

11/35 15 November 2011 Dear Parents/Caregivers and children,

Greetings to you all,
Sporting wise it is a busy time. Last week we had Senior Athletics, Years 3 and 4 visiting Orini for a sports afternoon and on Sunday a number of students and staff took part in the Round the Bridges Fun Run. Tomorrow the Juniors have athletics, on Thursday the touch team has another game and next Monday swimming coaching begins. PHEW!!



Last Thursday the Board and Project Manager met with contractors regarding **three property developments** that are, or will be occurring in the very near future and involves a considerable amount of money - probably close to half a million dollars that will be invested in our school.

The upgrade of our **court area** is almost complete with 24 tonne of sand being placed on it over the next couple of days.

Two classrooms will begin being built next week bringing the total up to eleven.

With the increased numbers at the school the **sewerage system** has to be up graded and this too will begin. Busy times!

This **Thursday the 17th of November** the Board, Staff, PTA and any interested parents will be meeting at **7:00pm** to begin forward planning for 2012. It is a chance for the Board and PTA to hear how curriculum budgets have been accounted for, and what things staff would like to achieve in 2012 and also for you to have an input into the future direction of our school. As having students learn and improving their achievement is the key function of our school it is important that we address ways of doing this. Please feel free to join us on Thursday.

I have written many times over the past years of the importance of partnership in student learning - the partnership between parents and school to ensure that students achieve. It isn't rocket science, it is one of those intuitive feelings that we get that you just 'know' is right. The piece below confirms the importance of **reading to children**, reading to them from a very early age often has a positive effect on their learning and achievement right up till Year 11 (the Fifth Form). The extract below is from the BBC Education Web Page:

Children whose parents frequently read with them in their first year of school are still showing the benefit when they are 15, says an international study. *An Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development analysis examined the long-term impact of parental support on literacy. Discounting social differences, the study found children with early support remained ahead in reading. It found a strong link between teenage reading skills and early parental help.*

The OECD analysis, based on teenagers in 14 developed countries, found that active parental involvement at the beginning of school was a significant trigger for developing children's reading skills that would carry through until they were teenagers.

On average, teenagers whose parents had helped with reading at the beginning of school were six months ahead in reading levels at the age of 15.

The report says that parents did not have to be particularly well-educated themselves for this impact to be achieved.

What was important was that parents read books regularly with their children - such as several times a week - and that they talked about what they were reading together. *This parental involvement overrode other social disadvantages and in some countries could represent more than a year's advantage in reading levels at the age of 15 compared with children whose parents rarely read books with them.*

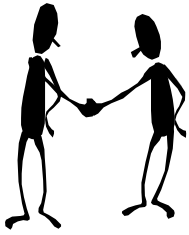
The study, which draws on data from the international Programme for International Student Assessment tests, also found a link between teenagers' reading skills and continued engagement with their parents.

Everyday family get-togethers, where parents and children talk, could influence school performance, says the research.

"Eating main meals together around the table and spending time just talking with one's children are also associated with significantly better student reading performance in school," says the OECD report.

Regards, David and The staff.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK



FRIDAYS ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

Room 1	Jackson Strong and Grace Strong
Room 2	Jack Henry and Alice Davies
Room 3	Meihana Dillon and Olivia Sherborne
Room 4	Katie Bevan and Dylan Geange
Room 5	Yuri Kim and Olivia Matthews
Room 6	Dylan Worthington and Ethan Waters
Room 7	Montse Martinez de Alva and Nick de Vries
Room 8	Jessica Brunton and Tyler Kemp
Room 9	Billie van Hellemond and Ayla Davie
Room 10	Ayshia Tuwhangai and Adrian Gilmour

Congratulations to all these children and keep up the good work.

Every Friday we have a sharing assembly from 2.20pm, in the school hall. Classes alternate - odds and evens - each week to share with everyone the work they have been doing in class. We also sing a couple of songs. We invite you, your extended family and friends to join us for this assembly.

WHAT'S NEW!

