

CORDONTON SCHOOL

Woodlands Rd, RD 1, Hamilton

Ph 07 824 3602 Fax 07 8243605 Mobile 027 482 4360

Email: admin@gordonton.school.nz Website: www.gordonton.school.nz

Proudly supporting our local School

Call Aaron & Stacey
The Waikato Lifestyle Specialists
Proudly Supporting Your School
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Stacey Leven 027 404 7595
aaron.davey@harcourts.co.nz
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19 February, 2019

Gordonton School

Newsletter

TĒNA KOUTOU,

School has settled into something of a routine quickly. Learning programmes are in full swing and as I visit classrooms the children are engaged on rich learning tasks, happy in their work with busy noise everywhere. Combatting the temperature is something of a challenge and in some rooms the temperature soars to 30 degrees. The teachers are doing all they can to minimise this with windows open and ceiling fans on full power. I taught in a couple of rooms last week and we were all feeling the warmth.

I took a walk around the school at lunchtime on Monday and I was pleased to see our Gordonton kids outside and enjoying the environment. Mrs Rogers was supervising a lunchtime swim in the pool and a bunch of boys had organised a cricket game on the turf. (See pictures).

Special thanks goes to Blair Sweetman our caretaker. With so many kids through the pool daily it's not easy to keep the water in tip top shape. Blair manages it very well and the water is always clean and fresh.

Also a reminder - no assembly this Friday.



Chromebooks

50 new student chromebooks arrived at school the other day. These were purchased by the Board to further extend our digital capability in the classrooms and we will get these into the hands of the students as soon as we can. I'm grateful that the BOT supports the use of technology to support learning in the school and we will be working very hard to embed responsible and creative use of the technology in the school.



Playground

The people have spoken! After the Board and PTA authorised the funds to be spent I gave the students a say in what they would like to add to the Junior playground after we had to remove the old steel slide and fireman's pole under Health and Safety. They overwhelmingly voted for a custom made 'corkscrew' slide and this will be accompanied by a climbing wall. I have ordered the equipment and it should be installed within 6 weeks.

My thanks to the PTA for donating their raised funds to make this happen. Over time we will replace the playground completely and these new items will be transferred to that, but in the meantime the children will have some exciting new additions while we busily raise the required funds. At the moment the playground looks a bit uninviting.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

Gordonton is starting this programme in 2019. It is a global way of dealing with behaviour that centres around restorative practices, relationships all encompassing values. It will replace the old 'Rights and Responsibilities' model and look at dealing with behaviour in the school in a positive manner. This is not a soft option by any stretch and the children will do a lot of learning around what a value looks like in practice. I've used it in other schools and it works if everyone commits to it.

I attended a Principal's workshop on this model last week and was impressed at the content. Our teachers are doing their first training session tonight at a staff meeting - the programme requires a 3 year commitment from the school and is very well funded.

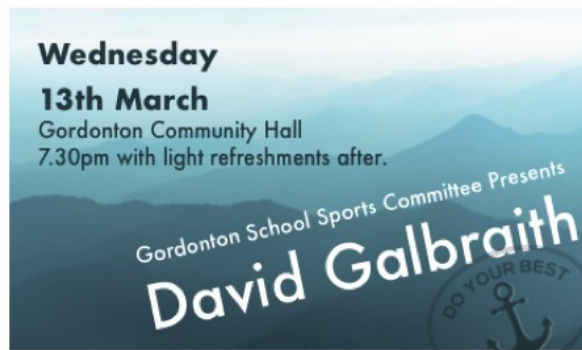


Student Leaders

We have 10 Student Council positions available this year and 19 of our year 8s have applied for them. The calibre is very high. They have had to submit a CV and cover letter and will get an interview this week. After that we will have the hard job of selecting the council. I have been talking them through the process, giving them experience for the day when they start seeking employment. By the next newsletter I will be able to introduce the 2019 Student Council to you. After that we move on to the house leaders and other positions of responsibility.

Dr David Galbraith - Sports psychologist

The Gordonton Sports Committee has secured the talents of Dr Galbraith to host a talk in the Gordonton Hall on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm. If you are a parent who shares aspirations with your child in sport this is a must see. His credentials are impressive as is his professional endeavours in sport. See Flyer for more information.



