

■ Entertainment Book

The Entertainment Book is back for 2020 and it's gone digital! This is your chance to save \$ and support our school at the same time.

When you buy an Entertainment Membership from GSNS between 1-31 March, you will receive a \$10 Caltex StarCash Gift Card! Click on the link to access our special GSNS page: <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/2601n29>

■ Hot Cross Bun orders

Hot Cross Bun order forms need to be returned to school by Wednesday 25 March. Buns cost \$5.00 per packet and can be collected from the school hall on Wednesday 8 April. Any spare brown paper bags brought to the school office by Tuesday 7 April would be gratefully received.

■ Enrolment Information - Term Three and Four 2020

The George Street Normal School Board of Trustees invites applications from parents who wish to enrol new children at GSNS between Wednesday 1 July and Thursday 31 December 2020. Enrolment at our school is governed by an enrolment scheme and the deadline for applications for out of zone places for the period 1 July to 31 December 2020 is **Friday 20 March at 3.00pm**. Application forms are available from the school office or school website.

Initial, Grade 1 and Grade 2 Trinity College of London Speech and Drama Examination Preparation Classes: One-hour or 45-minute session, private classes, run by Sophia Niblock (former GSNS pupil). If you would like further information, please contact Sophia on 021 257 7696 or email 17138@otagogirls.school.nz

■ GSNS Achievement Awards - Week 8

Congratulations go to the following pupils who will receive a School Achievement Award at school next week (please note, a school assembly will **not** be held):

Tiffany (K1)	Alexis (K1)	Malia (K2)	Fatima (K2)
Malik (R3)	Casper (R3)	Sophie (R4)	Honor (R4)
Cindy (R5)	Lei (R5)	Anika (R6)	James (R6)
Ayla (R7)	Thomas (R7)	Archie (R8)	Salote (R8)
Kaitlyn (R12)	Cai (R12)	Alicia (R13)	Jordan (R13)
Mina (R9)	Charlotte (R10)	Rosa (R10)	Daniel (R11)
Toby (R11)	Eoghan (R16)	Chloe (R16)	Lydia (R17)
Odin (R17)	Isla (R18)	Amna (R18)	Eva (M1A)
Sana (M1B)	Ahmad (M1B)	Manu (M2A)	Esengo (M2A)
Ruby (M2B)			

Diary Dates @ George Street Normal

Mon 23 Mar	Otago Anniversary Day - school closed
Thu 9 Apr	Last day of Term 1
Fri 10 Apr	Good Friday - school closed
Mon 27 Apr	ANZAC Day observed - school closed
Tue 28 Apr	First day of Term 2



NEWSLETTER



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Telephone: 474 0825 Fax: 474 0826
Dental Therapist (Community Oral Health Service) 476 9835
Email: office@georgestreet.school.nz
Website: www.georgestreet.school.nz

■ 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 describe programmes, activities and initiatives for 2020. As well as planning for our usual sports events and other special occasions in the school year (all things going to plan!), we will also:

- **Set targets and actions to improve the achievement of children who did not meet the New Zealand Standards in 2019.** Although our results from last year were pleasing (84% of children meeting or exceeding the New Zealand Standard in mathematics, 87% of children meeting or exceeding the New Zealand Standard in reading, and 77% of children meeting or exceeding the New Zealand Standard in writing), we will once again put in place interventions to assist children at risk of not achieving to their potential in these key learning areas.
- **Ensure a continued focus on digital literacies.** Continuing teacher professional development and holding a digital literacies parent information/open night.
- **Improve the physical environment of GSNS.** Over the year we plan to continue investigating the development of a new large multi-purpose space on the Junior side, pursue a learning hub upgrade, continue to focus on road safety and developing outdoor playground areas that are multi-purpose and all season.

It is pleasing to note that many of the actions in our annual plan have already begun. Our Board of Trustees and staff have planned an exciting year of education 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
Leanne Stanton (Acting Principal)
leanne@georgestreet.school.nz

REMINDER

**School will be closed on
Anniversary Day
(this Monday) 23 March**

■ Welcome

Welcome to Henry, Samuel, Nikolas (Kindle 1), Aarushi (Kindle 2) and Shafira (M2B) who began school for the first time recently. Our current roll is 450.



Georgies Holiday Activity Programme



Registrations and enrolments for the April school holiday programme are available via the Georgies Aimyplus online booking system <https://georgies.aimyplus.com>. Enrolments for whole or part days will be accepted until places are full for that day. Payment can be made via internet banking or at the school office. Limited places. WINZ subsidies available. **Please note:** In light of current events, if our school is required to close, the Georgies Holiday programme in April will be cancelled.



GSNS Value of the Term — Respect

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 #4



Absences, lateness and arriving at/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 (and copy to office@georgestreet.school.nz)
- use our school App, Skoolbag.

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 for 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.

■ COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

As per recommendations issued by the Ministry of Health, **we will not be having our school assemblies until further notice.** We will ensure, however, that children continue to be recognised and will issue certificates in smaller group settings and give opportunities for classes to be Class of the Week when we receive advice to continue assemblies.

The school disco has also been cancelled this term.

At this stage several **sports have postponed or cancelled competitions.** Please check with your child's coach to keep up-to-date with these changes.

We have **cancelled Learning Commitment Interviews.** Please look at the Learning Commitment form that your child's teacher sends home and make any suggestions/amendments as appropriate, sign and return to school.

If you didn't get an updated newsletter at the beginning of the week, this is on our website. Scroll down on the front page and click COVID-19 advice under the heading 'Latest News'. Please be assured that we continue to follow advice given by the Ministries of Health and Education and are taking every recommended precaution.

We appreciate your support in keeping any unwell children at home and contacting us to let us know if your child is going to be absent.