

# Class of the Week

Room 6  
with Mrs Gardner



Room 6 is located down the end of the long corridor overlooking the majestic Te Puna Ako. We are a class of 30 students, with Miss Watt our Masters student, and Mrs Gardner. This term we have been focussing on Compassion, song lyrics, making Zines, reading and writing poetry as well as our Water inquiry. We have been doing water experiments, planning, designing

and constructing sustainable homes, poetry for our class recitals and statistical investigations. We will share some of these at the next assembly.

We'd like to invite you to our assembly on Friday 8 June at 2pm. On your arrival, some people will be sharing their strengths and talents as the school enters the hall.

## ■ GSNS Achievement Awards - Week 6

Congratulations go to the following pupils who will receive a School Achievement Award at our next whole school Assembly in the hall on Friday 8 June, beginning at 2.00pm:

Myroslav (K1)	Kalis (K1)	Hashim (K2)	Sharvin (K2)
Julia (R22)	Finn (R22)	Daniel (R3)	Kendyl (R3)
Jake (R4)	Sana (R4)	Nick (R5)	Soleil (R5)
Jaden (R6)	Oliver (R6)	Romaisa (R7)	Hugo (R7)
Connor (R8)	Thomas (R8)	Louis (R12)	Anaé (R12)
Noelia (R13)	Noah (R13)	Oliver (R9)	Isla (R10)
Liam (R10)	Teya (R11)	Tvishaa (R11)	Janielle (R16)
Isla (R17)	Poppy (R18)	Aidan (M1A)	Nada (M1A)
Moss (M1B)	Bodie (M1B)	Camila (M2A)	Serena (M2A)
Evelina (M2B)	Luka (M2B)		

## Diary Dates @ George Street Normal

Mon 4 Jun	Queen's Birthday - School closed
Fri 8 Jun	Whole School Assembly 2.00pm, School Hall with R6 presenting
Mon 11 Jun	PTA AGM 7.30pm, Staffroom
Wed 13 Jun	ICAS Spelling exam
Thu 14 Jun	ICAS Writing exam
Fri 15 Jun	GSNS Dress-up day
Mon 25 Jun	PTA Quiz Night



# NEWSLETTER



989 George Street Dunedin 9016  
Telephone: 474 0825 Fax: 474 0826  
Dental Therapist (Community Oral Health Service) 471 6080  
Email: [office@georgestreet.school.nz](mailto:office@georgestreet.school.nz)  
Website: [www.georgestreet.school.nz](http://www.georgestreet.school.nz)

### ■ Chairperson's Report - Year Ending 31 December 2017

It is my pleasure to present this report on the initiatives and achievements of the George Street Normal School Board of Trustees in 2017. We have much to celebrate and to build on in 2018.

In 2017, the Board agreed to a few key educational initiatives funded outside the annual budget and in addition to government resourcing. Although not originally budgeted for, this spending was in line with the school's strategic plan and yielded positive results:

- Extra professional development in e-learning helped prepare teachers for the adoption of the new digital literacy part of the technology curriculum as well as supporting class blog establishment and setting their inquiry projects for the year.
- The employment of a specialist literacy and numeracy teacher for two terms assisted in the significant reduction in the number of children at risk of not meeting the National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics. In total, the number of targets set in these areas was halved with 93 targets met in 2017.
- With the support of the Community Trust of Otago, 50 new iPads were purchased enabling all year 1-4 classes to have enough iPads to implement a daily App-based reading group activity.
- In October, we capitalised on a marketing opportunity in China. As a result, international student enrolments have increased in the school.

In 2017 the school had more children (a record roll of 529), more teachers and more demands on limited funds than ever before. The Board is confident that funding decisions made in 2017 will continue to assist the school's ongoing success.

The success of the children who attend GSNS remains of the utmost importance to the Board and we were pleased to note the National Standards results for 2017 that show 89% of our students meeting the reading standard or better, 80% of our students meeting the writing standard or better and 86% of our students meeting the mathematics standard or better. Well done to our teachers who have worked hard over a number of years to increase the number of children meeting or exceeding the National Standard in writing. In conjunction, we had excellent results in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) – 117 exams sat with 13 merits, 43 credits (top 25%), 17 distinctions (top 10%) and six high distinctions (top 1%).

Outside the classroom, our students continue to flourish with numerous opportunities available to them. The Board was pleased to support the Year 6 Camp/Year 5 Adventure Week and 8 days of swimming for all students. Again, we saw record numbers of our students engaged in cross country, athletics, school sports teams and clubs with some achieving fantastic results and all having fun! The Kapa Haka, Pasifika and cultural groups performed frequently and to high acclaim. The year finished with a series of team shows which involved 12 public performances and a combined audience of over 3,500! Thank you to the staff and children of each team who entertained us with some amazing and unique shows. The costumes, scripts, music, lighting, dances and songs will be a strong and positive memory for our children, many of whom have either discovered or developed strengths in the performing arts. We are fortunate to have so much talent in our school (both staff and children).



### GSNS Value of the Term — Compassion (Aroha)

*Compassion's not a feeling, and it's not just a whim,  
It doesn't come and go with the mood that you're in.  
Compassion is a doing word, the choice to see and hear,  
An open heart, an open mind, to people far and near.  
(Mrs Yeoman's rap)*



# A Parent's Guide to GSNS #9



## Georgies Holiday Activity Programme



Bex and the Georgies team have another exciting programme planned for the July school holidays. Registration forms are now available from the school office and an outline of the daily activities will be available soon. Enrolments for whole or part days, together with payment, should be handed in to the school office by **Wednesday 27 June**. Limited places. WINZ subsidies available.

The Board continued with an agreed self-review timetable and received 10 reports from the school regarding student achievement in a variety of areas. These reports are available to parents in the school office. Aside from confirming the excellent levels of achievement of our children, these reports also provide us with a valuable insight into the extensive work and high level of commitment our staff provide. We thank them for continued dedication and hard work, especially in light of the growing roll.

George Street Normal School is a very active school and much that has been achieved in 2017 is the result of a community effort. A great deal of thanks goes to all the parents and caregivers who have given their time and effort in assisting with school activities. The PTA deserves special mention and thanks for their fundraising and event-organising throughout 2017, including a fun and profitable School Fair in September which was a real highlight for the school community.

Georgies continues to provide high-quality before school, after school and holiday programmes for our children and we thank the Georgies staff for their energy and commitment to the ongoing success of these programmes.

We were once again very fortunate to have a fantastic leadership team in 2017. We thank our Principal, Dr Rod Galloway, and our Deputy Principals, Anne Robertson and Leanne Stanton, for their direction, guidance and care for the success of our school and our students.

The Board welcomed Che O'Neill to the team in April 2017 to fill the vacancy left by Peter Walker. I wish to thank Che and our fellow Board members James Clark, Michele Dakers, Tony Merriman and Michelle Te Hiko for their service in governing the school in 2017.

George Street Normal School is in good heart and we look forward to another busy and successful year in 2018.

Maree McDonald  
GSNS Board of Trustees Chair

### REMINDER

Monday 4 June,  
Queen's Birthday  
School Closed

### ■ Welcome

Welcome to Hayley, Nanae (Kindle 1) and Elli (Kindle 2) who began school for the first time recently. We also welcome Lochie (R18). Our current roll is 494.

### ■ Dress-up day - Friday 15 June!

Each class is choosing their own theme and we are requesting that an item for the PTA Quiz Night raffle be donated. A note including further details will come home next week.