

> **Welcome**

Welcome to Tobias (Kindle 1) who began school for the first time recently. We also welcome Arnaka (M1A). Our current roll is 461.

> **Staffing news**

We would like to advise our school community that after many years of service at George Street Normal School, Mrs Julia France (Kindle 1 Teacher) and Mr Bob Vinicombe (school Caretaker) will be retiring at the end of Term 2. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank them for their dedication and contributions they have made to making George Street Normal School a great place to be and wish them all the best in their retirement.

Miss Dore (Room 18 Teacher) will be on maternity leave for Terms 3 and 4 of this year. We wish her all the best and look forward to her return next year.

> **Entertainment Book**

Entertainment memberships are expiring - Quick! Love Local - Make a difference and save. Renew your membership now and get up to 2 months extra free + bonus Countdown gift card + a chance to win 1 of 5 x \$1,000 JB Hi-Fi eGift Cards.

When you buy an Entertainment Membership from GSNS 20% of every membership sold goes to supporting our fundraiser! Click on the link to access our special GSNS page: <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/2601n29>

**GSNS Achievement Awards - Week 9**

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):

Shivani (K1)	Evelyn (K1)	Isobel (K2)	Emma (K2)
Lucas (R22)	Ares (R22)	Dehan (R3)	Zaiha (R3)
Leni (R4)	Eli (R4)	Sophia (R5)	Grant (R5)
Nathaniel (R6)	Lillie (R6)	Daan (R7)	William (R7)
Scarlett (R7)	Emma (R8)	Kais (R8)	Jack (R12)
Liliana (R12)	Gale (R13)	Todd (R13)	Grace (R9)
Janielle (R10)	James (R10)	Josiah (R11)	Layla (R11)
Emersyn (R16)	Abbie (R16)	Caleb (R17)	Zara (R17)
Meila (R18)	Vallee (R18)	Nirdvand (M1A)	Liam (M1A)
Baxter (M1B)	Charlie (M1B)	Cooper (M2A)	Rivka (M2A)
Fleur (M2B)	Avery (M2B)		

*Diary Dates @ George Street Normal*

Mon 15 June	PTA Meeting
Tue 16 June	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm, Staffroom
Fri 3 July	Last day of Term 2
Mon 20 July	First day of Term 3



# NEWSLETTER



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### ➤ Chairperson's Report - Year Ending 31 December 2019

It is my pleasure to present this report on the initiatives and achievements of the George Street Normal School Board of Trustees in 2019. We have much to celebrate and to build on in 2020.

The success of the children who attend GSNS remains of the utmost importance to the Board and we were pleased to note the George Street Curricular Standards results for 2019 that show 87% of our students meeting the reading standard or better, 77% of our students meeting the writing standard or better and 84% of our students meeting the mathematics standard or better. Well done to our teachers who continue to work hard and foster our students to reach their potential. In conjunction, we had excellent results in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) – 114 exams sat with 13 Merits, 42 Credits (top 25%), 28 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. Music continues to be celebrated in our school, with many lunchtime groups and opportunities for children to learn an instrument, or join a choir. A special thanks to Natalie Yeoman and all the contributors that captured many of her songs that culminated in our very own CD launch of 'Our Songs Will Rise' that shone a light on past and present musical talent at the school.

The year finished with spectacular school productions for the Junior and Senior Team and an innovative exhibition of various art forms from the Middle Team. Thank you to the staff and children of each team who entertained us with some amazing performances and displays of their hard work throughout the year.

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.

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

*"I would rather feel compassion than know the meaning of it."*  
- Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)



## A Parent's Guide to GSNS #8



### Parking reminders

On these dark and cold days, extra care needs to be taken on busy and slippery roads. Parents, caregivers and children are reminded of the following road safety messages:

- Drive slowly past our school and be prepared to stop
- No u-turns outside our school
- No double-parking
- No parking over driveways
- Children should exit from the footpath side of vehicles
- Always check that traffic has stopped before using controlled crossings
- Children are welcome to be collected from our pick-up zone (outside our main entrance) and need to be lined up with the supervising teacher between 3.02pm-3.25pm. Parents are asked to only stop in this area if their child is present in the line, otherwise please go around the block. This is the "no waiting, no looking for your child, no trying to find a park" way to pick up children from our school.

Thank you for working with us to keep our children safe.

George Street Normal School is a very active school and much that has been achieved in 2019 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 2019. The standout event of the year was our school fair that not only brought the wider school community together in a day of fun, food, stalls and events but also raised significant funds for the school.

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.

Once again, we were very fortunate to have a fantastic leadership team in 2019. 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. With sadness we also farewelled a number of our most experienced teachers and leaders, Anne Robertson, Natalie Yeoman, Lee Phillips and Kate Chhin who have all contributed significantly to the fabric of the school over many years.

The triennial board elections took place in May 2019. We thanked James Clark for his service in governing George Street Normal School and welcomed new board member Greer Harper. Michele Dakers, Maree McDonald, Michelle Te Hiko-Calvert, Mark Champion and Ken Orchiston have remained on the Board and I thank them for their support.

George Street Normal School is in a positive position and we are looking forward to a productive and successful year ahead in 2020.

Che O'Neill

GSNS Board of Trustees Chair

(The full Annual Report can be found in the school office or on our website.)