



30th March 2023

Term 1 Week 9

From the desk of Ms 'O'

Thanks for the positive energy and support given to school activities during the term. Wishing you all a happy Easter and a restful break.

Wellbeing

One extremely important aim for Garston School is to promote student and staff wellbeing (hauora). For this reason we have formalised how we intend to do this in our school's 2023 Charter.

Some wellbeing strategies that schools can implement are outlined in the Mental Health Foundation N.Z. website. These are the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' which I have listed below.

When we reflect on the term, we can appreciate how much is being done at our school to build a culture of wellbeing.



Connect **Positive interactions which make individuals feel happy, connected and secure:** ♡ Parent/teacher Interview ♡ Home & School Group ♡ St. Patrick's Day ♡ Pyjama Day (Room 2)

Give **Giving back to the community:** ♡ Peter Rabbit Celebration ♡ New sunhats provided for each child
♡ Sunflower Competition ♡ Musical instruments – xylophones, marimba

Learning **An attitude of growth:** ♡ Life Education – visit from Harold the Giraffe ♡ Visit to Hop Farm ♡ Dangerous Decibels – Hearing/Dangers of loud sounds

Being active **Decrease stress, depression, anxiety:** ♡ Swim Week (all) ♡ Athletics Competition (some) ♡ Run, Jump, Throw Sports Day (all)

Take notice **Attentive to present thoughts/feelings and to the world around us, including gratitude, forgiveness and reflection:** ♡ Wellness Wednesdays ♡ Values Education ♡ SPIRIT of Garston – life skills, attributes, attitudes

Synopsis of the Board of Trustees meeting 15.3.23

Principal's Report

- Discussion about how teachers are working with the Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour and Literacy and the Learning Support Coordinator to remove barriers to learning for those students who have been identified as needing additional learning support.
- Principal reported that there has already been evidence of reading progress made by those students since the term began, so teachers will continue to implement current strategies and programmes that have led to these encouraging results.
- The principal reinforced that the most important indicator of learning is the students' individual progress, but this is not generally explicit in a recorded achievement level at a particular given time.
- It was emphasised that a great effort was placed on accelerating the progress of those students who were working towards attaining an expected level of achievement relative to their school year.

Other topics reported on were:

- Professional learning and development FINSCOL Day when the principal attended workshops focusing on Dyslexia/Autism Spectrum, Cultural Competency and Wellbeing.
- Room 1 students' presentation to the Southland District Council.
- Parent/teacher interviews were offered over 3 days from 6 – 8 March.
- Extra Learning Support Programme.
- Principal explained work done with the Learning Support Coordinator to collaboratively plan and implement programmes to provide extra support for select students.

Strategic Report

- Board discussed adopting the following goals, actions required to meet goals and their respective expected outcomes:
 - **Goal 1:** Garston School's aim is to lift the achievement in reading and writing of all students, including those who do not yet meet the expected level.
 - **Goal 2:** Garston School's aim is to lift the achievement in Maths including those who do not yet meet the expected level.
 - **Goal 3:** Garston School's aim is to promote student and staff wellbeing (Hauora).
 - **Goal 4:** Garston School's aim is for the Board to plan and co-ordinate projects that encourage cohesion within the school community.



Synopsis of the Board of Trustees meeting 15.3.23 (cont'd)

In-committee

- The meeting went to In-Committee to discuss 2023 Student Achievement Target Action Plans for Reading, Writing and Maths.
- Documentation and Self-Review.
 - The following policies are open for review on School Docs until the end of Term 2:
 - Legislation and Administration Policy, Student Attendance , Enrolment , Privacy , Official Information Requests, Employment and Personnel.
 - Sarah Willmot was employed from the start of Term 1 2023 as a full-time permanent, Year 1-3 teacher.
 - School closure for the teacher strike action for Thursday, 16th March.

Property

- Consent has been issued for water/drainage to be connected to the new build. Work to start on 20 March.

Health and Safety

- A successful fire drill was held to familiarize new staff/students with the procedure.
- A Risk Analysis Management Plan for the upcoming swim week was presented.

Legal Compliance

- The school roll at the date of the meeting was 31 and made up of 13 (Year 0-3) and 18 (Year 4-8) students.
- 1st March roll return has been submitted to the MOE.
- Paid union meetings and industrial action for teachers are planned for this year.

School Bus

- The Ministry audit on our responsibilities for running the school bus has been completed and approved.

Events/Special Topics

- Teacher Only Day for 24th April to discuss mandatory curriculum changes.
- Swim Week – costs and organisation discussed.
- Cross-Country to be held at the dog trial area on Lorne Peak.

The Board agreed to hold a by-election to fill the casual vacancy for a parent representative following the resignation of a sitting member.

Canterbury Education Services have been appointed as our Returning Officer to run the by-election. Information on the timeframe will follow as soon as possible.



Community News



REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

GROWING STARS®

BUILDING CONFIDENCE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Growing Stars is a hands on workshop for children aged 6 - 12 years to help them understand and manage the emotional impact of living with a learning difference.

April 19th & 20th 2023 8.45am - 12.30pm
 Parent workshop 7pm - 19th April
 Windsor Community Church, Invercargill
www.dyslexiasupportsouth.org.nz/Growingstars

Growing Stars
 by Learning Differences Aotearoa Trust

able.minds

Mossburn Junior Rugby Registration Day - April 4th 3:30pm Mossburn Rugby Grounds

To all new and old players interested in Ripa, 1st & 2nd Grade Tackle and B Grade junior rugby, we are having a registration on the 4 April at 3:30pm at the Mossburn Rugby Grounds.

If you're interested in playing rugby this season come down for a look and register with us.

Any question contact Bevan 0274369468

NEXT CHAPTER PARENTING

TIPS AND STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS ON THE GO OR THOSE WHO JUST PLAIN NEED HELP!

PARENTS!

Looking for some ideas
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PRESCHOOLERS

SCHOOL AGE

TEENAGERS

CHECK THIS OUT!

www.nextchapterparenting.co.nz

(Courses also offered either
 individually or group)

WINZ SUBSIDISED WHERE APPLICABLE

Contact: brigid@nextchapterparenting.co.nz

EASTER WEEKEND IN TE ANAU

TE ANAU TARTAN FESTIVAL AND THE HIGHLAND DANCE CO OF NZ PRESENTS

Heart of the
HIGHLANDS

"A dynamic & contemporary stage show"

7PM & 8PM

7 & 8 APRIL (EASTER)

\$55 ADULT/\$35 CHILD

FIORLAND EVENTS CENTRE

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HIGHLAND GAMES AT MEMORIAL PARK
SATURDAY 8 APRIL FROM 8.30AM

NEW ELITE HEAVYWEIGHTS - PIPING & DANCING
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ALL SHOW & GAMES BOOKINGS NOW AT
WWW.TEANAUTARTANFESTIVAL.CO.NZ



Dates for your Diary

- 
- Friday 31st March**
Room 1 visit to Garston Hop Farm.
 - Wednesday 5th April**
Library with Pam – please return books before session.
 - Thursday 6th April**
End of term 1.
 - Monday 24th April**
Teacher only day (school closed for children)
 - Tuesday 25th April**
ANZAC day public holiday
 - Wednesday 26th April**
Children start Term 2
 - Thursday 4th May**
Parents session on Cyber Safety for Children and Adults
 - Wednesday, 17th May**
BOT Meeting – All welcome
 - Wednesday, 24th May**
Mid-Dome Cross-Country at Lorne Peak, Garston
 - Friday, 26th May**
Postponement day for Mid-Dome Cross-Country at Lorne Peak, Garston