



# Gordonton School

## Newsletter

21 May 2019

TĒNĀ KOUTOU,

What fun we've been having at school this last week. On Friday last week the school turned Pink in support of the Mental Health Bullying awareness campaign. Pink in all its shades arrived in the gate on students and teachers and it was a day of celebration and fun. There were also lots of conversations in classrooms and around school about bullying and what that looked like, how to manage it when you believe it has emerged and how to speak up. In the afternoon we had a gathering in the school and gave out some prizes to the 'pinkest' kids.

Here are some photos.



Today we had Book Character dress up day! Lots and lots of well known book characters came to school - from Clifford the Big Red Dog to unicorns and fairies. What a great way to celebrate book week which runs until Friday. All the books for sale are in the library for you to peruse. Make sure you check them out. In the meantime, here are some of our book characters.

### Sports

I travelled around a bit of sport on the weekend. I even managed a trip out to Huntly to see our Soccer Divas in action. I really enjoy how our children approach sport; trying their very best but also being sportsmanlike, humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Occasionally passionate spectators place a higher tariff on the outcomes in children's sport than the children themselves. I know our Gordonton supporters are very positive and



enthusiastic. Just a reminder to everyone to keep our sideline comments positive and to support our dedicated volunteer coaches and managers. Their continuing enthusiasm is critical for our school being successful in sport. Make this Saturday a 'Thank your sporting volunteer' day.

### Signing in

Another reminder to please sign in and out at the office when you are visiting the school after 9.30am and before 2.30pm. Our Health and Safety policy dictates that we know who is in the school during these times and a record has to be kept. I am getting some reminder signs for the front of the school and I know it can sometimes slip your mind especially if you are in a rush.

### Seesaw

I have been going through the school seesaw platform and commenting on kids work. I have to say a big thank you for the parents who have engaged with their children's work. I know that it means the world to them when they see the comments you put up and it makes the work even more relevant for them. Next week I will be sharing the Progress and Achievement report that we will post up at the end of term. This will take the place of a report and teachers are already accumulating robust evidence of learning to share with you. If you are still not engaged on Seesaw please do so. It's an important sharing tool for our students.

### PB4L

We have been doing some work around values for our school. We have had staff voice, student voice and over the next few days we will be putting out a survey to get parent voice. These values will be useful in teaching our students expectations that will anchor them in a positive learning landscape while the prepare to become contributing global citizens.

### National Simultaneous Story time

Gordonton School is proud to take part in this year's National Simultaneous Storytime by reading the book "*Alpacas with Maracas*," written and illustrated by Matt Cosgrove. National Simultaneous Story time will be held on Wednesday the 22 May and we will have a visit from an alpaca as well as reading the story.

### Cross Country

**This Friday** kids need to bring **gumboots** as we will be walking the cross country course in anticipation of our running next week.

### Board of Trustees

Tomorrow night is the final Board of Trustees meeting before the Triennial Board Elections. There will a few opportunities soon to thank them, but here I would like to acknowledge the support, enthusiasm and encouragement shown to me by our dedicated trustees over the last 12 months. It has made my job a lot easier knowing they were behind me.

For those stepping down, I will miss the interaction, communication and purposeful dialogue around school improvement. For those standing again, and for all others who have sought nomination, I wish you luck and success.

## WHAT'S COMING UP

### MAY

20-24 Book Fair

22 Junior school Alpaca visit

22 BOT meeting

24 Cross Country Walk Through

28 School Cross Country

29 Cross Country postponement day

### JUNE

5-7 Senior School Camp

7 Mud run-yr 3-8

12 EWCS Cross Country

19 NE parent meeting

20 Art Auction

### JULY

5 Last day of term 2

## Strike Action

Some of you may have seen the Sunday programme recently that spoke of the pressures facing teachers and why there has been a move into repeated industrial action by the NZEI and PPTA. The programme accurately reflected the situation for Teachers and Principals and I endorse many of the comments made on it. It appears as if the nationwide teacher strike is going to proceed on 29th May. Watch out for formal notification from the Board of Trustees around this.

That's about it for now. Have a great week everyone.

Regards, Keith O'Donnell

# SCHOOL NOTICES

## PHOTOS

### INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

Envelope have be sent home with details on how to order your individual photos.

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE OFFICE BY THIS FRIDAY 24TH MAY**

## CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country next Tuesday 28th May

**THIS FRIDAY IS WALK THROUGH**

After lunch we will be walking the cross country track. Please can all children bring old shoes/gum boots for this walk. No Shoes / No Walk Through

## BOOK FAIR

May 20th - May 24th  
in the school library



8.20-8.55am in the morning  
and 2.55-3.30pm in the afternoon.

Come along and have a look at some great books and support our school.

## ART AUCTION

The Art Auction is coming up quick on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June – if you are a budding artist or know someone who is and would like to donate art to the auction, please contact Rhianna at [lr.annear@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lr.annear@xtra.co.nz)

Also check out facebook for more details

<https://www.facebook.com/events/654368238347892/>

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## AMERICAN HOTDOGS ORDER FORM

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ No of hotdogs \_\_\_\_\_  
please circle what you want on your hotdog:    cheese    tomato sauce    mustard

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Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** We will **NOT** accept any orders Friday morning.

All orders **MUST** be in by Thursday 9am. Thank you



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**MATARIKI**

**STARS**

Matariki is the Maaori name for the cluster of stars visible during June/July. There are two versions of Matariki. One being that the cluster has 7 stars and another where there are 9 stars that light up the sky.

Developed by Sport Waikato 2019

## CHILD CARE REQUIRED

Looking for before school care, 3 days a week for two girls. From 7.45am on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please phone Anna on 0274 854 344  
Thank you

## BOT ELECTIONS

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE THIS  
FRIDAY 24TH MAY AT NOON**



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