



# Newsletter

## Important Dates

16 February - IF Begins  
21 February - Waikanae Pools  
28 February - Mihi Whakatau (2.15pm) TBC  
8 March - Teacher Only Day  
25-28 March - Puāwai Camp  
29 March - 2 April Easter Break (back to school on Wed 3rd)  
10-11 April - Learning Conversations  
12 April - Last day of term

**Phone:** 232 6445

**Cell Phone** 021 02565206 (if you prefer texting absences and if the landline is not working)

## Term Dates 2024

Term 1 31 Jan - 12 Apr  
Term 2 29 Apr - 5 July  
Term 3 22 Jul - 27 Sept  
Term 4 14 Oct - 18 Dec

## Useful Links

[greenacres.school.nz](https://greenacres.school.nz)  
[schooldocs.co.nz](https://schooldocs.co.nz)  
[www.lunchonline.co.nz](https://www.lunchonline.co.nz)

## Rāapa, te tuawhitu o Hua-tānguru 2024

### *Kia ora e te whānau*

I trust you had an excellent Waitangi Day. What a lovely chance to spend time with whānau and friends; as well as think about what it means to honour te Tiriti. Here at Greenacres we are continually striving to grow our confidence and knowledge around te reo and tikanga Māori. We work hard to make this a natural part of school. We also feel that partnership and strong relationships with all whānau, Māori and non-Māori is at the heart of success for tamariki and will always be a priority.

### **Nau Mai Haere Mai**

This week we welcomed Rufus and Ray to Kano. We wish them and their families all the best on their learning journey with us.

### **IF**

We have our Term 1 Inspiration Friday programme starting on Friday of week 3. It would be fantastic to have some whānau or community volunteers who are keen and available to run an IF programme with our tamariki. These sessions run from 9-10.30am on Friday mornings and will take place in week 3-5 (no week 6 due to TOD), week 7-8 (no week 9 due to Easter Friday) and week 11.

In the past we have had volunteers run mural art projects, dance and drama performances, languages, sports, technology/coding and a wide range of other topics.

One potential interest that could be great to get started as an IF programme is some type of outdoors/camp/nature/planting activities. We are very lucky to have our expansive grounds at Greenacres Kura. The meadow, banks on the bottom field, planting areas would make an amazing space for someone with outdoors skills to run sessions with a small group of tamariki. Please shout out if you think you could run a programme like this with a small group of tamariki.

Any parent help we can get gives our students a wider range of experiences to choose from, but also reduces group sizes.

If you, or a family member, are able to help out (or have any questions) please flick me an email at [rcalder@greenacres.school.nz](mailto:rcalder@greenacres.school.nz). I'd be happy to work with you and help to plan any sessions!

### **Waikanae Pool Trip**

As you know, our annual trip on Wednesday 21 February is on again! This is a great way for the whole school to reconnect and have a fun day out to mark the beginning of another school year. It also leads onto heaps of awesome writing and recounts. The Waikanae outdoor heated pools are a great venue with plenty of room to picnic. The pools are appropriate for all levels. There is a smaller pool for our Kano students, and a larger main pool for Māhuri and Puāwai tamariki. For less confident swimmers, we will ensure they have access to the smaller pool if required.

Please make sure your child/ren have morning tea, lunch and plenty of water packed for the day. Of course they will need a sunhat and named togs and towels. We ask that you sunblock your child/ren before coming to school but we will also take sunblock and will be getting the children to regularly reapply. Feel free to put your own sunblock into the children's bags.

We would be delighted to have as many whānau as possible meet us at the pool to join us for some fun in the pools, and a picnic lunch on the grass.

We will be leaving school on coaches at 9:30am and returning from Waikanae at 1.30pm. The cost for the day is \$20.00 or \$22.50 per student, depending on whether they are opting into the hydroslide. This can be paid via Hero, by direct credit to the school bank account 123254 000419500 or via eftpos/credit card at the office. We understand this is a significant amount of money, particularly if you have two or more children at Greenacres, so if the cost is an issue we encourage you to approach the office to discuss payment options.

**Please click on the [link](#) to complete the permission form for each child you have attending the trip.**

Once you have completed the form, the office can generate an invoice for your whānau dependent on whether your child/ren are using the hydroslide or not. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or Rob at [rcalder@greenacres.school.nz](mailto:rcalder@greenacres.school.nz)

### **Teacher Only Day(s) in 2024**

Professional Development for kaimahi is incredibly important to the continued growth and success of Greenacres School. This ensures that our programmes are effective for our ākonga and are backed by current research as well as supporting our new vision that we are "Growing future ready tamariki in our mana enhancing community".