Parent interviews

Next Monday and Tuesday the teachers are hosting parent conferences to discuss and set the students' goals for the year. We need your input on this so I urge you to attend a 10 minute slot. If you missed the instructions in last weeks newsletter they are repeated here. Log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and use the code h549y. Find your child's teacher and book your time.

We will be ringing a bell every ten minutes during this time to signal the beginning and end of interviews. Please enter and leave on the bell so others behind you aren't held up.

During the interviews we will also be confirming your details for the school record and getting you to sign an internet use agreement in respect of your child. These need to be resigned every year as a reminder and encouragement to keep our kids safe in the online environment.

I'm also hoping to have joining instructions for our SeeSaw home-school reporting/portfolio system available then as well. Lots to get through in 10 mins but the goal setting is the priority. The admin happens if time allows.

Also, a reminder that next Monday we are finishing at 12.25 to allow for Interviews to start. The buses run at the normal time and any children that need to be at school for the afternoon will be ably cared for by our learning assistants while teachers are in conferences.

PTA

Last week I attended the PTA meeting and was impressed with the vigour and enthusiasm of the parents who gathered. Our PTA work very hard to bring those 'Nice to Have' experiences to the school setting. This year they have the Harvest Festival and Art Auction among the big fundraisers and the Ice Skating Rink is making a return to the school later in the year! If you would like to be part of the PTA, drop an email to the office and we'll put you in touch with the right people. It's a fun way to help the school. Check out the PTA calendar later in the newsletter.

Speed Signs

Im happy to say our 40kph school speed restriction signs are going again and that will greatly protect the safety of our families especially during pick up and drop off. They come on automatically at the start and end of the day.

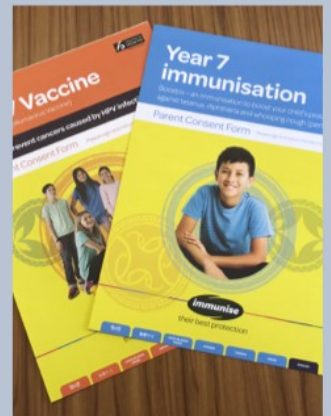
Last week I attended the Gordonton District Committee meeting where the Deputy Mayor Dynes Fulton announced that the District Council intends to lower the speed limit of all Gordonton Streets (Except State Highway 1B) to 50kph. This is great for the community. Anything that makes our streets safer for the community is fine by me. Safer communities together.

The weather tonight said rain by the weekend. Looking around everything is pretty brown. Here's hoping it's true. Have a great week everyone.

Keith O'Donnell
Principal.

Immunisation Forms

Our Year 7 and 8 students had an information session yesterday about immunisations. They took home an immunisation form for you to fill out. This form must be completed and returned to the office regardless of whether your child is having their immunisation at school or not. We would appreciate it if you could return these forms as soon as possible.



Education outside the classroom (EOTC)

The meeting for EOTC originally scheduled for this Wednesday Has been postponed until the following Wednesday (27th Feb) as I am unavailable on this day.



HELP PLEASE

The Intermediate Team are preserving the peaches from our peach trees and would love it if anyone could donate preserving jars and lids to help us out. If you can help, please pass them on to Room 1 and 2. Thank you!

WHAT'S COMING UP

February 18 Year 7 & 8 Immunisation education
 25 Parent Conferences 1pm—7pm
 26 Parent Conferences 3pm—5pm

March 6 Hearing & Vision test for year 7/8
 18 Year 7 & 8 Immunisation
 29 Class Photos
 12 Term 1 ends

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- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission slips



Simple free download:
 In Google Play and App Store search 'Skool Loop' and choose our school once installed.




Wednesday 13th March
 Gordonton Community Hall
 7.30pm
 Tickets \$20

Gordonton School Sports Committee Presents

David Galbraith

David Galbraith is a clinical psychologist, with 17 years of experience in his field. In the past 10 years, he has shifted his focus towards sports psychology, working with some of New Zealand's most talented athletes. He is the current sports psychologist with the Chiefs Super Rugby Team (7 years), All Blacks Rugby 7s team (5 years), the NZ Women's Sevens team (4 years), the NZ BMX team (5 years), NZ Women's Football team (4 years) and NZ Golf team (7 years). He worked with the Magic netball team during 2012 and 2013. He is also working with a number of individual elite Olympic athletes.



His focus is on assisting both teams and individuals express themselves as truly as possible. He believes strongly in the present moment, and encourages people to fully commit to, and relish, the process involved in reaching an outcome, rather than focussing on the tangible outcome itself.

