



# GREYMOUTH High School

Te Kura Tuarua O Māwhera

## Parent Newsletter – Term 1 Week 11: Wednesday 11 April 2018

Kia ora koutou

The last week of any school term is always significant, but this one is especially so for me as I will spend next term on sabbatical, away from Greymouth High School (I start back in Term 3). I've been principal for just over five years and I'm very proud of the school we are, built with a lot of hard work and care from a lot of people. There are still many things we don't get right, as is the case with all schools, but we have developed good systems for identifying and dealing with our problems which is an important quality that not all schools have: it means we constantly (and slowly) get better and better. I'm proud of our inclusive nature, how we know and care for all of our students, our honesty and courage to face difficult issues, our commitment to keep improving and our determination to find opportunities for our students - most importantly, I'm proud of the dominant culture of our students, which is positive and caring.

In my view, our biggest risk currently is rural decline - the reducing numbers of young people which has a compounding effect on our ability to offer range and depth of opportunities (which can, in turn, lead to further decline). There is little we as a school can do about social/migration trends, but "necessity is the mother of invention" and we can continue to find more innovative ways to provide excellent opportunities for our students.

During my sabbatical, I'll be visiting schools in rural parts of the North Island - as well as a couple in Auckland - to see what approaches they are taking and to share what we do. I'll write a report on this and hope that my learning equips me to continue to serve you well when I return. The holiday I'll take, to see family in Britain and friends in America, should also help!

During Term 2, Ms Roz Stuart will be Acting Principal. Ms Stuart is very experienced, having had a role as Acting Principal previously, and will be supported by a strong leadership team: Mr Bermingham and Miss Quinnell as Deputy Principals, Mrs Wheeler as Assistant Principal. Mrs Cropp will act as Head of Maths and Mrs Reij as Assistant HoD Maths. Mr Rowlands and Mrs Hanson will cover Maths and English classes respectively.

### Important Dates

- **Monday 30 April:** Term 2 starts.
- **Tuesday 1 May:** Late Start. 9.00am Period 1.

### What's inside...

- **Front page & Page 2:** From the Principal / Late Starts.
- **Page 3:** School Calendar.
- **Page 4:** Student Achievement.
- **Pages 4-6:** School News.
- **Pages 6-7:** Sporting News.
- **Page 8:** Science Careers Evening, University of Canterbury.

### Office Hours during the School Holidays

Week beginning 16 April - 10.00am to 1.00pm daily. Then closed Monday 23, Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. Opening again Thursday 26 April 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Uniform Shop Hours during holidays** – Thursday 26 April: 1.45pm to 4.45pm.

Last week, our Board met with Heads of Departments who presented their achievement reports for 2017. This was a major reflective exercise and my thanks go to all involved: it showcased the huge amount of good practice happening across the school and was followed by robust discussions at Board level. We also discussed student attendance and pastoral statistics (concerning) and approved a new policy on School Evaluation and Planning.

On Thursday this week we will have our Term 1 celebration assembly, showcasing all sorts of good student work from around the school, and parents are welcome. There is always a lot of fun and a surprise or two. It is also mufti day with a farming theme in honour of AgFest being held in Greymouth.

On Friday we will formally open our skatepark, with designer and builder Dave North of Nelson Creek. A skatepark of this quality is an unusual feature for schools and reflects the adventurous nature of our students. It was made possible by lots of community generosity so please check our feature on this.

We had our first cold snap this week and we don't have heating until May 25<sup>th</sup> when our new boiler will be installed. The correct uniform is really important to the feel of a school and it is quite possible to be warm in ours with parental support: wear a white/pale thermal or singlet under shirt/blouses; wear the wool jersey as well as the Macpac jacket; wear a beanie which, until the boiler is operational, will be allowed to be worn indoors (these can be bought from school or brought from home but in this case must be fully plain black). If parents are struggling to pay for full uniform, we offer payments spread across a period of time on your school account or supplying older garments. Hoodies and puffer jackets etc will not be allowed, as students wearing the correct uniform significantly improves the learning-focussed feel of the school and we have carefully considered the uniform that is available.

Have a great holiday, a really productive Term 2, and I look forward to seeing you in July.

Ngā mihi

Andy England  
**Principal**

### **Late Starts - Term 2 & 3**

Terms Two and Three are when we concentrate on professional learning for our teachers. In order to maximise the learning and development time for our teachers we will be implementing "late starts" commencing **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May**. Period one will start ten minutes later at **9.00am** allowing our teachers to gain 30 minutes for "learning conversations" in professional learning groups. We hope you support us in this as we are strongly focussed on making positive changes to teaching and learning at Greymouth High School.

