



GREYMOUTH High School

Te Kura Tuarua O Māwhera

Parent Newsletter – Term 1 Week 6: Wednesday 7 March 2018

Kia ora koutou

What a great athletics day we had this week. Our staff and student leaders prepared really well, with extra games for the students who are less into athletics, and students came up with some very impressive house-coloured dress...and the weather was perfect. Phew. At last check no records were broken during the day, but there were plenty of excellent sporting performances and it is a day of important social bonding for students. *Pictured right, Jenga players.*

We have just passed half way through Term 1 - that will come as a shock for many of us! With Waitangi Day on a Tuesday, ex-tropical cyclones and, finally, athletics, it has been an unusually unsettled start to the year. We need parents/whanau to really work with us now to settle students into strong routines of focus for school.

Our Board meeting this week took time to discuss student achievement and pastoral data and approved our 2018 Charter, which includes our strategic and annual plans. This will soon be published and linked from our website. Bruce Togia has resigned his place on our Board and I would like to thank Bruce for his wisdom - and great questions - during his time on the Board. We will get the process for electing a new Board member under way and, if you are interested, I encourage you to contact a Board member or me (details on our website).

Ngā mihi

Andy England
Principal

2018 NCEA Information Evening – Tuesday 13 March

In conjunction with the Year 11-13 Parent Evening we would like to offer two NCEA information sessions for parents who would like to gain a better understanding of the NCEA system. There will be a brief presentation of what NCEA is and what is needed to pass NCEA followed by a chance to answer any questions. The two sessions are the same – one starting at 5.00pm and the other at 7.00pm in the evening to suit your schedule. These will be held in our school Library. Our Kaitakawaenga/School-Home Partnership Promoter, Kiri Russell will be available throughout the evening to help with KAMAR parent portal access, NCEA questions and general questions you may have.

Scott Bermingham
Deputy Principal



Important Dates

- **Monday 12 March:** Mike King, 'Hands up for Help', 7.00pm in Coxon Hall.
- **Tuesday 13 March:** NCEA Information Evening.
- **Wednesday 14 March:** GHS PTA meeting @ 7.30pm in the staffroom.

What's inside...

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School Calendar

March

Friday 9 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NZ Army Band visit. Year 12 & 13 Driver Education
Monday 12 March	Mike King: 'Hands up for Help', 7.00pm in Coxon Hall.
Tuesday 13 March	NCEA Information Evening.
Wednesday 14 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Coast Schools Athletics. GHS Parent Teacher Association, 7.30pm in the staffroom.
Friday 16 March	Mufti Day. Gold coin donation for Student Council.
Thursday 22 March	Year 9 & 10 Parent/Teacher meetings, 5.00-8.00pm. More details later.
Wednesday 28 March	Year 11-13 Parent/Teacher meetings, 5.00-8.00pm. More details later.
Friday 30 March – Tuesday 3 April	Easter Holiday break.

April

Wednesday 4 April	7.00pm – GHS Board of Trustees meeting in Te Whare Akoranga.
Wednesday 11 April	GHS Parent Teacher Association, 7.30pm in the staffroom.
Friday 13 April	End of Term 1.
Monday 30 April	Beginning of Term 2.

- **Senior Ball – Saturday 19 May @ Shantytown.**

Student Absences: 0800 GREYHIGH (0800 473 944)

Email: attendance@greyhigh.school.nz

Uniform Shop OPEN Tuesday & Thursday, 2.00-5.00pm during term time. Located in the gym quad off Marlborough Street.

Greymouth High School PTA Raffle

We need helpers for a raffle at New World.

1-hour slots available from 9.00am to 7.00pm on Saturday 10th March, Saturday 17th March & Thursday 5th April.

Please contact Raylene on 027 2266 719 to confirm a time.