Tickets available through email:
tickets@gordonton.school.nz

Gordonton School

Harvest Festival 2019

Come one, come all to the Gordonton School Harvest Festival!!

Bring family and friends to this great event

28 March 2019 – 5.00pm to 8.30pm



Enjoy music, games and great food

- Scarecrow Competition (family event)
- Pumpkin Growing Competition
- Cake Decorating Competition
- Junior Classes – Sand Saucer Decorating
- Middle Classes – Decorate a Boot
- Senior Classes – Natural Art (wood, shells, feathers, fur)
- Intermediate Classes – Photography Competition
- Music and performances
- Games
- Stalls - \$15.00 per stall (please contact Debbie r-dhawkins@hotmail.com to book a stall site)
- Vintage Vehicle Display (please contact Stacey bsvanderdrift@gmail.com to arrange)
- BBQ dinner and drinks available
- More to come!!

All funds raised will be going towards upgrading the playground

DRINKS

MILK

Reduced/low fat milk is a great EVERYDAY choice. It contains calcium which helps our teeth and bones to grow healthy and strong. Flavoured milks contain calcium but have added sugar so are NOT everyday drinks.



Developed by Sport Waikato 2019

FROM OUR PTA

PTA – Last week, the PTA Committee met to discuss fundraising activities for the year. The aim is to raise funds to support the upgrade of the playground in the middle of the school.

We are holding the biennial Harvest Festival on the 28th of March and this will be a great event for the whole family and community. We have games, music and food. There will be a BBQ dinner, plenty of awesome games and class competitions. There will also be a Cake Decorating Competition, a Scarecrow Competition and a Large Pumpkin Competition (seeds given out last year).

We would also like to have a vintage vehicle display, so if you have vintage cars, vintage trucks or vintage tractors, please contact Stacey at bsvanderdrift@gmail.com to arrange a site booking

We will also have stalls at the event – if you are keen for a stall site, please contact Debbie at r-dhawkins@hotmail.com (stalls are \$15.00 per site and please note that this is not for garage sale items)

More information to follow next month.

We will also be running the Easter Raffle, which will be drawn before the end of the term. We'd like to ask for donations of Easter items to be sent to school for these raffles (see notice).

In Term Two, we are hosting the biennial Art Auction on the 20th of June – if you are a budding artist and wish to donate any items for the auction, please contact Rhianna on 021 511 995. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to donate any art items for auction, please contact Rhianna with this information.

In Term Three, we have secured the Ice Skating Rink from the 18th of September to the 21st of September. We will also be hosting an adult Curling night, which no doubt, will be hilarious!

Term Four – watch this space.

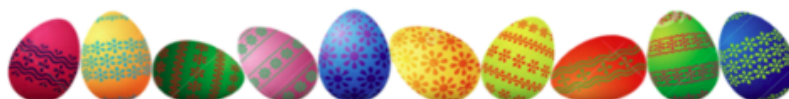
All are welcome to attend our meetings and any help for these events are greatly appreciated.

Gordonton School Easter Raffle 2019

It's that time of year again!! The Gordonton School PTA are running an Easter Raffle and we are looking for lots of chocolate goodies!!

We would like to make plenty of great baskets to raffle off so are asking for donations of Easter items.

Please send items for the raffle to school – we will start selling tickets next month, with the draws taking place before the end of the term.



TAUPIRI JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH IN/REGISTRATION

Weigh in is to be held on the 3rd and the 10th of March (Sundays) from 12 - 2pm. It will be held at the Taupiri Rugby Clubrooms. If you are a new player could you please bring a photocopy of your birth cert/passport. We cater for 3 to 12 year old males and females. Fees can be paid on these days \$40 single or \$60 family.

For new and existing players you need to do some paper work on line before you come to weigh in please. All new players need to do is go to www.sporty.co.nz and then type in Taupiri Rugby Football Club then click on this and go to the junior section and fill out details don't worry about the photo or the weight section and then push submit at the end of the document.

Existing players hopefully have already received their pre-printed one just check details and then submit it. If you haven't received it please do a new one. Please make sure this form is done before you come to weigh in it saves a lot of waiting around for yourself and us.