Scott Bermingham  
Deputy Principal

# School Calendar

## April

Thursday 12 April	Mufti Day: Farming Theme – Gold coin donation.
Friday 13 April	End of Term 1.
Monday 30 April	Beginning of Term 2.

## May

Tuesday 1 May	LATE START. 9.00am Period 1.
Wednesday 2 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GHS 1st XV vs Ellesmere College @ Ellesmere College.</li> <li>GHS Board of Trustees meeting, 7.30pm in Te Whare Akoranga.</li> </ul>
Tuesday 8 May	LATE START. 9.00am Period 1.
Wednesday 9 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GHS 1st XV vs Darfield High School, Greymouth.</li> <li>GHS PTA meeting, 7.30pm in the staffroom.</li> </ul>
Tuesday 15 May	LATE START. 9.00am Period 1.
Wednesday 16 May	GHS Rugby League vs Haeata, Wingham Park.
Saturday 19 May	GHS Senior Ball @ Shantytown.
Tuesday 22 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LATE START. 9.00am Period 1.</li> <li>West Coast Secondary Schools' Football, Reefton.</li> </ul>
Wednesday 23 May	GHS vs Buller High School – all teams, Greymouth.

## June

Wednesday 6 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GHS 1st XV and U15s vs Westland High School, Hokitika.</li> <li>West Coast Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Tournament @ Westland Recreation Centre.</li> </ul>
Wednesday 13 June	West Coast Secondary Schools' Senior Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments. Boys (Westland Recreation Centre and Girls, Westport).

## July

9-11 July	South Island Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Tournament, Christchurch.
-----------	--

**Student Absences:** 0800 GREYHIGH (0800 473 944)

**Email:** [attendance@greyhigh.school.nz](mailto:attendance@greyhigh.school.nz)

**Uniform Shop Hours during holidays** – Thursday 26 April 2018 1.45pm to 4.45pm.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast club open any day in TWK.

## Greymouth High School Parent Teacher Association

ALL are welcome and especially our families new to Greymouth High School.

**PTA meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 7.30pm in the staffroom** except during school holidays. Dates are as follows unless otherwise advised.

9 May	13 June	July – no meeting	
8 August	12 September	October – no meeting	14 November
December TBA			

---

# Student Achievement

---

## Student Achievements

**Principal's Awards.** This is an accumulative list of all students who have achieved Principal's Awards this year. Recent awards are in bold.

### Year 9

<b>Taygen Lloyd</b>	<b>Ben Oates</b>	<b>Greanne Williams</b>	<b>Ella Beirne</b>
<b>Theo Barnett</b>	<b>Jamie Meihana-Whittle</b>	<b>Lakin Cousins</b>	Joseph Cotterill
Jayden Topliss	Faith Walker	Breagh Watson	Shialla Steel
Alex Fraser	Gage Jamieson	Haylee MacKinnon	Matthew Davey
Seetai Barrow	Finlay Brown	Ben Birchfield	Paris Jackson-Roberts

### Year 10

Connor Henderson	Mitchell Smith	Hayley Jo Jacobs	Alex Kennedy
Dominic Cate	Matthew Robbins	Joel Dumelow	Jameila Kitchin
Camerons Simons	Aedan Gunn	Alyssa Blacktopp	Ben Ching
Liam Efford	Sam Welsford	Grace Wallace	Sophie Allison
Sophia Keown	Connor Howe	Zion Meihana-Whittle	Caleb Wanstall
Connor Green	Dean Wisdom	Christopher Jones	

---

# School News

---

## Blazers

If you wish to purchase a blazer for your student please ensure that you come to the Uniform Shop for a fitting first. These cost \$215.00 and we need to order in lots of five. They take six weeks to arrive.

## The 2018 Greymouth High Senior Ball - 'Return to Neverland'

On Saturday 19 May, our annual school Ball is being held at Shantytown between 8.00pm and 12.00am. Tickets are \$45 each, which covers supper, non-alcoholic drinks, DJ and photo booth, and will go on sale during the first week back next term (from April 30-May 4) through the Student Office. Photos from our professional photographer, Stewart Nimmo, will also be available for purchase after the event. Year 11, 12 and 13 students whose attendance is at least 85% are invited to come along for this fantastic evening, and Year 12 & 13 students are able to invite partners from outside Greymouth High School. We're looking forward to hosting this formal event, which is traditionally one of our highlights of the year.

