<https://www.readingrecovery.ac.nz/how-it-works>

<https://code-ed.co.nz/articles>

<https://literacyonline.tki.org.nz/Literacy-Online/Planning-for-my-students-needs/Instructional-Series/Ready-to-Read/Ready-to-Read-Phonics-Plus>