

Gulf Harbour School Newsletter

WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT START!

We have had an awesome first few weeks back with new routines being learnt including all children sitting whilst eating their morning tea and lunch ensuring all rubbish is put away. We have also started our whole school morning fitness sessions every Tuesday and Friday which are full of fun and energy along with class (and staff) fitness assessments that have now been completed.

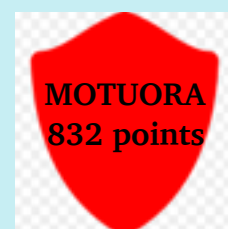
As you were all informed via email, we had a lockdown practice during the second week of term. This was lead by a specialist company that trained the staff and worked with all of our children. I am so proud to say that everyone worked through this emergency procedure superbly. In fact I received an email from the Managing Director of the company just to say how impressed he was with all of our children who were extremely well behaved and very sensible throughout the entire morning.

Thank you to all of you that turned out to our 'Meet the Teacher' event last Thursday. It was great to see so many families. There will be another family event at the end of this term, which you will be receiving information about later on. At the beginning of Term 2 there will also be individual appointments set up for you to meet with your child's class teacher.

Our 2017 swimming gala for our senior children was a huge success. Our school values were shown by all of the children. We observed BRAVERY with children that were afraid of water 'giving it a go'. Our GHS children showed RESILIENCE by battling through to the very end when exhausted, with no more to give. Our children were RESPONSIBLE & RESPECTFUL as

they looked after themselves, their belongings and each other whilst at the leisure centre and we all certainly had lots of FUN!

GHS HOUSE POINTS



The following children are through to the Coast inter-school swimming competition:

Joely Jones, Scarlet Halliday, Carlos Takayama, Ben Taylor, Cameron Law, Hannah Ploos van Amstel, Charlotte Pedersen, Kai Barratt, Skye Swann and Jack Hollands.

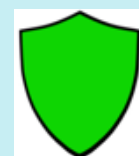
Gulf Harbour school won the coast cricket blitz tournament on Thursday 23rd February. Well done to the following fantastic children:

Ronan Naidu, Blake Naidu, Daniel Clague, Finn Marley, Carlos Takayama, Kieran Elder, Brendon Gray and Kevin Aaron.

HOUSE TEAMS

Your child will be coming home next week with a fabric house team shield. This needs to be sewn onto the LEFT arm of their school uniform top (NOT sports top). We understand that some children may have more than one school top, but we would love each child to wear their team shields with pride whenever they can.

Team points are earned by individuals showing our school values and being outstanding citizens. These points are collected at the end of every week and announced during each Monday morning assembly. The winning team at the end of this term will earn a special team event. Our house team activities are developing over this term with our Senior Team Leaders being selected this week at an extreme bootcamp.



OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our teachers worked really hard over the holidays to get their classrooms ready for the start of term. New furniture has been delivered today for some of the classrooms and for our additional learning room. Please feel free to come and look inside your child's room. You will see class treaty's and waka's in every room specifically crafted by the children to represent them. All classroom will also have house shields displayed and learning working walls in progress as the term develops.





We have now launched our Great GHS Mathathon fundraiser. Your child will have brought home a sponsor pack that explains what the Mathathon is and how you can help your child participate and contribute through this event. Sponsors can be collected in cash or donations made through givealittle.co.nz - search for Gulf Harbour School.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP & SUPPORT

ROAD PATROL

After receiving training from PC Bernie Watts our Year 6 Road Patrol have started up outside the front of the school. Last year we had a couple of parents that stood with them to ensure their safety (2.55 - 3.10pm), however the children of these parents have now moved on to college and so we need more helpers. Please if you are willing to help with our road patrol just call in at the office, give us a call or email me on m.crosbie@ghs.school.nz.

DISCO HELP

We are still looking for some more wonderful parents who would be willing to run a school disco for us this term.



You can claim a tax rebate on your donation. A new company has launched to make it easier for



families to claim back their rebate. Once you have paid your donation and have the receipt lodge your claim through <https://www.schoolrebates.co.nz/> who will look after securing your rebate.

