



# GORDONTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Anchored in MANA - Manaakitanga - Awhina - Ngākau Pono - Ako



*Kia ora koutou,*

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you have all coped with the change to Level 3. We have had a small number of children return to school and have had 2 bubbles running to meet Ministry of Health guidelines. Thank you to the staff who have been at school to support not only the students but the parents so they may return to work.

## THIS WEEK'S WHAKATAUKI

**He āwhina, he aroha ngā  
miro tuitui i ngā  
haehaetanga a te mate.**

**Love and support knit  
together the lacerations of  
anguish.**



**BE SAFE  
BE KIND**



**PIEDAY FRIDAY**  
Keep an eye of  
Facebook



**AG DAY**  
Friday 22nd  
October



**BULL CALF  
FUNDRAISER**  
See below for  
details

## **Awhina-Supporting others to be the best they can be**

Today we welcome back Keith as he returns from recovery well and ready to get back into it.

I would like to thank all the staff and community for their support during Keith's time away, in particular, Grant who has stepped up as acting Deputy Principal and supported me through Lockdown and Dee who is always there to support and take on extra tasks that need doing when I'm a bit snowed under. Our team leaders have done a great job of stepping up and I'm very lucky to have such a wonderful team of people to work with, even if a lot of it was from a distance.

In other staffing news, Dynelle Smallwood has accepted an office admin position at Rototuna Junior High School. Dynelle has been a Teacher Aide at Gordonton for almost 7 years and has worked with many children along the way, supporting them in their learning.

Congratulations, Dynelle, we wish you all the best in your new adventure with older children. You will be missed.

## **Ngākau Pono—Integrity, loyalty and honesty**

### **Level Change**

We are hopeful for a move to Level 2 soon and with Level 2 comes restrictions. This means children will need to be dropped off at the gate. As with last time, there will be teachers at the gate to support our younger children to get to their classes. This also means that parents will need to wait at the gate to collect their children instead of going to the classroom. Junior teachers will take their children to the gate to be collected at the end of the day.

If you need to come into the school you must go to the office first. Normally you

would only have to go to the office during school time but at Level 2, as soon as you enter the gates, you need to go to the office.

Children will sanitise and wash hands regularly throughout the day and tables will be wiped down regularly as well. Drinking fountains will be out of action and children will need to bring their own drink bottle to school.

We will send out an update after the announcement this afternoon with more specific details, should we move to Level 2.

Just a reminder that at Alert Level 3, schools and playgrounds are closed. This means you can't take your children to school to play on the playground.

## **Manaakitanga-Kindness, care & respect**

### **Wellbeing**

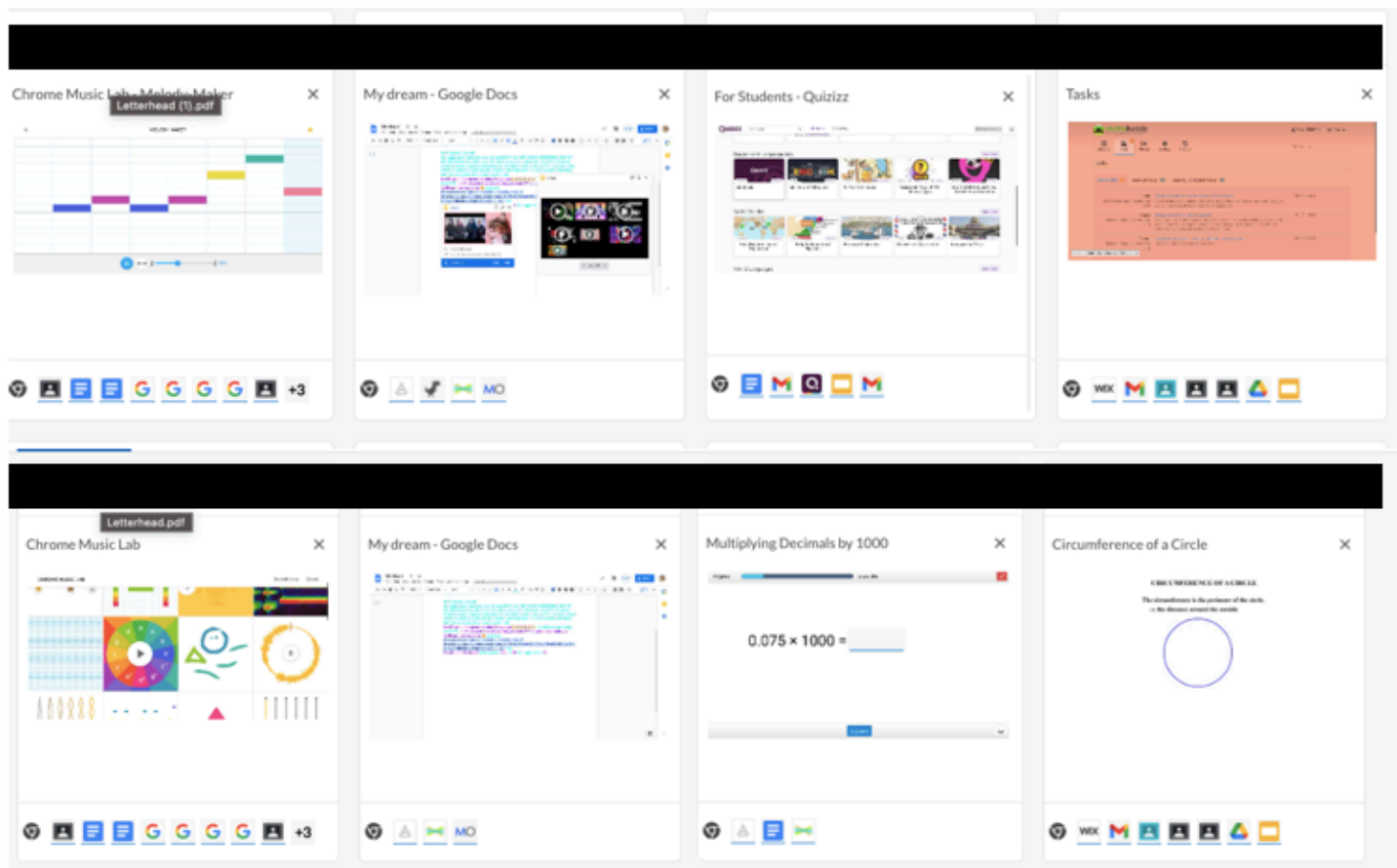
During this stressful time, wellbeing is extremely important. You will notice that we have tried not to put too much pressure on students and parents to complete work set by teachers. We are very aware that everyone's unique home situation can have a huge impact on whether or not children can complete the work provided. With this in mind, we just want your child(ren) to do what they are able to do and know that their teacher is there to support them should they need it.

