



Glen Eden Primary School

26 May 2020 - Week 7 - Newsletter Number 14

Nau mai haere mai Caroline, Emma and Nessaria.

Talofa lava and welcome to Samoan language week. The theme for Samoa Language week is 'Tapena sou ōso mo lau malaga' which in English means 'Prepare yourself a gift for your travels'. This year's theme urges us to prepare for the journey ahead. It highlights the need to honour, respect and share the gifts of our life's journey. At GEPS this week there are lots of activities including Samoan stories, kilikiti, ula lolo making, siva and lots of other things. Over 20% of our students identify as Samoan so it is great to already have experts in our school.

We are still loving having tamariki back at our kura and are encouraged by how many of our students are back. We started last Monday with only 67% of students attending but then had up to 88% back on subsequent days last week. We continue to encourage students to maintain physical distance, sanitise and wash hands. Fa'afetai lava to all our fanau who have kept children home if they are sick.

Eid Mubarak wishes to all of our families who celebrated this week. We were thinking of you.

This is our first digital only newsletter - you can still receive a paper copy from the office should you want one.

As we remain in Level 2 we are still required to contact trace everyone who comes onto the school grounds. For this reason we ask that all parents who need to be onsite only enter and exit through the school office and use our sign in/out tablet.

Gates will still be monitored by a staff member and locked outside of drop off and pick up times. A reminder that early pickups are OPTIONAL for Kiwi students (2:30), Takahē students (2:45). And their siblings. Please email me on donnas@geps.school.nz and I will update our school wide document if you wish to ensure that your child is at the correct gate at the correct time.

A reminder that SKIDS are operating before and after school care and can be contacted on 027 267 8609 or at gleneden@skids.co.nz

This week's Proud PPPP are all the children who had a birthday during Lockdown. They will join together to have a pizza on Friday for a belated celebration.

It has been a sad few weeks for us at GEPS. I would like to acknowledge the passing of Si Bhai who was a parent at our kura. We send aroha to Leela, Kaiya and Mali-Rose.

Lastly I would like to acknowledge the passing of an ex pupil - Portia De Luen. Portia and her sister Ocean attended our kura from the age of 5. Portia excelled at art, was a school leader and was loved by all of the staff who had the pleasure of knowing her. Summar, Portia's mum, has been on our BOT for the last five years and is a valued and much loved parent in our community. James, Portia's Dad has helped the school in many ways too over their time here. James-Ray, Portia's younger brother, still attends our kura. We have visited the whānau over the past week offering our aroha and our support. We have taken koha on behalf of all our GEPS whānau and will continue to collect money for this at the office or via online banking for those who may still wish to contribute.

James, Summar, Ocean and James-Ray - Anei mātou e tuku ana i te aroha ki a kōutou i tēnei wā hinapouri.

Moe mai rā e Portia, moe mai rā.



Donna Soljan

June 1st - Queens Birthday - School is closed.