

INSPIRE

CHALLENGE

EMPOWER



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Newsletter Date: 5 February 2021

Issue 1

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A very warm welcome to you all, and a special welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 8 families who have joined us for 2021. I hope you all enjoyed your family time over the summer break. I used the time to reflect on 2020 and think about the challenge that was, and still is, COVID-19. I often found myself thankful for the fact that I live in New Zealand and could enjoy a 'usual' summer break with family and friends. So many of us have family and friends overseas that are currently experiencing a tough time.

I am very excited about 2021 and I know it is going to be a great year for our teachers and learners. Our roll has again increased and we now have 12 classrooms plus 6 specialist teachers. The staff started the year with a series of Teacher Only Days with a focus on professional learning. This is essential to ensure that we are delivering the best education for your community. As teachers at Glenfield Intermediate, we are committed to improving our practice and working with our community to ensure all students meet their potential.

### Powhiri

Many thanks to all the parents and caregivers who joined us for the powhiri on Wednesday. It was great to see whanau supporting their children. I spoke at the powhiri about the importance of the home/school partnership. We have an open door policy at GIS so please do not hesitate to contact one of our staff if you wish to discuss anything.

GIS School App



### GIS is a PB4L School

Our purpose is to encourage students to take responsibility for themselves by providing a consistent, positive approach to behaviour.

#### At GIS we value:

- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Relationships
- ◆ Resilience

### 2021 Upcoming Dates

**Tuesday 9 February**  
Sports Registration Evening

**Wednesday 10 February**  
Road Patrol Training

**Monday 15 February**  
Board of Trustees Meeting

### 2021 Term Dates

#### Term 1

3 February - 16 April  
9 February - Waitangi Day (Observed)  
2 April - 6 April - Easter

#### Term 2

3 May - 9 July  
7 June - Queens Birthday

#### Term 3

26 July - 1 October

#### Term 4

18 October - 14 December  
25 October - Labour Day



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Phone: 09 4446582  
Email: [enquiries@glenfieldint.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@glenfieldint.school.nz)  
Office hours—8am-3.30pm

### Staff changes for 2021

We are very excited to announce the following new staff for 2021.

1. Jon Pickford is an experienced teacher with strengths in music, sport and performance. He will be our Performing Arts teacher as well as taking our kapa haka and music groups (rock bands etc).
2. Maureen Mason is an experienced teacher who has returned from overseas. Maureen will be leading Team Koru and teaching in Room 13. Maureen has a passion for the environment and sustainability.
3. Aimee Campbell is an experienced teacher coming to us from Balmoral School. She will be leading Team Manaia and teaching Room 9. Aimee brings an enthusiasm for literacy and sports.
4. Margarita Thompson is an experienced teacher who was teaching at Birkdale Intermediate in 2020. Margarita has strengths in literacy and is passionate around celebrating cultural diversity.
5. Lovely Maralit is joining the staff after previously teaching at Northcote Intermediate. Lovely enjoys the outdoors and is excited to add to the culture at GIS.
6. Helen Williams is our new Office Manager and will be working closely with Fi and Tony in the administration area. Helen has previously been the office manager at a school in Nelson and is very excited about joining the team at GIS and immersing herself in our community.

### Other changes

Tracey Newton (nee Pickford) is the new Room 4 classroom teacher after working in the specialist team last year. Tracey will still be involved with the performing arts programme taking extension groups and classes on Mondays.

### COVID-19 reminders

There is still a very real risk of COVID-19 spreading if we do not take the necessary precautions. A reminder about what we are doing at GIS, and what we need families to do to ensure the safety of all our staff, learners and wider community.

Teachers are regularly reinforcing these messages with the students:

- Good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette
- Keeping the appropriate physical distance from others (in class this means no touching each other and keeping out of breathing distance)
- Cleaning and disinfecting our high touch surfaces daily
- Staying away if sick (students and staff)
- Any adult that is not a staff member **should** do some form of contact tracing and we strongly suggest you use the Covid-19 tracer app. All visitors **MUST** report to the office.

Unite  
against  
COVID-19

### School Donation Scheme:

Glenfield Intermediate has opted into the Government's donation scheme for 2021. We have received \$150 per student for the number of students we had on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 (the MOE uses this figure on this date to determine how much money and how many allocated teachers a school will get for the following year). The \$150 per student provided by the Ministry of Education is to cover donations and compulsory school trips and events. However there is a small technology fee (\$50) to cover the take home component on the programme.

If your child wants to participate in an extracurricular sport where fees are required then this is not covered under the new donation scheme and parents will have to pay for these. You will also be required to buy a sports uniform for extracurricular sports.