WHAT'S NEW IN THIS NEWSLETTER... (get your calendar and cell phone calendar out and make a note of what's happening in the school so that you don't forget)

- Recipe books for sale
- Cadbury chocolate raffle
- Weetbix Tryathlon information
- Thank you for your help at Orini
- Junior school athletics day information
- Round the Bridges congratulations
- Swimming lessons reminder & information

NEWS FROM THE PTA...



FROM THE PTA...

WE HAVE SURPLUS STOCK FROM THE GALA DAY FOR SALE -

Trays of Canned Drinks for sale (left over from Gala) - Mixed trays of 24 cans Lemonade, Coke, Fanta and L&P, each tray is **\$25**. **Great for Christmas or to take to the beach!** There are 4 Trays of mixed and 2 trays of just Coke. First in first served, please see Alison Matthews at school with your money Mon-Thur mornings only. **Flavoured milk** - \$1 each; **Sweet As Popcorn** - Small bag 60 gms \$2 and large bags 140 gms \$3. All proceeds from the sales will go direct to the Gala total!!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE TOMORROW - All proceeds to Gala Total. We are holding a sausage sizzle tomorrow at lunchtime - Junior Athletics Day, for all to enjoy! Tell your Mums, Dads, Siblings, Caregivers and Grandparents to come along watch the athletics and enjoy a sausage at lunchtime with you! Sausages will be sold for \$2 each along with Calci Yum Milk \$1 each and Popcorn \$3-\$2 a bag. Please just bring your money along at lunchtime and enjoy a sausage for lunch - No pre-ordering required, help us to raise the final gala total!! Sausage Sizzle will take place outside the hall kitchen. If you are sending money along with children please place this in a sealed envelope with your child's name on which can stay safely in their bags for lunchtime. Thank you for your support, The Gala Committee Team.

RECIPE BOOKS

RECIPE BOOKS FOR SALE - Recipe books are once again for sale, without 2010 on the cover. They cost \$15 each and make great Christmas presents. You can purchase them from the office.

YUMMY RAFFLE



CADBURY RAFFLE - We have received a wonderful donation from Cadbury - a variety of chocolate bars, Favourites, Roses, Scorched Almonds, Lollies etc. These were for the Gala day but as they arrived after we had held our Gala we have made them up in a basket and decided to raffle them for Christmas. The basket is in the office for you to view and tickets are \$1 each. All proceeds will go towards the Gala total. The raffle will be drawn on the last Friday assembly - 9 December.

DOES YOUR CHILD/REN WANT TO TAKE PART?



WEETBIX TRYATHLON

The Weet-Bix Tryathlon is coming and Gordonton School is signing up for kids aged 7-15 for this fun filled and exciting event! The Hamilton event will be held on February 12 2012 at the Waikato University. Children can enter as an individual or as part of a team and each child who enters receives a medal, an official Weet-Bix Tryathlon t-shirt, a certificate, a swim cap and the chance to win some awesome spot prizes. If we register 15 or more children for this event our school will receive free breakfast at the event, a complimentary group photo, race packs couriered free of charge and the chance to win \$500 worth of sports gear for our school! The entry fee is normally \$38 per competitor, however if your child enters through the school, entries are \$35 per child. Entry forms can be collect from Ms Carter in Room 6 or from the school office and must be returned to school by Friday 9 December.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the wonderful parents for their help at the Room 4 and 5 fun day held at Orini Domain last week. Also a special thanks to Helen Morgan for umpiring on the day.

COME AND WATCH



JUNIOR ATHLETICS DAY (Rms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10) - TOMORROW

Junior athletics day is being held tomorrow - Wednesday 16 November, weather permitting. We will begin at 9.15am with sprints. Morning tea will be followed by discus, long jump, high jump and shot put rotations and we anticipate finishing by lunchtime. You are all invited to come along and support the day and maybe share a picnic lunch or have a sausage from the PTA sausage sizzle with your child/ren. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours - and parents too if you would like - and they must wear a hat and appropriate clothing. School will run as normal after lunch.

