



T.G.S. Bulletin

ISSUE NO. 37

DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2009

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Senior/Intermediate Prizegiving
6:30pm, Wed 16 Dec

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School Ends 2009
12:30pm, Thu 17 Dec

School Starts 2010
8:50am, Thu 4 Feb

2010 Term Dates
Term 1: 4 Feb-1Apr
Term 2: 19 Apr-2 Jul
Term 3: 19 Jul-24 Sep
Term 4: 11 Oct.
(last day yet to be determined)

SCHOOL STATIONERY 2010

How exciting - all your stationery for 2010 can be ordered online & delivered direct to your door! Brochures will go home with students today so check it out!

Caretaker Rob Stone will be on site over the holiday period. However, if you see any suspicious activity at our school, contact Edge Security (PH 0800 359 657) or the Police. Our school grounds are for all to enjoy so let's look after them!

THE GARDENS SCHOOL

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MANUREWA
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reception@thegardens.school.nz

WEB ADDRESS:
www.thegardens.school.nz

"HELLO!" FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Dear Parents/Caregivers & Friends of the School:
Last Week I stood in for an All Black!**

At the Year 8 Graduation last week, our guest speaker, Mr Lelia Masaga, was unavailable at the last minute so I had to step in as the guest speaker. I modeled my speech on Bill Gates' advice to graduates, and was asked by some parents to make it available in print. So here we go, Mrs Fowler's advice to the Graduating Class of The Gardens School 2009:

1. Life is not fair - get used to it! You still cannot skateboard in the school grounds.
2. The world won't care about your self-esteem. You are at the end of your schooling where you will get certificates anyway.
3. If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss! When you get a bad report, you don't get paid. And don't be late - no late passes in life!
4. Once you finish school there will be no-one to remind you "have you got your phone/book/lunch/permission slip?" Start taking responsibility now and it will get easier.
5. Always clean your bedroom - not just when you want something! Parents will smile and reach for their wallets when they find the Ministry of Health has removed the 'BIOHAZARD' sign from your door!
6. Have a go at everything you think is safe. Every chance, every opportunity, every sport - just be ready for the wear and tear on your body if you choose the 'every sport' option.
7. Your parents are the only ones you have. Look after them and listen to them, even when you think you know better. They will never dump you, divorce you or sue you. They love you even when you are difficult.
8. Don't throw around too many "I hate you!" phrases because parents have long memories next time you want something ... you know how the rest goes.
9. Parents being 'so embarrassing' is just part of life. You are the only one noticing, your friends probably just think they are cooler than their own 'so embarrassing' parents.
10. You will not die if you don't get to watch that show on TV. You will not die if you have to unstack the dishwasher one more time. You will not die if you cannot go out with your mates.
11. Be careful of fashion. Pants down under your bottom has been in fashion for 50 years (mostly with plumbers, builders and truck drivers). I was at university when skinny jeans were in ... well, let's just say it starts with the SKINNY part. Listen to your parents - they have been dressing for a couple of decades before you started.
12. Be nice to teachers. We have the memory of an elephant. When you see us in the street in years to come, and think "she won't remember who I am" - we do! And what you wrote about us, and how your pants came down when you dived in the pool and that you were caught picking your nose or how you stroked the junior teacher's shoes and legs when you were little and told her you loved her. Just say hello and tell us how you are getting on. We are interested, we have played a major part in your life ... and we do care.

Best wishes to you all during this holiday period; celebrate & share in many happy times, enjoy & look after each other, take care & we'll see you next year!

SUSANNAH FOWLER, PRINCIPAL

THINKING OF LISTING YOUR HOUSE?

CONTACT HARCOURTS REAL ESTATE, MENTION THE GARDENS SCHOOL,
& THE SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE A PERCENTAGE FROM THE SALE!

CALL DAN HEWES (MANAGER), HARCOURTS REAL ESTATE - PH 267 8900 FOR MORE DETAILS

2009 HIGHLIGHTS

(to name but a few!)

TO OUR STUDENTS

Thank you to everyone who helped in the organization of our Year 7 & 8 Ball held a few weeks ago. The red carpet was out, 'paparazzi' were on the scene, & our young ladies & gentlemen were dressed to impress! A great night had by all!