### Communicating with parents

The school uses several ways of communicating information to parents -

- ◇ Website - [www.glenfieldint.school.nz](http://www.glenfieldint.school.nz)
- ◇ **School App** - The school website includes our School App. To ensure you receive all the latest updates/notices/alerts, please download the app either by scanning the QR code on the front of the newsletter or by using the link on the school website. This will take you to **KiwiSchools Connect**, download the **KiwiSchools Connect App** from the App Store or Play Store. Search for Glenfield Intermediate. When prompted, select - subscribe to all.
- ◇ Email notices to parents via School SMS system - **NOTE:** if you have recently changed your email address, please contact the school office with your email address.
- ◇ Facebook - Glenfield Intermediate School
- ◇ Twitter - GlenfieldIntNz

**Note: Absences can be notified directly through our website or by leaving a message on the school absence line.**

### BYOD (Bring Their Own Device)

Several parents have asked me about digital learning at GIS. Each classroom has a number of school devices that all students will have access to. Additionally students are welcome to 'Bring Their Own Device' to school as all our classrooms are wireless BYOD learning environments. The school uses the N4L (Network for Learning) filtering system to monitor student access over the net. Please ensure your child has completed the BYOD form before they bring their device to school.

### Cultural groups

One of our key focus areas this year is to establish as many cultural groups as possible to celebrate the diversity that we have at Glenfield Intermediate. If you, or any family member would be willing to assist the school with running performance groups for a particular ethnic group, please contact Margie Thompson (Room 11) [mthompson@glenfieldint.school.nz](mailto:mthompson@glenfieldint.school.nz)

### Uniform Standards

A reminder that all students attending Glenfield Intermediate are required to wear the official school uniform when travelling to, attending and returning from school. All students are expected to be clean and neatly dressed. Please ensure that you name all uniform items in bold so that misplaced items can be easily recognised.

Students may not wear make-up or nail polish. The only jewellery allowed is a pair of plain gold or silver stud earrings to be worn in the ears, and a watch.

### Road Safety

A reminder that students need to be dropped off and picked up from the Chivalry Rd gate. Please do not drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick up your child. We have a number of school vans and buses on site at these times, and additional vehicles in the carpark create a serious safety issue for our students.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of Glenfield Intermediate as we strive to inspire, challenge and empower our community.

Mark Whitford  
Principal



GIS is a member of SchoolTV

## Depression, Anxiety, Cyberbullying, Drugs, Alcohol...

Some of the challenges faced by today's parents.



SchoolTV is a new resource designed to inform and support parents on major issues with contributions from Australia's leading experts.

It's never been more challenging for parents to raise happy, healthy and resilient children. Like never before, parents need to be informed with clear, fact-based information on the many challenges faced by today's youth. Topics such as youth anxiety, depression, self-harm, drug and alcohol use, cyberbullying and many others need clear explanation and guidance.

SchoolTV is a new ongoing resource that is now available to our GIS parents. Each edition will address a major topic with expert interviews, fact sheets, parent quiz, recommended apps, books and much more. SchoolTV aggregates information from many great resources such as BeyondBlue and ReachOut, amongst others. SchoolTV provides a single stream of independent factual information that saves parents time and confusion of searching online across multiple sites for information.

You can access the SchoolTV archive here: <https://glenfieldint.nz.schooltv.me/category-latest-newsletter>

### School App

The school website now includes our School App. To ensure you receive all the latest updates/notices/alerts, please download the new App by using the link on the school website or via the QR code.

These will take you to KiwiSchools Connect, download the KiwiSchoolsConnect App from the App Store or Play Store. Search for Glenfield Intermediate. When prompted select – Subscribe to all.



### Absences

A reminder that the school must be notified if your child is going to be absent from school. Please inform the office before 9.15am. Failure to do this adds a huge workload on our office staff who have to contact parents/caregivers if we have not been notified of an absence. Notification of an absence can be done by either phoning 4446582, and leaving a message on the Absence line, via our "Glenfield Connect" on our website [www.glenfieldint.school.nz](http://www.glenfieldint.school.nz).

If no notification is received advising of the absence, you will receive a text message from the office, please make sure you respond to this message.

### **Sports Registration Evening**

On Tuesday 9th of February we will be having our annual sports registration evening in the staffroom. You can attend anytime between 5pm and 7pm. This is an excellent opportunity for you to find out about the various sports we offer, and register your child. We will also have payment facilities available and uniforms which can be fitted for sizing purposes.

We are offering netball, basketball, hockey, touch and water polo this year. However, entry is dependent on the number of students interested. As well as these after school competitions, we attend sports zone days (held during school time) allowing us to compete in many other sporting codes.

Glenfield Intermediate will also be sending a team of 35 students to the Totara Springs Sports Camp in September. This is an awesome week of sport where the students compete in over 30 different sports. You will be able to register an interest in your child attending sports camp on the registration evening.

To ensure that we are able to provide these opportunities for the students, we require parent support as coaches, managers and umpires. Please think about whether you would be able to volunteer in some way. Without adequate support, we may not be able to enter teams.

Sport is a very important aspect of intermediate and I hope to see many of you on Tuesday evening.