Any queries please contact Leah Scott @ 0276869499 after work hours please. or leah5@xtra.co.nz

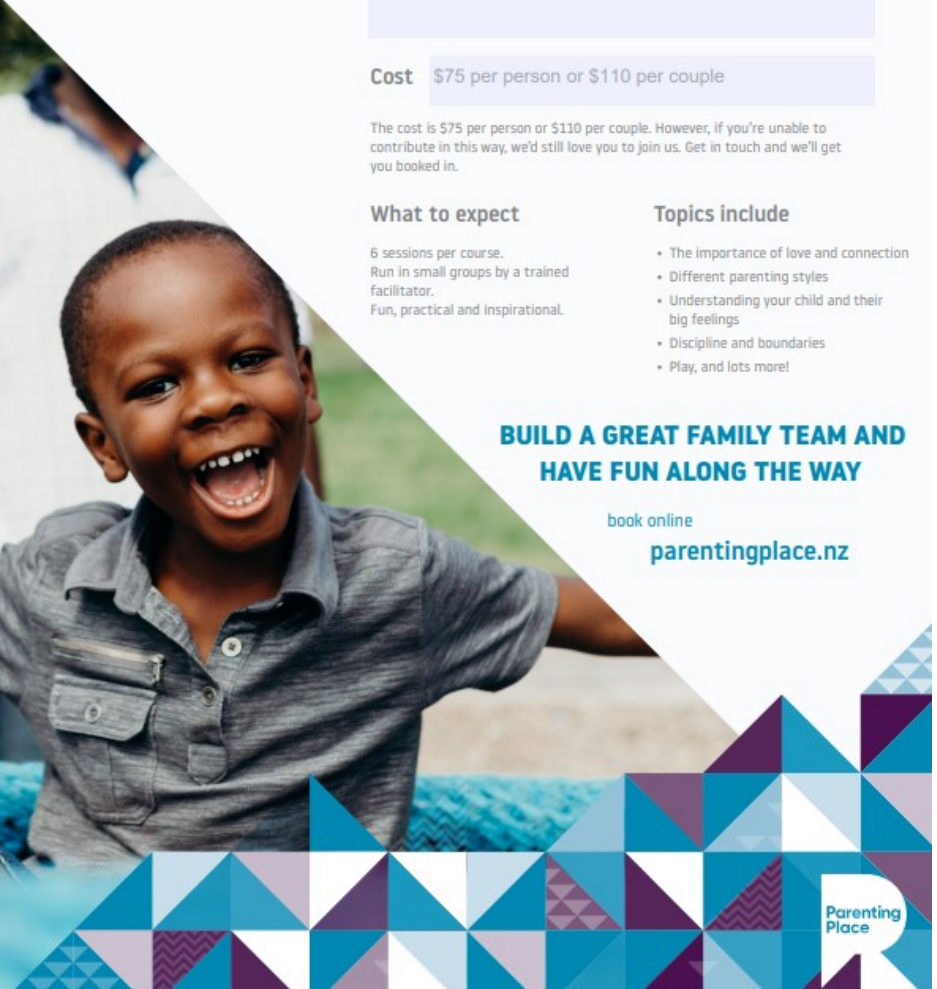

Mainly Music - music and fun for preschoolers and their mums/dads/caregivers. Mondays at 10am, Oaks Christian Centre, Gordonton.

Contact Jillian if you would like to know more 027 7751151

SUBURBS COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB

2019 JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH-IN

Sunday 3rd March 10am-2pm
At Suburbs Community Sports Club, Flagstaff Park, Commodore Ave, Hamilton
Ages 4-12 years, boys and girls all welcome
All new players are required to bring a birth certificate or passport
For further details go to www.hamiltonsuburbs.co.nz or contact
Brendon Stone 0274846013



PRIMARY YEARS 5-9

6 weekly sessions
Thursday's 28th Feb - 4th April
7:15pm - 9:15pm

Salvation Army 99 London St, Hamilton

Contact: Rachel Gower 0212258414 or email rachel.gower@xtra.co.nz

Cost \$75 per person or \$110 per couple

The cost is \$75 per person or \$110 per couple. However, if you're unable to contribute in this way, we'd still love you to join us. Get in touch and we'll get you booked in.

What to expect

6 sessions per course.
Run in small groups by a trained facilitator.
Fun, practical and inspirational.

Topics include

- The importance of love and connection
- Different parenting styles
- Understanding your child and their big feelings
- Discipline and boundaries
- Play, and lots more!

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HAVE FUN ALONG THE WAY**

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