Greymouth High School Parent Teacher Association

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

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

14 March	11 April	16 May	13 June	July – no meeting
15 August	12 September	17 October	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 10

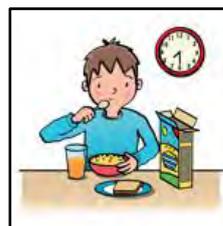
Connor Green	Christopher Jones	Grace Wallace	Sophie Allison
Zion Meihana-Whittle	Caleb Wanstall		

School News

Parent Teacher Association

The PTA needs you! Come along to the staffroom on **Wednesday 14th March @ 7.30pm**. Drinks and nibbles provided.

Email: michellekeene75@gmail.com if you want to know more about it, or just come along. All welcome. Hope to see you there.



Breakfast Club

Tuesday & Thursday, 8.30-8.40am in TEF.

(This will be operating at the sports day first thing in the morning).

Maths Competition

The University of Otago Mathematics Competition will be held on Wednesday 4th April. Anyone in Year 9 to 11 is eligible to enter. **Cost is \$5 to be paid at the student office by Thursday 22nd March.** For further information ask your maths teacher.

Careers - 2018 Liaison Visits and other Activities of Interest

Date	Provider	Venue	Time
Thursday 5 th April	University of Canterbury presentation.	Library Annexe	9.50am – P2
Monday 16 th May	Otago University Liaison visit.	Library Annexe	9.50am – P2

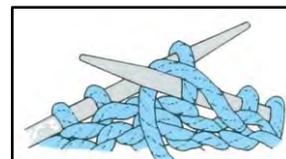
Gateway Students Activities of Interest 2018

Date	Activity	Venue	Time
Monday & Tuesday 26 th & 27 th March	Health & Safety Course.	C3	9.00am – 3.00pm

Gateway Placement. There are places available if you wish to do a Gateway Placement. Please come and talk to Jo Russell if you are interested.

Knitting Club

We had 8 keen knitters and beginners on Monday which was just great. Come and join us Monday's at lunchtime from 1.15pm in the Library. We can teach you to knit and can even supply some wool and needles to get you started. All welcome. Bring a friend too if you like. It's great fun to learn something new.



International Science Opportunities for Year 12 & 13 students

Students who are genuinely interested in science and want to go on to study science at a tertiary level then we have some wonderful international science opportunities available.

Please visit: [International Science Opportunities for Year 12 and Year 13 students](#)

Applications close on 14 March.

TECH Talk

Kia Ora from the Technology Department for 2018.

This year one of my aims as Head of Department is to regularly contribute to the school



newsletter, to share highlights, fresh developments and upcoming events.

Highlights

Furniture and Design

Above is a selection of our senior FAD (Furniture and Design) classes edge-lit signs in the staff room near the end of 2017. Students were able to select an image based on their culture and interests.

Graphics

2017 results – Three students received Merit endorsements for this course and overall students received 21 Merit and Excellence grades which was an increase from 2016 figures of 17. One of our students, Kate Wilkins, pictured right, has gone on to study Architecture at Ara - Institute of Canterbury doing the first year of a New Zealand Diploma in Architectural Technology. Kate is pictured in front of some of her Year 11 work which was used as exemplars in 2017. And to the bottom right is a sample of her Level 2 work from 2017 using a programme called 'Sketchup'.



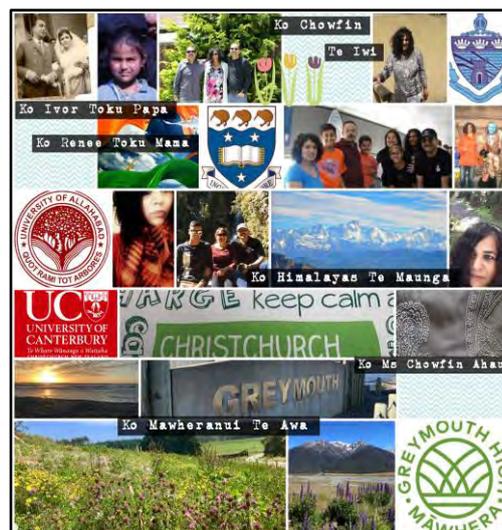
Fresh developments

Hospitality and Food Technology teacher, Whaea Erin Connolly has been appointed as Assistant Head of Department (Asst HOD) for 2018. Whaea Erin is also a member of the CoL team (Community of Learning) which is a government initiative which funds group of teachers to work collaboratively across a community. This year the Technology Department is focusing on raising Māori achievement by considering **cultural content** and



