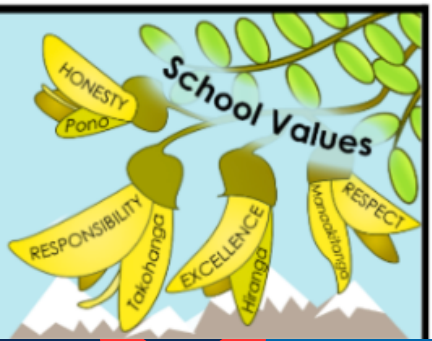
GRANTLEA DOWNS
The country school in the town

Principal's message

Growing a community of learners

He whakatipu hapori ākonga



Term 4 Week 4

Dear Whānau and School Community,

Welcome to this week's newsletter update. It is hard to believe that we only have six weeks left of the school year! Time is flying by, but there is still plenty of learning, growth, and celebration ahead as we push toward the finish line.

As we approach the end of the year, we will be saying a fond farewell to Miss Danielle Tippett (Room 11), who will be leaving us at the end of 2026. Danielle has been with Grantlea Downs School for the past two years, and it has been an absolute privilege to be her school of choice for the first two years of her teaching career. We are incredibly grateful for her commitment and excellent teaching during her time with us. While we will all miss her very much, we wish Miss Tippett all the very best for her new adventures!
We are currently advertising for this position and will inform the community once a new appointment is made in the near future.

Celebrating Our School Gala & Halloween Dress-Up

I want to extend a massive thank you to everyone who supported our fantastic School Gala! It was wonderful to see our school community come together, enjoy the stalls, and support our kura. A huge thanks goes out to our hard-working organisers, staff, and volunteers who made the day such a memorable success. Our recent Gala was an outstanding success, raising **$8,872.75** to date.
Adding to the excitement, our recent Halloween dress-up day was a hit! It was awesome to see the creativity, effort, and big smiles from our students (and staff!) as they showed off their incredible costumes.

Finishing the Year Strong: School Values & Whānau Support

With six weeks to go, we are asking all our students to put in the mahi so we can finish the year well. We want our tamariki to bring their best effort every single day—managing themselves, making good choices, and showing kindness to themselves, others, and our environment.
We would greatly appreciate your whānau support in having regular conversations at home about our school values and how your children are demonstrating them at school. As adults, the way we speak about our school and teachers plays a vital role in building a strong, uplifting environment. Speaking positively about our kura and your children's teachers goes a very long way in fostering a positive culture for everyone. As always, if you do have any concerns, we are always happy to listen and attend as best we can in order to best support your child.





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Mobile Phone Safety & Online Wellbeing

We have noticed an increasing number of phone-related issues outside school hours that are spilling into the school day. Unsafe or unkind phone interactions at home directly affect student wellbeing, peer relationships, and classroom performance.

Please take time to sit down with your child, review their phone use, and check who they are communicating with and what is being said. Reiterate to them that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or upset, they should immediately talk to a trusted adult. Safe communication habits start with open conversations at home.

School Policies & Road Safety

Concerns, Complaints & Code of Conduct: As a reminder, our Concerns and Complaints Policy and our Kura Code of Conduct are linked for your reference.

We encourage all whānau to familiarise themselves with these guidelines as we work together to maintain a respectful and supportive environment.

Road Safety: Please remind your tamariki about the importance of road safety. They should always use the designated pedestrian crossing, as it is by far the safest place to cross. Remind them to walk carefully on their journey to and from school and to keep a sharp eye out for cars reversing out of sneaky driveways.

Student Spotlight: SC Mountain Biking

Finally, a huge shoutout to Eli and Tyler, who recently represented Grantlea Downs School at the South Canterbury Mountain Biking event! Both boys put in an outstanding effort, rode with great determination, and represented our kura with pride. Ka rawe, boys!

Thank you all for your continued support as we head into these final weeks of term. Let's keep working together to make the end of the year fantastic for all our learners.

Ngā mihi nui,
Beth Wills
Principal
Growing a community of learners
He whakatipu hapori ākonga