Sarah Quinnell  
Assistant Principal

## Careers - 2018 Liaison Visits and other Activities of Interest

Date	Provider	Venue	Time
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Otago University Liaison Visit	Library Annexe	9.50am – P2

Careers continued...

### Gateway Students Activities of Interest 2018

Date	Provider	Venue	Time
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Red Cross – First Aid	C3	8.45am – 3.00pm - both days.

### University Scholarships for Year 13 Students

MoneyHub - a consumer finance website, has published a guide to hundreds of scholarships for any student planning to start university in 2019. The comprehensive list includes scholarships offered by every university as well as those specifically available to local students. A list of privately-funded, Māori, Pacific and International university scholarships completes the list. Applications close throughout the year, with tens of millions of dollars available. MoneyHub has also published a list of tips for scholarship success.

For more details and to find suitable scholarships, visit:

<https://www.moneyhub.co.nz/scholarships-nz.html>

### Greymouth High School Skatepark

The Greymouth High School Skatepark will be officially opened on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 1.20pm**. This project was inspired by the adventurous nature of our students: it was designed to offer a good level of challenge for teenagers, giving a healthy blast of adrenaline during school breaks, yet be accessible to our younger community outside of school hours. Skatepark designer and builder Dave North worked with the students and teachers of **9CS** and was joined by several students during the building phase: **Alvin King, Caleb Butcher, Connor Greene, Auryn Barber, Blake Evans, Anaru Anderson, Dean Wisdom and Liam Kennedy**.

The project was made possible by generous donations from the following businesses:

- Westroads
- Mitre 10
- IPL
- Ahaura concrete
- Allied concrete
- Coast Concrete pumping services
- Dispatch and Garlick
- Hirepool

Please show them your appreciation.

To keep the skatepark working smoothly, the following rules, right, are in place and displayed on signs:

We hope you enjoy the Greymouth High School Skatepark.



The image shows a sign for Greymouth High School Skatepark. On the left is a circular logo with a stylized tree and the text 'GREYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL' and 'MAWHERA'. To the right of the logo, the text 'Greymouth High School' is written in a light blue font, and 'SKATEPARK' is written in a larger, bold, light blue font. Below this, there is a list of conditions for use of the park.

- During school hours, this park is only for GHS authorised users.
- Outside school times, between 9am and 9pm, members of the public may use this park so long as they agree to the following conditions:
  1. Respect the park, other users, our neighbours and the school (this includes clean language, good manners, using bins for rubbish, no graffiti, looking out for other users).
  2. This park is not supervised so please use it with care - use protective gear and use it at your own risk.
  3. Report any damage (call 0800GREYHIGH).
  4. Prevent antisocial behaviour and provide first aid for any injuries (call 111 for emergencies or 03 768 1600 for police non-emergencies).

### Year 9 Cactus Programme 2018

Starting week one next term, we will be able to offer Year 9 students a 20 week Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit Support (CACTUS) programme during their timetabled week. Students who indicated during enrolment last year that they were interested in CACTUS met with Staff Brett Lomey, Director of our Mawhera Services Academy this week to gain a better insight into what CACTUS is. CACTUS started out in 1998 as the vision of Hokitika Community Constable Rob Fox, for a community-based programme that could assist local youth in their personal development. Today, CACTUS has blossomed into a highly successful programme delivering positive change to young people on the West Coast as well as towns including Rotorua, Wairoa and Nelson.



CACTUS has a strong teamwork focus and throughout the course, students will develop their communication and collaboration skills. They will also learn self-discipline, build resilience and positive leadership strategies. Students work collaboratively to encourage and to assist members who may find a task challenging or are slower or struggling to complete any given task. This Year 9 programme will replace one line of Modular Studies, so students will participate in 3 hours a week dedicated to CACTUS for the rest of the year. Students will still meet the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum through the development of their key competencies. There are limited places in this course so if your child is interested and has not already received an information and consent form then please pick one up from the office and return ASAP.

Scott Bermingham  
Deputy Principal

Affordable Children & Adult Thermals  
Merino & Polypropylene  
Sizes from Kids to Adults  
Singlet's , short and long sleeve tops  
also leggings  
Also Available Children's  
Wool & Merino Socks& Tights  
All made in New Zealand and great Quality

Contact Tracy 0273030446  
172 Preston Road, Greymouth  
Open Friday 13-14 April 9.30am to 5pm  
<https://www.facebook.com/littlensweetbaby/>

---

## Sporting News

---

### Surfing

**Eve Finlay** was away competing in the Emerson's South Island Surfing Competition hosted in Dunedin. Eve competed in the U18 Girls' category where she came 2<sup>nd</sup> in her heat and then placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the final seeing her best wave score her a 7. She has also been competing in the South Island Grom Series across the South Island where she placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the U18 Girls' category. Nicely done Eve!



