



# GORDONTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Tēnā koutou katoa,

In this weeks newsletter:

- 🌀 Ag Day Prize giving
- 🌀 Athletics
- 🌀 Reports
- 🌀 Swimming
- 🌀 Christmas in the Paddock

## From the Principal

Welcome to week 7 of Term 4.



The pool is open!



Friday saw a wonderful Ag Day prize giving at assembly where the children received cups and awards for the presentation and management of their animals at our recent Ag Day. Lots of proud children holding cups, which was awesome to see. Huge thanks to Emma and Josh Crawford and their enthusiastic team for organising and hosting a great event.

What a stunning day we had for our Senior Athletics last Monday. For once the weather didn't negatively affect the running of this event and everyone had a great time. Some 'dark horses' emerged in the events where hidden talents were put on show.



Thanks to all of the parent and community volunteers who came along for the day and helped with time-keeping, scoring and general child wrangling to help make the day a success.

This Wednesday our top athletes travel to Orini Domain for the Eastern Waikato Athletics competition. The weather is looking promising but in the event of an unexpected change, the cancellation will be on our usual communication platforms before 8am.



This Friday we have our junior school athletics. This is always another fun day and I hope to see lots of you there supporting our athletes. There is also the opportunity to pull a hammy or roll an



**Wednesday 27  
November**  
EWCS Athletics



**Friday 29  
November**  
Junior Athletics



**Thursday 5  
December**  
Christas in the  
Paddock



**Friday 13  
December**  
Reports go home

ankle in the parents v. students race.



The teachers are all super busy outside of classroom time compiling and checking the students' end of year reports. This is a summative report that highlights their progress against the curriculum objectives through the year.

There should be no surprises for parents in school reports. If we have had concerns around learning you should already know about them before the end of the year. It may have been flagged up in meetings, email communications or formal settings. The reports will also contain 2025 class and teacher information.

The swimming pool is open for student use from today. Room 8 used it for a demonstration of eel migration this morning. No eels were used in the demonstration and the pool is still clean. As I mentioned last week, Blair has worked hard to get the pool ready. It's not like a home pool. There are rigorous safety measures that have to be met around water quality etc. Your class teacher will send home information around timetabling for swimming.

Last week we started preparations for the pool toilet with concrete being poured. Some Room 3 students made the most of a learning opportunity and learnt how the concrete truck works.

The toilet will be ready for the holidays.

Christmas in the Paddock is next week. Gates open at 5 and performances start at 5.30 with the Salvation Army followed by performances by kapa haka, Band, Music house and the teams.

There will be a couple of kai trucks and the PTA will be selling sweet treats and raffles.

We hope to see you all there.

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

Keith O'Donnell  
Principal

## Kīwaha

Kīwaha are sayings or idioms.  
Try and use this one at home.

The pronunciation is underneath.

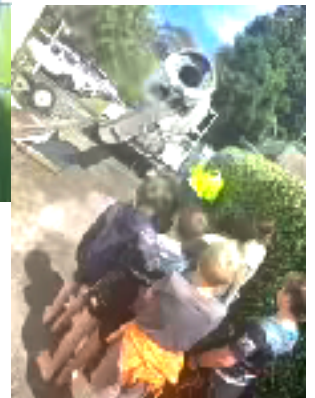
**Kei tua o tāwauwau!**  
Kay to-ah awe taa-wo-wo

Away with the fairies!



New toilets waiting to be moved to their new spot by the pool.

Some Room 3 boys learning about the cement truck



### **Term 4** **November**

Wednesday 27 - EWCS Athletics

Friday 29th November - Junior Athletics Day

### **December**

Thursday 5th - Christmas in the Paddock

Friday 13 - Reports home

Tuesday 17 - Prize Giving and Term ends

## **Term 4 Lunch orders**

We will have lunches from Matte Black and Juicie Tubes available to order.

Order & pay by 3pm  
Wednesday [LINK](#)





SUMMER SPORTS ROUND UP

Hockey

The **Hurricanes** faced a fast and skilful team but held their ground to earn an impressive draw. POD Chris for his outstanding workload in the forwards and excellent communication with his teammates. Coach's Award Sahiba for stepping in to help us out and delivering a great defensive game.

The **Stormers** battled hard against a bigger team. POD Ruby for her strong defensive play and tireless work rate. Coach's Award Amy for stepping up to help field the team and making an impact in attack. Second coaches award Sam for awesome defensive work and stopping so many goals.

Also, don't miss the New Zealand Premier Hockey League this weekend at St Paul's in Hamilton! It's an amazing opportunity to see New Zealand's top hockey talent in action. For those who've participated in the Waikato Hockey development program or camps, make sure to cheer on your coach, Ella Leighton, who's playing for the Mavericks!

Splash Polo

The **Stingers** had a tough game playing the top team in the division on Sunday but showed great determination in coming back winning their next game. POD Jake for listening to, & implementing, what the coach asked him to do and Slade for some good passing and some cracker saves in goal. Special mention to Puti, who scored her first goal

Futsal

The **Gunners** played hard, coming back in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to take out the win. POD Madi & Slade

Touch

A great game of touch played by the **Lasers** on a very hot afternoon! Well done to our PODs Jed for an awesome try and Jake for running hard. Special thank you to Ash, Ruben, Jed & Ira for playing for our opponents. Extra thanks to our assistant coach Bruce for his expertise on the field and for running our post game prize giving

POD for the Gordonton **Drivers** went to Macey this week for making some good space and 110% in effort. Special mention also to Puti and Bruce who got a joint POD last week but didn't want their picture taken.





# FROM THE PTA...

To raise funds for school trip transportation and classroom lockdown blinds in 2025, the PTA will be selling raffle tickets to win Christmas hampers at the event "Christmas in the Paddock." We would be grateful if children could contribute an item to our hampers. Please bring these to the office by Monday, 2nd December.

Year 1 & 2 - Non-perishable food items such as chocolate, crackers, chips, lollies, etc.

Year 3, 4 & 5 - Toys and stationery items like pens, notebooks, board games, balls, and general toys.

Year 6, 7 & 8 - Beauty products, including body wash, face masks, nail polish, moisturiser, suntan lotion, candles, diffusers, etc.

Feel free to donate any product or service not listed if it is more convenient for you.



**Gordonton School**  
INVITES YOU TO

# Christmas

*in the paddock*

**Thursday 5 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 there will be performances from Kapa haka, band, Music House and special guests, *The Salvation Army*.




*There is no postponement date for this event. This is an alcohol and smoke free event.*



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