#28 21 SEPTEMBER 2020



GORDONTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



Sports photos

A reminder that sports photos are this Wednesday 23 September. Thank you to all the coaches and managers for your support during this season of winter sport. Please remind your children to bring their sports uniforms on Wednesday if they have played winter sport for the school.

He toka tū moana As durable as a rock pounded by the surf.

Nga mihi o te ra (Greetings of the day)

Welcome to the final week of term. Unbelievably the first unbroken and unaltered term of the year. Despite the challenging and uncertain year so far the school, staff and children are remarkably









settled. The holidays are nearly here and will be a welcome respite after the two winter terms.

Jump Rope

Weather permitting, we will have Jump Rope on Thursday. However, if the forecast is correct and we have a downpour we will postpone our Jump Rope event till the first week of next term when we are more likely to have nice weather and parents can come and join in.

Now that we will be in Level 1 and if it is fine on Thursday, here are the times different teams will be jumping.

1:30 pm - Te Kakano & Te Mahuri 2:00 pm - Te Pihinga & Te Rakau

Thank you To Mrs V for organising this and reinvigorating the old classic, the skipping rope.

Children are encouraged to dress in their house colours. We will have music and the Student Council will also donate this week's Hotdog profits to this fundraiser for the box to house our Defibrillator.

The children have been getting ready for this so fingers crossed the weather allows us to enjoy the event.

Car park

Recently we have been experiencing a little congestion in our pick up/drop off area in front of the school. One minor collision and a few near misses. Please when you are using the car park area to collect or drop off your children, be vigilant for other cars and children. It only takes a minor distraction to cause an accident.

Building Project

There is great progress being made with our Room 1 - 4 upgrade. The builders are well within their timeframe and during the holidays work will be completed on the refurbishment of the toilet area between Rooms 5 and 6. Also repairs and refixing of all the roofs in the school. A reminder that the front of the school will be locked during the holidays to allow the workmen to move freely around and ensure everyone's safety. Allowance will be made for the sKids holiday programme.





Sunhats

Another reminder that next term will see the compulsory wearing of sunhats. We are a sunsmart school. Sunblock will be available for the children and staff will be ensuring all those playing outside are wearing a full brimmed hat. This doesn't have to be a school hat although these are available from the office. Those children without proper headwear will be directed to a shady area to play.

The damage is done by the UV light from the sun not the radiant heat from it. So a potae (hat) will still be required even on overcast days. Staff and student leaders will be modelling this behaviour for the children.

That's about all for this week. Have a relaxing break with your children.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāianei (That's all for now) Keith O'Donnell, Principal

Confirmed Term dates for 2021

The school is required under the Education Act to be open instruction for 380 half days in a calendar year. The BoT have approved the following dates for Gordonton School for 2021:

Term one Wednesday 3rd February - Friday 16th April

Term one holidays:

Tuesday 2nd Feb Teacher only day Monday 8th Feb Waitangi Day Friday 2nd April Good Friday Monday 5th April Easter holiday Tuesday 6th April Easter holiday

Term two Monday 3rd May - Friday 9th July

Term two holidays:

Monday 7th June - Queen's Birthday

Term three Tuesday 27th July - Friday 1st October

Term three holidays:

Monday 26th July Teacher only day Monday 30th August Mid term break

Term four Monday 18th October - Wednesday 15th December

Term four holidays:

Monday 23rd October Labour Day

From the BOT

The Board met last Tuesday for the monthly meeting. Among the things discussed were the update on the building project. This is progressing well. Some attention is required for a dying tree in the swimming pool area and the large oak tree next to the hall which is causing damage to the roofs. These will be assessed by an arborist and attended to.

The Principal and Deputy Principal were appraised by an external consultant and the BoT received and discussed the appraisal reports. We are very pleased with the leadership of Keith and Tania in the school and the process and reports were thorough and detailed.

The Board also approved the 2021 term dates which will be notified in this newsletter.

The Education Act 1989 has recently been repealed and replaced with the Education and Training Act 2020. There are some changes in the new legislation that affect the operation of the school and the Principal will brief the BoT with these at our next meeting.

The Principal also informed us that the school has been invited to be part of the first tranche of a redesigned Education Review Office (ERO) evaluation. This is an exciting time for the school and the senior leaders and I will meet with ERO this week to discuss the framework and logistics of this evaluation.

Finally the Board would like to thank the staff, community and students for their effort in meeting the education goals of the school in what have been challenging and uncertain times. Hopefully the summer will herald a calmer and more 'normal' time for us. Have an enjoyable and restful holiday with your children.

Shona and the Board.





\$3 each



1\$3 each

AMERICAN HOTDOGS ORDER FORM HOTDOGS FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER ORDERS IN BY THURSDAY 9AM 24 SEPTEMBER

Please place order in the letter box on the office desk

Name please circle what you want on your hotdog:	 No of ho mato sauce	U
Name please circle what you want on your hotdog:	No of ho mato sauce	•
Name please circle what you want on your hotdog:	 No of ho mato sauce	·
Amount enclosed:		

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

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

On bahalf of everyone at **Gordonton School Sports** we would like to thank our very generous and supportive sponsors. Also a big thank you to our wonderful Coaches and Managers this winter season. We appreciate your time, energy and patience!

Because of that we learned a lot and had so much fun!