### Volleyball

Congratulations to the GHS Staff Volleyball Team for winning a tight final on Saturday in the B Grade! Great year of volleyball had with an impressive 14 teams in the A and B competition. Bring on the 2018/19 season!

### Upcoming Sport in Term 2

#### **Brockbank-Graves Rugby Series - 1st XV, U15 and Open Girls**

This series has our top rugby players first travelling to take on Ellesmere College (2<sup>nd</sup> May - 1st XV only), hosting Darfield High School (9<sup>th</sup> May - 1st XV only), hosting Buller High School (23<sup>rd</sup> May - all teams), and travelling to Hokitika to take on Westland High School (6<sup>th</sup> June - 1st XV and U15s). There will be trainings and it is expected all players attend these trainings. The coaches want to see good results and I am sure all the players want a successful year also.

#### **Rugby League - Greymouth High School vs Haeata Community Campus (formally Aranui) - 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Head to Wingham Park to see some talented league players compete in a high action game! Will Greymouth High School continue to hold the trophy that we fought so hard for last year?

### **West Coast Secondary Schools' Football - 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Once again Reefton will host this Football tournament and we hope to send away at least 1 boys' and 1 girls' team to this tournament. If this sounds like you, please sign up at the new gym.

### **West Coast Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Tournament - 6<sup>th</sup> June**

This tournament sees the top young netballers of the West Coast fight it out for top position this time playing indoor at the Westland Recreation Centre.

### **West Coast Secondary Schools' Cross Country - 8<sup>th</sup> June**

Westport is running this event through the scenic Floating Basin Reserve. Last year we had a small three person team represent Greymouth High School and we would love to have more students show off their running skills. Please see Maddy for details.

### **West Coast Secondary Schools' Senior Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments - 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Greymouth is hosting the boys' tournament, and Westport the girls. A great tournament that gives important court time against other school aged teams for both our senior sides as they prepare for the Premierships taking place tournament week during September.

### **South Island Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Tournament - 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July**

The junior netball team is off and away to attend this full on Secondary Schools' Netball Tournament. They will brave the chilly conditions in Christchurch competing against the top Year 9s and 10s from around the South Island. Best of luck girls!

### **Basketball Subs**

**Please note fees are \$80 per player, these fees must be paid to the school by the 4<sup>th</sup> May.** (Failure to do so could result in your child not being allowed to take the court.) If you would like to sort out a payment plan for the fees please contact the school office.

### **Tournament Costs**

Part in parcel of being chosen for a tournament team means there is always a large cost associated with the selection. Individual costs per team are being calculated and can often range from \$350 to \$500 a player. However, you can begin putting money into your child's account to cover these costs as this helps make the bill not seem so big in August when the full cost must be paid.

### **Fundraising for Tournament**

Each tournament team will have multiple fundraising opportunities offered to their team. It is the responsibility of the players and parents/family to get involved in fundraising to help reduce costs. You will not automatically be given fundraising money towards your costs. The work you put in will reflect how much your total costs will be reduced. Please ensure you take these opportunities when they present themselves. **Fundraising must be approved through the Greymouth High School system.**

### **Payment and Consent Forms for Trips**

For your child to attend a trip the payment and consent form **MUST** be paid and returned by the date stated on the parent letter. Without both of these your child will not be attending. There are various methods to how you can pay for trips, please contact the office to find out about these.

# Thinking about studying science? Not sure where it can lead?



## With science, anything is possible. Prepare to be inspired.

Come along to our careers evening and find out where science can take you. The opportunities may surprise you!

Learn about degree options and campus life. Hear from some of our inspiring graduates. Find out how they've turned their passions into a successful career with a science degree.

## Science careers evening

**When:** 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Tuesday 22 May 2018

**Where:** C Block, Ilam Campus, University of Canterbury

**Registration:** Free entry.

Register at [www.canterbury.ac.nz/events/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/events/)  
search keywords 'science careers evening'

*Bring your friends and whānau. There'll be lots of time for discussion and Q & A – we want to hear from you.*



**Choose science. Change the world.**  
A careers event like no other.