WELL DONE

ROUND THE BRIDGES

Well done to those students who participated in Round The Bridges this weekend. Chris Riddell, Abbe-Mae Henry, Jack Henry, Katie-Rose Henry, Olivia Sherborne, Hunter Satherley, Noah Satherley, Paige Landon, Myles Landon, Jacob McLeod and Joel Morgan.

YOU ONLY HAVE 2 DAYS LEFT TO PAY

SWIMMING LESSONS - FINAL REMINDER FOR PAYMENT

This is a final reminder for those who registered for lessons, that payment is due by this **Thursday 17 November**. Any children with fees not paid by Thursday afternoon will be withdrawn. Lessons are being held Monday 21 - Friday 25 November and are from 9.25am through to 11.55am. A suggestion for the children if it's cold - they could wear a wetsuit.

PLEASE SEND THIS IN



CHOCOLATE MONEY

There is still chocolate money owing from Rooms 3 and 4 camp fundraiser last term. Can this please be sent in as soon as possible. Last day for the return of money is 18 November. If you have any chocolates that you are having trouble selling can you please send back to school and we will pass them on to someone who may be able to sell them.

SELECT OUR SCHOOL



RD1 AND BALANCE - If you purchase your fertiliser through either of these companies, for every tonne purchase they will donate \$2 worth of sporting equipment to local schools. Log on to WWW.RD1.COM and navigate to WWW.RD1.COM/sport-your-school and click on the 'nominate a school' link. Selects which RD1 account to use for the nomination, select our school, hit submit. If you have ordered 40 tonnes of fertilizer he school will get \$80 worth of sporting equipment!

FUN BALL GAME TIME

FUN BALL DRAW

The Gordonton Rockets had another win last week against Glenview Yellow – 7-3. This week's game is against Horsham Downs 1 at 4:15pm at Minogue Park. Well done Rockets.

PLEASE SEND THEM BACK

SOCCER UNIFORMS

Can all soccer uniforms please be returned to the school office by the end of this week.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MEASLES INFORMATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

So far this year, New Zealand has had 387 measles cases, which is the highest total since 1997. Most of these have been from the Auckland region (307 cases), and most of the Auckland cases have occurred since the start of the current outbreak on 30 May (278 cases). Most cases have occurred in unimmunised people, and immunisation remains the best way to prevent infection and spread within the community. Measles affects both children and adults, and is highly contagious. Measles symptoms: Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops around 3 days after the other symptoms start. Complications can include middle ear infections, pneumonia, and, more rarely, encephalitis or brain inflammation. So far this year more than 70 people with measles have needed hospital treatment (around 1 in 5 cases this year). The best measles prevention is the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children. It is also free for adults who need it (this is if you are born from 1 January 1969 and have not been fully immunised). Prior to 1969, New Zealand did not have a national measles immunisation programme and as measles is so infectious, it is very likely that most people born before 1969 were exposed to the virus and developed immunity. For further health information on measles and measles immunisation please visit the Ministry of Health website <http://www.moh.govt.nz/measles> or the Immunisation Advisory Centre website <http://www.immune.org.nz> . You can also call the Immunisation Advisory Centre toll-free on 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863) for advice. If you think you or someone in your family might have measles, please phone your doctor. You can also call Healthline 0800 611 116 for advice (Healthline is a free service that operates 24 hours every day).



Regards,

David, Mary, Brian, Grant, Lisa, Jaimee, Sam, Diana, Marie, Nikki, Karen R, Brooke, Karen M, Julie, Michelle, Carol, Lynette, Alison, Fiona and Dennis.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



COMING UP (get your calendar and cell phone calendar out and make a note of what's happening in the school so that you don't forget)

November	16	Junior (Rms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10) School Athletics day
	22	BOT meeting 7pm
December	1	Full Primary Athletics day
	6	Rms 3 & 4 trip to Waterworld
	8 & 9	Junior (Rms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10) Overnight camp
	13	End of year Prizegiving Assembly
		Last day for Junior school (Rms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10) finishing at 2.50pm
	14	Last day for Senior school (Rms 1, 2, 3 & 4) finishing at 12 noon

OUT AND ABOUT



COMMUNITY NOTICES

GORDONTON PLAYGROUP - Do you have children under 5? Come and join us at Playgroup on a Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am - 12 noon. For more details call Laurence at 8243544 or text on 0277571977.