This year our main focus will be on implementing our local curriculum and values through the Aotearoa New Zealand History Curriculum; and reviewing and refining our mathematics programme. We will also continue to embed our structured literacy programme. We have regular Professional Development throughout the week after and before school. In addition, we are planning four Teacher Only Days throughout the year. We are always conscious about the impact this has on families. To do this, we have spread the TO Days across the four terms and will always give you heaps of notice. We also try to schedule them on a long weekend providing the opportunity for whānau to get away. We will always let Kelly Club know ahead of time so they can be open.

The first of the Teacher Only Days will be 8 March. For your information, two of the Teacher Only Days are mandated by the MOE in relation to implementing the new / refreshed Curriculum and the dates for these are:

31 May

30 Aug

25 October

Ngā mihi nui  
**Mike Thomas**

### Fundraising Committee

Click this link <https://forms.gle/5866nVkgLvonCjbS7> for more information about our Greenacres School apparel items and to place an order. Alternatively, click the "Uniform Shop" option in the Hero App. You can place an order at any time. Orders will be sent to our supplier at the end of every term and items will be delivered to school during the first week of the following term. All purchases raise funds for our school.

# GREENACRES SCHOOL APPAREL

QUALITY ITEMS | ALL PROFITS GO TO GREENACRES SCHOOL



HOODIES \$50/\$56



HOUSE TEES \$22



BEANIES \$20



SUNHATS \$22

**Click the link in the description for more details and to order**

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

If you haven't booked your child's spot for Term 1 yet, we still have spaces available. Limited spots are still open, so jump online and book now at [www.bigairgym.co.nz](http://www.bigairgym.co.nz). Book now so that your child doesn't miss out on the first class of the term where our coaches review fundamentals and provide an induction into the gym. Book online or [contact our Bigair Gym office](#). We would love to hear from you. Bigair Gym Tawa ph. 232 3508  
Email [office@bigairgym.co.nz](mailto:office@bigairgym.co.nz)



**Tawa Rotary** is organising its second Concert in the Park to be held at Grasslees Reserve on Sunday 18 February from 3 - 6 pm. This is organised to encourage families to come along and bring a picnic tea and listen to the musical items arranged.

**Tawa Music Centre Enrolment morning** is Saturday 10 February, 9am-10.30am at Tawa Intermediate School hall. Lessons are held on Saturday mornings during school term time between 8 am - 12.00 pm. Lessons start this year on 17 February. The Tawa Music Centre is part-funded by the Ministry of Education and offers small group lessons on a variety of instruments at a very reasonable price. All details are in the 2024 Prospectus which was sent home with your child recently.

**The Tawa Squash Club** is renowned in the Wellington region for its exceptional reputation as a welcoming, friendly, and family-oriented squash club that also thrives on healthy competition. Whether you're a novice player, rediscovering the game, or simply looking to enjoy a casual match with a friend, our club provides the perfect environment to nurture your skills and satisfy your post-game thirst for victory. We are taking enrolments for Monday afternoon junior coaching and we also run a fun night on Friday nights which anyone can come to (up to the age of 19). We would love to see some new faces at our squash club this year and would appreciate if you could please help us achieve this. We welcome new members, for more info check out our website or email [info@tawasquash.co.nz](mailto:info@tawasquash.co.nz)

**The Medical Research Institute of New Zealand (MRINZ)** is based in Wellington Hospital. The MRINZ is currently running a study for children aged 5-11years with asthma – the START CARE study. More information: <https://trials.mrinz.ac.nz/surveys/?s=7TKDWXJ4NC>  
Our study website: <https://www.mrinz.ac.nz/currently-recruiting/startcare>  
Email: [startcare@mrinz.ac.nz](mailto:startcare@mrinz.ac.nz)  
Telephone: +64 4 805 0201 / [027 665 8448](tel:0276658448)

**Wonderplay** has places available for kids drama in Churton Park on Tuesdays at Churton Park Community Centre; 4pm Star Players (7-14 year olds). Contact Debs [debs@wonderplay.co.nz](mailto:debs@wonderplay.co.nz) 021-172-2836, [www.wonderplay.co.nz](http://www.wonderplay.co.nz)