working on further development of our use of **Tikanga and Te Reo Māori**.

Erin and I had been using a **visual Mihi/ Introduction** with our classes in 2017 and this year I have asked all teachers within the department to develop their own. Our department is one of the most culturally diverse groups with staff coming from South Africa, India, England, North and South Islands. To the right is the visual mihi of our Digital Technologies teacher, Ms Chowfin. We are also creating a visual introduction for each teacher with biographical information, what subjects they teach and roles they hold within the department which will be displayed in the Tech corridor.



Upcoming events

School garden working bee - Saturday 10th March 2018 9.00am-12.00noon

After cyclone Fehi and now Gita and a hot, sunny summer the school garden is in need of some TLC. If you would like to participate in a working bee please contact me by email on chapmans@greyhigh.school.nz or phone 0220137900. Any time is gratefully accepted. The garden has been very prolific over the holidays producing strawberries, tomatoes, cucumbers, basil, chilli peppers and beans which have all been frozen or preserved for use in Food Technology and Hospitality classes. The corn is very close to harvesting and seeds have just been planted for autumn/winter vegetables. The herbs have recently been divided and a new herb garden has been planted out. We are hoping to find some dedicated retired or semi-retired folk who would like to help out on a regular basis and (hopefully) impart a love of gardening to the next generation. If that is you, we would love to hear from you. We are also keen to add raspberries, currants, gooseberries, cape gooseberries and tamarillos to the garden so if anyone has some plants to give away that would be great.

Wild Foods fundraiser

Hospitality classes will be fundraising at the Wild Foods fest on the 10 March.

Nga mihi nui
Mrs Chapman
HOD Technology

Greymouth High School Students and Family are in the Semi- Final of the XVenture Family Challenge TV series THIS Sunday, 11th March.

This week it's semi- finals time on the XVenture Family Challenge TV series presented by ecostore and once again our West Coasters - Team O'Connor will be flying our region's flag as they compete for a place in the final. Team O'Connor is proudly represented by our student Charlotte, with parents Jack and Lynette and cousin Ellis. Once again, show your support for Team O'Connor and watch the series this Sunday at 5:30pm on THREE as they compete in a place in the final!

Sporting News

West Coast Secondary Schools' Touch Tournament

On Friday 2nd March three Greymouth High School teams (2 boys and 1 girls) team to Hari Hari to compete at South Westland Area School in the inter-school touch competition. Luckily we got through the day with only a wee bit of rain but it was pretty warm and all our teams played really well improving throughout.

Girls results: vs South Westland Area School Loss (0-2), vs John Paul II Win (2-1), vs Buller High School Draw (0-0), vs Reefton Area School Draw (1-1). They finished up 3rd equal with John Paul II High School going on countback of tries for and against showing how close the competition was! Reefton Area School took out the final against Buller High School.



Boys results: Pool 1 (GHS 1) - vs Westland High School 1 Win (3-0), vs John Paul II Win (2-1), vs Buller High School Loss (0-3), Semifinal vs John Paul II Win (3-0), Final vs Buller High School, draw at full time 1-1, playing rules of losing a player every minute until a try was scored it went down to the wire of 2 v 2 where Buller High School just managed to take out the win.

