



GORDONTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



THIS WEEK'S WHAKATAUKI

Kua hinga te
totara i te wao
nui a Tane

A mighty totara
has fallen in
the great forest
of Tane

Nga mihi o te ra (Greetings of the day)

Hard to believe we are in December already and counting down the two weeks and two days until the end of the school year.

This week's whakatauki is in honour of Morris Barlow whom his family and the community honoured in a moving service in the garden that he built. Morris was a significant and well known figure in the Gordonton community and his contribution was



**CHRISTMAS IN
THE PADDOCK**
Wednesday 2
December



**TE KĀKANO
WATER WORLD
TRIP**
Friday 4
December



**TE MĀHURI
CAMP**
7-9 December



**LAST DAY OF
TERM FOUR**
Tuesday 15
December

matched only by his humility. Our thoughts and condolences go out to Graham, Rebecca and family.

Christmas in the paddock

The children and teachers have been working hard to produce a small show which will be performed at school tomorrow night starting at 5.30pm. Children will perform on the deck beside the hall. You are encouraged to bring your picnic blanket and refreshments but there will be some food and non alcoholic drinks available. In addition the Kapa Haka group will be performing three waiata wearing their new uniforms for the first time.

Due to a change in the stage children will now be meeting in Room 7. Here are the times children need to be in Room 7.

5.50pm Te Kākano - Rooms 7, 10, 11, 12
 6.15pm Te Pihinga - Rooms 6, 8 and 9
 6.30pm Te Māhuri - Room 3, 4, and 5
 6.40pm Te Rākau - Rooms 1 and 2
 5.45pm Kapa Haka Students need to be in Room 2

From the BoT:

Meetings, Buildings, Budgets;

This is the time of year when as a BoT the responsibility of tidying up the end of year finances, planning projects for 2021 and assessing the needs for our school buildings rolls around on the calendar.

James Gavin, Hayley Van Hellemond, Tania Rogers and I met on Tuesday as a Board property committee. Straight after that Keith, Tania and I met with Olin Greenan and Dee for the budget meeting, setting the finances for 2021.

These are all annual tasks for the Board and Principal. On Tuesday 8th of December the Board of Trustees meets for the final time for 2020.

Shona and the Board.

Te Mahuri camp

Next Monday the Te Mahuri team set off to Kauaeranga Valley near Thames for their team camp. You may remember this was scheduled for earlier in the year but was derailed by Covid and lock-down. We took a risk and confirmed a reservation for later in the year in the hope Covid would have passed. Luckily these Tamariki still get a camp experience this year. Thanks to Grant Carter and his teaching team for the organisation of this as well as the numerous parent helpers accompanying the camp. We look forward to hearing of your amazing experiences.

ERO

Yesterday Tania and I met with Michelle Thurlow, our ERO evaluation partner to formally begin our evaluative journey under the much needed revamped and redesigned ERO model. It was a very productive meeting and one which provided a great platform moving forward to evaluate our school response to student needs. I'm looking forward to the next meeting with her early in February 2021.



Dates for End of year stuff

Wednesday 2nd December

Christmas in the Paddock, 5.30pm

Friday 4th December

Te Kākano trip to Waterworld

Monday 7th December

Te Māhuri camp to Kauaeranga Valley

Wednesday 9th December

Te Māhuri return

Monday 14th December

Year 8 leavers dinner

Tuesday 15th December

Whole school final prize giving

Last day of the year.

School finished at 12.25pm

School bus for the last day of the term.

The school bus **will run** at the earlier time of 12.25pm.

Pool Key

We are hiring out pool keys to families for the use over the summer period.

Keys will be \$60, which includes a \$20 refundable bond upon the return of the pool key next year.

Our pool will be open to families from Tuesday 15th December.

Please head to the office to hire your key.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāianeī (That's all for now)

Keith O'Donnell, Principal



Gordonton School INVITES YOU TO

Christmas *in the paddock*

Wednesday 2 December,
5.30pm @ Gordonton School

Come along and have a picnic on the field while you watch and listen to our tamariki perform Christmas songs. Each team will be presenting a Christmas item and Kapa haka will perform.

Bring your own picnic or support the PTA and buy some food from the BBQ.

Enter the competitions, join in the lolly scramble with Santa and be the best dressed Christmas person.

COMPETITIONS

Colouring in

Best Dressed

Decorated Christmas Tree

Market Stalls

Kapa Haka

Photo Booth

Performances

Bring the whānau.

Due to it being a very busy time of year there will not be a postponement date if it rains.

Meri kirihimete - Merry Christmas

This is an alcohol and Smoke free event



21 College Drive, Gordonton

office@rainbows.org.nz

www.rainbows.rz Phone: (07) 8243188

Rainbows are a well established Christian Centre based in rural surroundings.

6 months - 6 years

8:00am - 4:30pm

Sessions and full days available

20 hours ECE subsidy and WINZ.