As a school we are trying to offer some healthy food options for our children. We are now working with Sushi 4 u, Whangaparaoa to provide lunches every Thursday. This can only be ordered via our online school shop.



DROP OFF ZONE



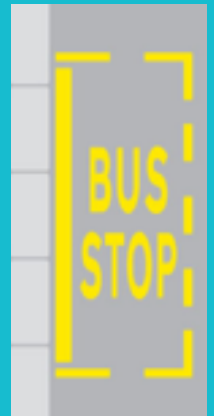
The drop off can be used by parents to drop off those students who can independently get out of the car and off to school. If your child needs assistance; i.e. needs door opened and back-pack put on, your child is not ready for this drop off zone.

- This is not a parking area
- Drivers must not leave their vehicles and must park in the designated drop off zone
- Please move as far forward as you can to allow other vehicles to have access as Alec Craig way is often becoming blocked.
- Children must leave the vehicle from the passenger side of the car onto the walk way not onto the car park side.

Drivers will need to be courteous when entering and leaving the area taking extreme care watching for foot traffic.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Last week the school bus struggled to leave our car park at the back of the school as parents had parked in the bus lane and the driver was unable to turn the bus around. Please only park in the spaces provided or just outside of the school and walk to collect your child.



Tēnā koutou katoa

Are you interested in learning some basic Te Reo Māori language?
Are you interested in learning the process around a Powhiri (official welcome)?
Are you interested in having a Powhiri onto our local Marae - Te Herenga Waka o Orewa?

Here is your chance...

Basic Introduction to Te Reo Maori and Tikanga Powhiri Course

10 week course - 1 x night per week

Term 2 2017

Location: Gulf Harbour School

Please note: Limited numbers available and Course fees apply.
To express your interest or for further details and information, please contact:

Bobbie-Jo Wilson
bjwilson14@gmail.com

SCHOOL DONATIONS & COSTS - What the School Donation is used for :

The school donation is not a fee and payment of it is therefore not compulsory. However, parents are encouraged to make a donation to the school as it is a critical source of funding for the school.

The Ministry of Education operations grant to the school does not cover all the actual costs incurred by the school in a number of areas (including staffing, resourcing costs for students requiring additional learning support, cleaning, caretaking and maintenance costs). Donations, fundraising and any other revenue raised are used to cover these costs and the many other costs not adequately funded by the Ministry. Currently we need to raise approximately \$75,000 through donations and other fundraising to meet the costs of running the school that are not funded by the Ministry. It is only through donations and other fundraising that we can maintain additional staffing and activities. The Board's aim is for a donation rate of over 90%.

Money received will also go towards our school hall fund. We currently have nearly \$400 000 and will shortly be applying for several grants to match this amount so that, if successful, we can start building within the near future.

However, we recognise that for some families the donation and costs cause difficulty - you should always feel free to make a reduced donation. Please contact Bronny/Mel/Fiona if you are having difficulty with other school costs. Donations can be paid either at one of the school offices or through our online shop. There is a 10% discount on uniform and school activities (including camps) purchased through the school shop once the donation is paid.

Compulsory Uniform 2017

It is our expectation that all students wear our new official school uniform, correctly and to a high standard, at all times. Our aim is to remove the pressure of fashion from our children to allow for an inclusive learning environment.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS:

We require all children to enter their classrooms and leave school at the end of the day wearing their footwear. All students must have plain black shoes/sneakers (or plain black sandals in the summer). We advise footwear that is easy for your child to take on and off themselves. Shoelaces and soles must be black. Socks must be navy.

The school bucket hat is a compulsory item for all students during the warmer times of the year (Terms 4 and 1).

All uniform items must be named in a prominent place.

Hair that reaches the shoulders should be tied back. This applies to both girls and boys.

Earrings should be plain studs. No other jewellery may be worn, except for watches or items approved for cultural reasons.

BY THE END OF TERM 1 ALL CHILDREN MUST BE WEARING PLAIN BLACK FOOTWEAR