Thanks also to pupils, families & school staff who attended the Year 8 Graduation Dinner last week as a 'final' get-together to formally acknowledge their contributions to our school as Intermediate students.

It is also a poignant time for a number of Year 8 students who began their schooling here as Foundation Pupils in January 2002 when The Gardens School first opened :
Rachel Lee, Shannon McGurk,
Devitra Moodley, Jordan Papa
& Gabrielle Westerlund
along with other Year 8 students who commenced at The Gardens later in 2002:
Joshua Earl-Peacock, Komalpreet Kaur,
Reece Otway & Jordan Symes.

We wish all our Year 8 students the very best as they near the end of their primary school days & prepare for the next step on to secondary school.

To those who are not returning next year, always perform at the highest in all you do & say, & remember your time here as a member of The Gardens School Family.

- * Introduction of new school uniform
- * Y7/8 Boys Softball 2nd in Manurewa
- * T.G.S Market Gala
- * Filming of the T.G.S Skoolstars Music DVD
- * Y7/8 Cricket Counties Zone Runners-Up
- * Mrs Kaye Vincent (Huia 1 Teacher) to Argentina on an AFS/MOE Language Immersion Award
- * Box-Car Derby Meet
- * New classrooms - Ruru 2 & Weka 1
- * Y7 Boys Soccer Counties Winners; 5th at Auckland Champs
- * Participation in U.N.S.W Examinations
- * Shows - 'A Goblin's Tale', 'Funky Fairytales', 'HopSkotch HipHop'
- * Introduction of bike riding - 'Ride with Pride' - to & from school
- * Mayor Len Brown as our 'Principal for a Day'
- * Wearable Arts Extravaganza
- * Math-a-Thon
- * Y7/8 Boys Basketball 1st Central Counties
- * Y8 Girls Netball Winners of Counties Zone B-Grade
- * Y5/6 Athletics Champions M.P.S.S.A
- * Water Polo North Island B-Grade Champs, Counties Cup & League Winners
- * Auckland Intermediate School Touch Champions
- * Y5 Touch Winners for Manurewa
- * TGS Netball & Touch Teams in after-school & Sat. tournaments
- * Bi-Annual exchange with Wodonga School, Melbourne
- * Cultural Assembly
- * Numeracy Paper undertaken by Staff through AKL University
- * Individual students who have represented either themselves, our school or sporting club in local & national competitions in many sporting areas
- * Huia 1 Winners of You Tube Spanish Short Film competition (lucky recipients of \$200!)

THE GARDENS SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Avoid the queues of the back-to-school rush - purchase uniforms this year!

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOP HOURS

Tuesday 26th January 9:00am - 12:00pm

Thursday 28th January 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Tuesday 2nd February 9:00am - 12:00pm

Normal shop hours commence from Tuesday 4th February

Tuesday (8:30-9:00am) Thursdays (2:45-3:15pm)

Orders can be placed at the School Office outside of Shop hours
Cash, Cheques & Eftpos accepted - no credit card facilities available

Any questions please contact Fiona Goldfinch (PH 267 0709)

DENTAL SERVICES DURING HOLIDAY PERIOD

Services are provided free to all pre-school, primary & intermediate school children.

For details of the nearest school dental clinic open during the holiday period, please contact

**0800 4 DENTAL
(0800 433 6825).**

A list of open clinics is also available at www.ards.co.nz.

DONATIONS WANTED!

T.G.S Grey Jackets

If you are leaving us at the end of the year & have a TGS grey jacket that is no longer required, we would greatly appreciate any donations for this as we would like to use them as part of our inter-school sports uniform for 2010.

To students who represented our school at sporting tournaments this year, please check around your house as we are still missing about ten interschool sports uniforms. Please ensure you have returned yours!



Hospice South Auckland Christmas Carols

7 pm Monday

21 December

You are invited to join us
and the South Auckland Choral Society
for carol singing,
followed by light refreshments

at
Totara Lodge
140 Charles Prevost Drive, Manurewa