Pool 2 (GHS 2) - vs Westland High School 2 Win (7-1), vs South Westland Area School - Win (3-1) and a default win over Reefton Area School. The boys were exhausted after only playing with five players and we gave up the semi-final spot to John Paul II, however, this allowed our boys to support and play for GHS 1.



A great day of touch was had! Thank you South Westland Area School for putting on a great day and a special thank you to **Mr Tom McGirr** for coaching the teams and to **Jack O'Connor** for accompanying us and picking up the whistle to referee when needed.

Greymouth High School Athletics Day

We had a fantastic day of athletics on Tuesday. There was lots of colour with our houses being shown off with pride. It was great to see students participating in both the traditional athletic events along with the fun activities put on by our student leaders' team, cheering on fellow students and just getting into the spirit of the day. Keep an eye out for results in next week's newsletter where top athletes from each age group and house points are announced plus the all-important bragging rights for what house took out the top spot on points!

Thank you to our awesome staff team for helping the day run smoothly with setting up, running events and packing up at the end of the day, the student leadership team for organising the fantastic fun events throughout the day, Cancer Society for letting us borrow gazebos and sunblock stations and to the athletics club - especially **Jack O'Connor** for helping us set up the track and borrow athletics equipment.



Multi-Sport Event - Lake Kaniere Triathlon

This triathlon offers a kayak, run, cycle or swim, run, cycle competition for families all the way through to elite athletes to tackle. We had a girls' team, individual male and a cyclist competing in a junior duathlon team. All did a great job and our Principal, Mr England was on hand to get a great snap of all the athletes at the finish.

George Rubbo competed in the individual male section kayak/run/cycle triathlon placing 3rd in his category and 8th overall. His strongest leg of the race was the run where he placed 6th, kayak 11th and cycle 11th.

The girls' team competed in the junior U18 kayak/run/cycle triathlon. **Rachel Crawford** did the kayak leg placing 18th overall, **Mikayla Sweetman** running, placing 18th overall and **Ainslie Campbell** cycling, placed 12th overall. The girls combined to take the 1st spot in their category and placed 17th overall.

Robert Campbell completed the cycle leg in his duathlon team with Zeb Thompson doing the run. Robert came in 2nd overall in his cycling which helped his team take home 1st spot in the junior duathlon category and 3rd overall.



Basketball Referees Sessions

Compulsory referee session for ALL Greymouth High School basketball players **Monday 12th March**, new gym, LUNCHTIME. All players must attend this meeting, it is to help you understand the basics of refereeing basketball plus a couple of changes that are important to know as a player.

Voluntary referee session, Monday 12th March, 6:30pm in Te Whare Akoranga. This FREE session is open to all players, referees, coaches and parents. It will further that basketball knowledge you already have while going over important changes to basketball rules for 2018. This is run by West Coast Basketball and I would highly suggest that all attend.

Basketball Season Details 2018

'B' Grade Men's and Women's start on Wednesday 14th March at the Westland Recreation Centre. 'A' Grade Men's and Women's start on Friday 16th March at the Westland Recreation Centre. **COMPULSORY TO WEAR A MOUTHGUARD**, no mouth guard = no play.

All draws will be posted on the Greymouth High School Sports Hub Facebook Page AND put up in the window at the new gym. Reminder to all players that you must inform your coach if you cannot attend a training or game, contact details have been given out via emails however please contact me if you need those details again.

Maddy Crawford
Sports Coordinator

Basketball Subs

Please note fees are \$80 per player, these fees must be paid to the school by the 4th May. If you would like to sort out a payment plan for the fees please contact the school office.

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.

Hands up for hope!

I AM HOPE is a nationwide tour of schools and community groups during March 2018.

Its message is simple: any of us has the power to be the hope that someone needs when facing bullying, depression, low self-worth, anxiety or any other mental health issues.



Want to be someone's hope when they need it? Don't miss this fun free event!

For more information please email iamhope@keytolife.org.nz

When: Monday, March 12, 7pm

Where:

HighSt
Greymouth

