



Domestic International Families Newsletter

Term One, 2021

Kia ora, Bonjour, Hola, Zdravstvuyte, Guten Tag, 你好, Olá, Assalamualaikum, Selamat siang, Namaskar, こんにちは, 안녕하세요, hello and welcome to our first GHS Domestic International Families Newsletter.

The purpose of these termly newsletters is to connect with our domestic international community, those families of Gulf Harbour School who have moved to New Zealand and make up a special part of our school whanau (family). Many of you responded to a survey that I sent out late last year and from your responses the school has made many exciting plans for 2021.

Whanau Connect Days: Thank you to everyone who made time to meet with their child's classroom teacher during our Whanau Connect Meetings. Many parents had indicated that they would like more opportunities to talk with the teachers and I know that the teachers all found these meetings very helpful in getting to know the children and families.

Getting to know our area

Shakespear Regional Park - Our local regional park was originally occupied by a sub-tribal group, Ngati Kahu. Their main settlement was between Te Haruhi Bay and Army Bay, where fortified pa (hill fort) protected the area. There are still remains of early Maori activity in places around the area. The park is named after the Shakespear family, who were connected to this land from the late 1800s until the Auckland Regional Council acquired it in 1967. The Shakespear family built a large homestead on the hill overlooking Te Haruhi Bay around 1910 which is today run by the YMCA as Shakespear Lodge.

Shakespear Regional Park is an open sanctuary: a mainland sanctuary where existing native species can recover in the absence of pest animals but in the presence of human visitors. Some native species you may encounter in the park include, kereru, tui, pukekohe, and some birds from nearby island reserve, Tiritiri Matangi, such as kakariki and bellbirds are finding the park a good place to live.

The eradication program at Shakespear aims to eliminate ten species of pest mammals; brushtail possum, cat, ferret, stoat, weasel, ship rat, Norway rat, house mouse, European rabbit and European hedgehog. Currently the only species remaining are mice (and possibly rabbits). Organisations such as SOSI and Forest and Bird are working to provide safety to our native species in the area.

GHS Domestic International Families Group Walk - Saturday, March 20th

Would you be interested in exploring Shakespear Regional Park on a social walk with other families from GHS? Come along, enjoy the beauty of our local environment and meet some other families from our fantastic school. Meet at the Waterfall Gully Carpark (not the Shakespear driveway, the one slightly further along on the right) at 10:30am. Pack some morning tea and water and we will walk together to the lookout. If you have any questions please email me: r.wong@ghs.school.nz



Domestic International Parent Ambassadors:

Meet our GHS Domestic International Parent Ambassadors. They have all kindly volunteered to help the school by helping all of you. If you would like me to put you in contact with any of our ambassadors please email r.wong@ghs.school.nz

Karla Gandara



Hi! We are the Gandara Family from Mexico and speak both Spanish and English. We have been living in New Zealand a little less than a year and absolutely love it here!

¡Hola! Somos la familia Gandara. Venimos de México y somos una familia bilingüe, Español e Inglés. Tenemos viviendo en Nueva Zelanda poco menos de un año, lo suficiente para saber que amamos este lugar.

Xuan Yu



We come from China originally. We came to NZ in 2002 and we have been living here for 13 years altogether. We can speak English and Mandarin. Gulf Harbour is an amazing place to live . We love to take our dog for a walk along many lovely beaches. The kids love swimming and playing paddle-board in the sea.

我们是2002年第一次来到美丽的新西兰，到目前为止已经在这里居住超过13年。这里已经是我们的第二故乡。我们会讲普通话和英语。Gulf Harbour 是一个风景美丽，非常宜居的社区。我们经常在这个半岛的很多海滩遛狗，孩子们喜欢在海里游泳，玩皮划艇。

Alia Kapoor



My name is Alia Kapoor. I was born in Bangalore, India. I spent my childhood and most of my young adult life there after which I lived in London for a while. I moved to New Zealand to join my husband. We have lived here for over 15 years now and absolutely love it. We have 2 boys aged 9 and 5. We like the outdoors and hence enjoy travelling, camping, going to the beach, swimming and playing golf and tennis. I can speak Hindi which is the national language of India. But I must confess I'm not the most fluent having lived overseas a lot.

मेरा नाम आलिया है मे भारत से हु मेरे पति यहाँ मेरे साथ रहते हैं मेरे 2 बच्चे हैं मेरी हिंदी अच्छी नहीं है मेरा परिवार भारत में है

Would you like to become a Domestic International Parent Ambassador for GHS? We would love to add to our group and we would especially like to offer a South African Ambassador for the school. Please email r.wong@ghs.school.nz if you are interested or would like to find out more.

Important Dates this Term

Event	Date
New Families to GHS Picnic Dinner	Thursday 18th February
Teacher Only Day (<i>School is closed</i>)	Friday 5th March
Shakespear Family Walk	Saturday 20th March
Good Friday (<i>School is closed</i>)	Friday 2nd April
Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday (<i>School is closed</i>)	Monday 5th April and Tuesday 6th April
Celebration of Learning - open classrooms	Wednesday 14th April
Teacher Only Day (<i>School is closed</i>)	Friday 16th April

Kind Regards, Rebecca Wong, International Cultural Lead Teacher

