

Class of the Week

Room 17 with Mr Tamblyn



In Room 17 you will find 22 awesome, enthusiastic and friendly Year 2/3 children. There are 10 girls and 12 boys in our class. Some of us have only very recently moved to, or returned to New Zealand from our homes overseas. As such, ours is an exciting and diverse classroom with a large number of different cultures represented.

Our favourite whakatauki is "ma māhi ka ora" which means, "working hard is good". This is because in our class we understand that trying our best and giving everything a go is important. This term has been really busy with swimming, a trip to the Art Gallery and

visits from Constable Parcell to teach us about how we can Keep Ourselves Safe.

We are Active, Positive and Proud learners. In class we enjoy using our imaginations in writing, being active, reading, doing maths and creating art. At home we are dancers, cyclists, footballers, musicians, designers, artists, builders and we especially love playing.

We hope that you will all come along to watch us on stage at assembly next week.

■ GSNS Achievement Awards - Week 10

Congratulations go to the following pupils who will receive a School Achievement Award at our next whole school Assembly in the hall on Friday 6 April beginning at 2.00pm:

Ruthren (K1)	Malia (K1)	Chloe (K2)	Connor (K2)
Abigail (R22)	Samantha (R3)	Josiah (R3)	Riyan (R4)
Hannah (R4)	Artus (R5)	Jeremy (R5)	Felix (R6)
Tyler (R6)	Ryan (R7)	Lexi (R7)	Alexis (R8)
Harriet (R8)	Violet (R12)	Monty (R12)	Isabelle (R13)
Jackson (R13)	William (R9)	Ariana (R10)	James (R10)
Liliana (R11)	Mina (R16)	Ali (R16)	Slade (R17)
Daniel (R18)	Crawford (M1A)	Maximilian (M1A)	Ben (M1B)
Toby (M1B)	Beth (M2A)	Kais (M2A)	Natalie (M2B)
Lilly (M2B)			

Diary Dates @ George Street Normal

Fri 30 Mar	Good Friday - School closed
Mon 2 Apr	Easter Monday - School closed
Tue 3 Apr	Easter Tuesday - School closed
Fri 6 Apr	Whole School Assembly 2.00pm, School Hall with R17 hosting / School Disco
Tue 10 Apr	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm, Staffroom
Fri 13 Apr	Last day of Term 1
Mon 30 Apr	First day of Term 2



NEWSLETTER



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■ Planning for success

New Zealand schools are required to prepare a charter that sets the educational directions for students each year. Our recently completed charter includes an updated strategic plan and annual plan which describes programmes, activities and initiatives for 2018. As well as planning for our usual sports events and the other special occasions in the school year, we also intend to:

- **Set targets and actions to improve the achievement of children who did not meet National Standards in 2017.** Although our results from last year were pleasing (86% of children meeting or exceeding the National Standard in mathematics, 89% of children meeting or exceeding the National Standard in reading, and 80% of children meeting or exceeding the National Standard in writing), and were well ahead of national averages, we will, once again, put in place interventions to assist children at risk of not achieving to their potential in these key learning areas. Please note that, for this year at least, previously used National Standards will translate to a set of George Street Normal School "Learning Expectations".
- **Continue our focus on e-learning.** Teacher professional development, hosting a "Google summit", holding a parent information/open night and reviewing of our readiness to teach the new digital literacy aspect of the technology curriculum are planned.
- **Modernise some of our facilities.** Before the end of this year we intend to build a sensory space, upgrade our girls' toilet facilities, improve school signage, create a "makerspace", redevelop part of our playground and replace floor coverings in four classrooms. In addition, the Board of Trustees is continuing to investigate options for the southern side of the junior block to incorporate a flexible learning space and new boiler system.

As the first term draws to a close, it is good to know that many of these initiatives have already begun. Our Board of Trustees and staff have planned an exciting year of educational opportunity and we look forward to your interest and support. Copies of the George Street Normal School Charter are available from the office.

Kind Regards
Rod Galloway (Principal)
rod@georgestreet.school.nz

■ Welcome

Welcome to Ibrahim (Kindle 1) and Sharvin (Kindle 2) who began school for the first time recently. We also welcome Archer (R17). Our current roll is 482.

■ Sporting opportunities for Term 2

Please note that notices have been given to children who have expressed an interest in playing for one of the following sports teams at GSNS:

Netball - all year groups. Registrations close on Friday 6 April
Hockey - all year groups. Registrations close on Friday 6 April
Miniball - all year groups. Registrations close on Wednesday 11 April
Jump Jam - Years 2-6. Auditions on Wednesday 4 April and Thursday 5 April.

Extra notices are available from the school office.

GSNS Value of the Term — Respect (Whakaute)



We ask that children use our library with respect.
Books should be returned on time and in good order.



A Parent's Guide to GSNS #5



Absences, lateness and arriving/leaving school early

If your child is absent or going to be late, please **let us know, tell us why, and when we can expect attendance or a return to school.** This can be done in a range of ways:

- phone the school (474 0825) and follow the instructions to leave a message on our absence line
- email your child's teacher
- use our School App.

If children on the senior side arrive late to school, they must fill in the late book held in the school office. Children in the junior team who arrive late should be taken to their class and the school office notified. If you need to collect your child early for an appointment, **please make sure the classroom teacher is told about this** if they are on the Junior side of the school, and notify the school office and classroom teacher if they are on the senior side.

Knowing that your child is safe on any given day is our first and most important priority. Parents are reminded that other than medical reasons, family bereavement or school closure, children should be at school. We are required to follow-up patterns of unjustified absences if we don't know why your child is absent or there is an unacceptable number of absences. In addition to letting us know your child will be away and why, we also ask that contact be made with your child's teacher if the absence is for more than three days.

We would also remind parents that "Early Bird Georgies" is available for children who are dropped off at school before 8.30am.

Thank you for your co-operation.

■ Read-a-thon 2018

Reading is a lifelong skill that is highly valued at George Street Normal School. This year we are combining our children's excellent reading skills, attitudes and habits with a fundraising drive for more literacy resources. The idea of a read-a-thon is for children to collect as many sponsors as they can, and then read as many books as they can. Here are a few key dates for this year's read-a-thon:

- In the last week of this term children will be issued a sponsorship card with the encouragement to collect sponsors over the holidays and during the first week of next term.
- The read-a-thon will take place on the second week of term 2, beginning **Monday 7 May**. As they read, children (or their parents) record the number of books on the sponsorship card, and at the conclusion of the read-a-thon, Friday 11 May, total up how much they have read and start collecting their sponsorship money.
- As part of the read-a-thon week (on **Friday 11 May**), we are having a dress-up day. Your child is welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Why not plan to come to assembly (2.00pm in the hall) on that day to see the grand parade.
- Read-a-thon money needs to be collected from sponsors and handed to class teachers by **Friday 18 May**. All money raised will go towards reading resources in the school.

Georgies Holiday Activity Programme

Bex and the Georgies team have another exciting programme planned for the April school holidays. Registration forms and an outline of the daily activities are now available. Enrolments for whole or part days, together with payment, should be handed in to the school office by **Wednesday 4 April**. Limited places. WINZ subsidies available.

Thank you for your support!