GORDONTON TENNIS CLUB 2011 - Situated in Gordonton Village we are a friendly club that meets each week on Tuesday nights from 6.30pm until we run out of energy! New members are most welcome, come along and try it out, obligation free! Fees are only \$60.00/adult, \$35.00/student. Enquiries welcome - Jenny Smith 8243672 or 021 873 289. (Please refer to the Progressive Tennis advert for child/adult coaching).

TWILIGHT GALA - This is being held at St Paul's Catholic School on 25 November 3-7pm. Make some money for Christmas by having a stall/car boot - \$10. Contact Viv 8247802. Fun for all with a variety of stalls, food, games and lots of entertainment. See you there!

SPEECH & DRAMA LESSONS - Do you want to develop your child's communication skills? **Private Speech and Drama Lessons available.** Fun, interactive groups. Competition and Exam work covered. A range of skills including impromptu work, drama, talks, reading and poetry are taught. Spaces available for students 8-14 years. Contact Laura Watson A.S.B. lauraw09@gmail.com or 0220896158



HAMILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE OF MUSIC - We offer affordable group tuition in a wide range of instruments from pre-schoolers to adults. Come and visit us at our **OPEN DAY on SATURDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2012**, 9 am - 12 noon, University of Waikato, Faculty of Education, TT Block, Gate 4, Hillcrest Road. Enquiries : www.hccm.org.nz or phone 838 4611.

HINEMOA ATHLETICS CLUB - Keep fit, run fast, jump high and have fun! Great summer training for your winter sport. Club Night is every Thursday at Innes Common - start time is 5.30pm for children aged 6 and under, and 6.00pm for 7 and over. Register online or come to Innes Common this week to check it out. Visit www.sportsground.co.nz/hinemoaathletics

BRAIN INJURY STUDY - To find out more about the effects of brain injury on child development, researchers from the University of Waikato are looking for children and adolescents (6-16 years) who have not had a head injury to take part in their research study. Your child will be offered a \$20 voucher for taking part, and you will receive some general feedback about your child's cognitive functioning and academic achievement. To find out more, email COBIC@waikato.ac.nz or ring 07 8384466 ext 8082.



RELIEF MILKER AVAILABLE - Can work Monday to Friday and most weekends. I have 10 years experience. \$50 cash in hand per milking within a 20km radius of Gordonton. \$50 cash in hand plus \$1 per km outside 20 km radius of Gordonton. Please phone Marie 022 640 2627 or 8243263.



LAMB FOR SALE - Good sized lamb for sale - \$100. Phone Britney at 8243070.

POTTERY FOR SALE - McLeod pottery is once again on sale for Christmas at 1116 Gordonton Rd. Please phone first - Fiona at 8242170.

FAMILY FUN DAY AND FUNDRAISER - This is a fundraiser for the Westpac Waikato Air Ambulance and is being held on 19 & 20 November 10am - 4pm at the Awapuni Donkey Farm, 372 Whitikahu Rd, Gordonton. \$5 pp includes a Donkey ride. Free Tea/Coffee for adults. \$2 pp to view the beautifully decorated Christmas house. Bring a picnic (cold drinks available for purchase) and enjoy the gardens, ponies, goats, kunekune pigs, ducks and new baby foals. All fundraising will go towards the Air Ambulance.



SWITCH OFF FOR FAMILY TIME

With more light in the evenings and warmer temperatures, it's a great time to get out there and active instead of TV watching.

TIP
Pack a healthy picnic and a ball and walk as a family down to the park for family dinner and fun.