

Class of the Week

**Room 11
with Mrs McCulley**



The children of Room 11 have had a wonderful start to the year! We are enjoying getting to know each other and making new friends.

In Room 11 we have a super group of 27 Year 3 and 4 children. We are lucky to have a colourful, creative classroom - it even opens into Te Puna Ako! If you would like to know more about all the fun things we do in

Room 11, please look at our class blog <http://room11gsns2017.blogspot.co.nz>

At assembly next Friday (24 February) we will be on stage as 'Class of the Week'. We will be sharing what we have been learning about 'Road Safety'. We hope that you will be able to come along and support us.



Fair 2017

Do you want to be part of the 2017 School Fair in September? If the answer is YES! - we are looking for people to be part of our Fair committee. A meeting is being held on Monday 13 March at 7.30pm in the staffroom. If you would like more information, please contact Anne Robertson (anne@georgestreet.school.nz).

■ GSNS Achievement Awards - Week 4

Congratulations go to the following pupils who will receive a School Achievement Award at our next whole school Assembly in the hall on Friday 24 February beginning at 2.00pm:

Daniel (K1)	Mila (K1)	Anotida (K2)	Timo (K2)
Stanley (R3)	Amy (R3)	Ghina (R5)	Krithin (R5)
Thanuja (R6)	Sophie (R6)	Dali (R7)	Poppy (R7)
Emerson (R8)	Cody (R8)	Saydie (R9)	Samuel (R9)
Asma (R10)	Tommy (R10)	Otto (R11)	Sena (R11)
Levi (R12)	Madeline (R12)	Hunter (R13)	Sachi (R16)
Ibrahim (R16)	Libby (R17)	Teya (R17)	Archie (R18)
Amelia (R18)	Conor (M1B)	Emilia (M1B)	Ayano (M2A)
Ellice (M2A)	Kais (M2B)		

Diary Dates @ George Street Normal

Tonight Thu 16 Feb	Meet the Teacher evening 7.15pm, School Hall / 7.45pm Classrooms
Tue 28 Feb	Year 6 Camp / Year 5 Adventure Week begins
Mon 20 Mar	Otago Anniversary Day - School closed



NEWSLETTER



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Tonight**GEORGE STREET NORMAL SCHOOL****“MEET THE TEACHER”
Information Evening****Thursday 16 February****7.15pm School Hall****7.45pm Classrooms****Parking available in the school grounds**■ **Our ERO Report**

Late last year we received the latest report from the Education Review Office (ERO) on George Street Normal School. The purpose of ERO's reviews is to give parents and the wider community assurance about the quality of education that schools provide and their children receive.

The findings of this report are based on observations, interviews and documentation viewed during a four day visit to our school last term that firstly focused on the achievement of Māori learners, and then broadening in scope to include all children. Our Board of Trustees and staff were encouraged to read the range of positive comments in the report that included:

- The school has developed a culture that is inclusive and welcoming, and where students have a sense of belonging.
- The school's achievement information shows that a very high percentage (over 90%) of children reach the National Standards (NS) in reading and mathematics, with a significant number achieving above the NS.
- The school has sound moderation practices in place, particularly for writing.
- This school's curriculum is designed to maximise all children's engagement in learning. Children's strengths and interests are explicitly recognised and built on in their learning.
- The school responds well to Māori children whose learning and achievement need acceleration.
- The school responds very successfully to the needs of students for whom English is a second language (ELL). Students are provided with tailor-made programmes. Their progress is closely monitored. Experienced teachers and skilled teacher aides support their language development.
- The curriculum clearly enacts the school's vision for learners and fosters a strong sense of belonging and wellbeing. Children from all cultures feel that their identity and culture are valued and respected by children and adults in the school.
- The school values the active involvement of children's parents and whānau and very effectively draws on the knowledge and experience in its wider school community to enhance learning opportunities for children.
- Teachers know children very well as individuals and learners. They carefully and regularly consider children's wellbeing and learning needs when planning learning programmes.

**GSNS Value of the Term — Responsibility**

We have been talking to children about how they can be more responsible around our roads. Care needs to be taken as children cross George Street, find their parents and enter and exit cars using our quick stops.

**A Parent's Guide to GSNS #2**

We occasionally have upset children who are not sure when and where they will be picked up from school and by whom. Parents and caregivers are reminded that children should be clear about the meeting places and times of pickup. Make the getting home plan as similar as possible each day and easy to remember. Children who have forgotten the plan or who have not been collected by 3.25pm should come to the school office.

- The cohesive and experienced leadership team very effectively supports children's achievement and wellbeing, and teachers' professional practice. These leaders set and model high expectations for teachers and children. They closely monitor and analyse children's achievement, engagement and wellbeing and use this information to plan for improvement.
- Leaders and teachers are well placed to achieve and sustain equitable and excellent outcomes for all children.

As with most schools, ERO recommended a number of next steps for us to consider including: broadening our achievement targets to include all students yet to reach the National Standards and ensuring internal evaluation is more evaluative. Well done to our staff, Board of Trustees and children for achieving such a pleasing result. A full copy of the report is available from our school office or at <http://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/george-street-normal-school-06-12-2016/>

Kind regards

Maree McDonald

GSNS Board of Trustees Chair

■ **Welcome**

Welcome to Siyao (Kindle 2) and Darcy (MIB) who began school for the first time recently. We also welcome Gabriella (R8) and Saydie-Eliza (R9). Our current roll is 447.

■ **Mathletics subscriptions**

Once again, George Street Normal School is able to offer a subsidised price of \$33 per child to enable access to Mathletics until February 2018. Mathletics is an online resource that can be used at home to supplement the classroom maths programme. By using a unique username and password your child can access the Mathletics website at www.mathletics.co.nz or through the Mathletics app for iPad or Samsung tablets. Should you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity, please send \$33 in an envelope marked with your **child's name, year, room number and the word "Mathletics"** on it to the school office and you will be given information about the website, including your child's username and password. For more information, please contact Mrs Stanton (leanne@georgestreet.school.nz).

■ **Reading Eggs Subscriptions**

Reading Eggs is an online literacy programme (developed by the same company as Mathletics). George Street Normal School children have the opportunity to subscribe to the Reading Eggs online literacy programme until February 2018 at a cost of \$33 per child. Like Mathletics, Reading Eggs can be accessed at home and at school. An extensive range of reading texts can be accessed through this programme. Further information about this programme can be found at www.readingeggs.co.nz. If your child would like to participate, please send payment of \$33 to the school office in an envelope marked with your **child's name, room number and the words "Reading Eggs"**, and you will be given the necessary log-in information.