

Nau mai haere mai Tony, Rafi and Rhiczel.

All new whānau to our kura are invited to our pōwhiri this Friday at 9:15.

Fakaalofa Atu and welcome to Term 4. This is always a super busy and exciting term at GEPS and we have lots planned.

Many of you will have noticed that we have lots of temporary fencing around. The safety of our students is always a priority for us and we are exploring the possibility of permanent fencing around our school. This is because we are so close to a busy road and a train station and we currently have at least 7 open exit points. For now we are trialling three entrance/exit points which will all have "pool latch" type gates. The gates will be opened every morning and then closed at 9. They will be opened again at the end of the day. The permanent fences will be at the boundary of the property when installed. We welcome any feedback you have on how you are finding the change. Please note that gates are being installed as soon as possible to make entry easier.

There are yet more fences around the senior playground as work begins to get our old playground demolished and our new one installed.

Many of you will have read about schools choosing to opt into the government donation scheme. For next year the BOT at GEPS has decided that we will opt in. This means that there will be no school donations next year and no charge for trips for the year.

We will be using the Skool Loop app from this term on for communications. We will eventually be sending home permission slips and the like through this app. There is a way for whānau to be able to sign slips via this app without the need to return a paper copy. This app can be used to send absent notes to the office too.

We are excited about being involved with the Magpies Softball Club who began coaching 19 of our students after school yesterday. They will continue this programme for this term and for the first term of 2020. We have one space left for a Year 4 or 5 student. Please see me if you would like your tamariki involved.

I trust that many of you had a good time with whānau over the holidays. I began a postgraduate course in digital technology with Heather Dellow and Kathryn Arbon which was two days of learning for us. I also managed to catch some fish, surf some waves, enjoyed whānau time and loved just being Nana and Auntie Donna. Hopefully summer appears at GEPS soon so we can get both water and students back in the pool.

Ngā mihi mahana

Donna Soljan

Dates for your Calendar 2019

Friday 18 October	9:15am Pōwhiri 2:15pm Assembly Kelifest Performers
Monday 21 October	Photolife - Class & Individual Photos
Friday 25 October	Kelifest - GEPS performing 1:30 - 2:00pm 2:15pm Assembly R12
Monday 28 October	Labour Day - School Closed
Tuesday 29 October	Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6:30pm
Wednesday 30 October	Inter-school girls football
Thursday 31 October	Inter-school boys football
Friday 1 November	2:15pm Assembly R16
Thursday 7 November	Interschool Tag Day
Friday 8 November	2:15pm Assembly R10
Wednesday 13 November	Kiwi team to Kiwi Valley
Thursday 14 November	School Discos
Friday 15 November	Senior School Athletic Day 2:15pm No assembly
Thursday 21 November	Junior School Athletics Day
Friday 22 November	Out of Zone enrolments close - ballot to be completed 2:15pm Assembly R15
Monday 25 November	Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6:30pm
Friday 29 November	2:15pm Assembly R1