As well as your family's wellbeing we also need to consider the wellbeing of our teachers, some of whom also have children they need to teach and limited Internet capability. Thank you for your understanding and kindness around this.

## Ako-Quality teaching & learning

We use a programme called Classwize for our filtering and monitoring of student use on the Internet. Teachers have been monitoring this during lockdown and it is pleasing to note that many of our students are on task and learning.

Below is an image of what teachers see (names blacked out). From here we are able to send students a message directly to their screen, close tabs, send websites we want them to visit and more.



If children visit a website that is not appropriate, they get a message telling them that website is blocked. Each day I get an email of all the websites that have been attempted and blocked.

As long as they are using their school account, their internet use is very safe. However, we still recommend that your child(dren) use the computer in an open space in your house where people can see what they are doing on the computer.

### Some positive news

Riley Fenn has just gained Provisional Classification in Para athletics which means he is able to compete regionally and nationally until he has a face to face

medical consultation to gain National Classification.

He is Classified a T37 in all track and throwing events. T37 means an athlete who has moderate impaired coordination or balance due to brain muscle or nerve damage on one side of their body. I'm sure Riley will give it 110% as he always does.

Fingers crossed for a level change this afternoon.

*Kia noho to haumaru. Stay safe.*

*Kia pai tō wīkī. Have a good week.*

*Tania Rogers, Acting Principal*



Here is some work from Te Rākau who have got their own Tech/Arts programme running. We have some very talented children.



**Lily Johnson**



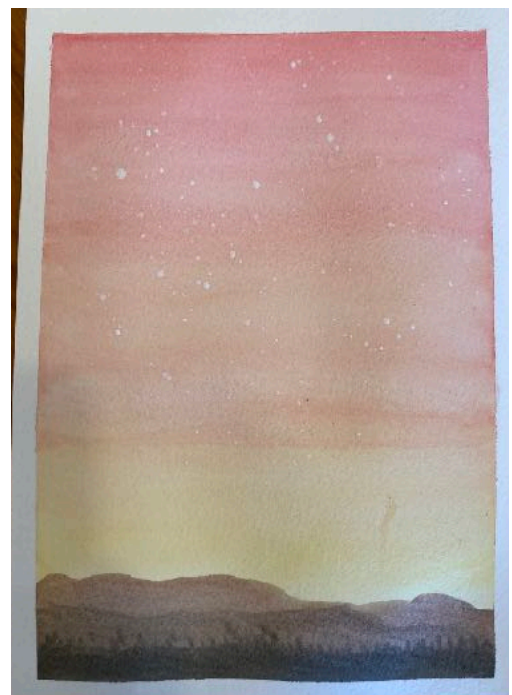
**Olivia Kemp**



**Lucy Gyde**



**Bree Beattie**



**Daisy Gower**

Hi all.

We are now taking registrations for the Gordonton School Annual Calf Fundraiser. This is one of the bigger fundraiser for our school . Farmers and non farmers can get involved.

Early indications are pointing to a not very strong bull market this year unfortunately, however, things can change. So this might be the year of The Virtual Calf.

The Virtual Calf means non farmers can get involved and make a donation to the school as well. Email the school for the PTA bank details.

This is an easy and simple way for our community to support Gordonton School.

We need our children to get the best out of their school. So 100% of all proceeds raised go directly to improve Gordonton School in areas where the Ministry of Education do not put money into or not enough.

I am pleased to announce Jamie Haultain has jumped onboard to continue this great fundraiser as, sadly this year is our last year with Gordonton School. Jamie and I are more than happy to talk to anyone wanting to know more about the calf fundraiser.

Thanks Wayne and Jamie

Please Ph Jamie Haultain	027 646 3618
Wayne Lucey	021 289 2038

