

11/05 8 March 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers and children,

Greetings to you all,

Thank you all for your support in our fundraiser for Christchurch that we held last Friday. By wearing red and black **our school raised \$500** for the Red Cross and I took it into Westfield Chartwell who matched it dollar for dollar so in fact we helped to **contribute \$1000**. Well done all concerned. There will be a photo of the students and staff wearing their red and black gear in the North Waikato News this week. Check it out.



I'm reading a fabulous book for my own professional learning called ***Brain Rules - 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home and School***. It's early days but the author John Medina presents some compelling ideas:

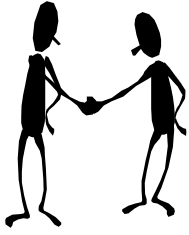
- ❑ For starters we are not used to sitting at a desk for eight hours a day.... Our brain developed while working out, walking up to 12 miles a day. The brain still craves this experience, and that's why exercise boosts brain power. Exercisers outperform couch potatoes in long term memory, reasoning, attention and problem solving tasks.
- ❑ People don't pay attention to boring things. You've got seconds to grab someone's attention and only 10 minutes to keep it. At 9 minutes and 59 seconds, something must be done to regain the attention and restart the clock - something emotional and relevant. Also the brain needs a break.
- ❑ Ever felt tired at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon? That's because your brain really wants to take a nap. You might be more productive if you did. In one study, a 26 minute nap improved NASA pilots' performance by 34 per cent. And whether you get enough rest at night affects your mental agility the next day. Sleep well, think well.
- ❑ That the terrible twos only look like active rebellion but are actually a child's powerful urge to explore. Babies may not have a lot of knowledge about the world, but they know a whole lot about how to get it. We are powerful and natural explorers and this never leaves us, despite the artificial environments we've built for ourselves.

How's that for starters.. And I'm only up to Chapter 1! Keep watching this space for further instalments.

On Thursday 17th March, at 10.15am, I would like to invite any parents of Junior (Rms 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9) students, who might be interested in meeting with me to discuss ways we can make our school an even better place than it already is, to come up to school and have "***Coffee with David.***" We did this a couple of times last year and it proved popular. You are able to talk openly about things that you feel we were doing well and provide positive ways of improving practice. It is not the time or place to complain, there are other avenues for this, but a chance to promote improvement.

Regards, David and the staff.

**KEEP UP THE
GOOD WORK**



FRIDAYS ASSEMBLY CERTIFICATES

Room 1 Fergus Taynton and Zac Clark
Room 2 Sabina East and Tessa Sims
Room 3 Olivia Gyde and Pasindu Danawala Gamage
Room 4 Ye Won Jung and Olivia Wallbank
Room 5 Robbie Crawford and Ryan Waters
Room 6 Ellie Williams and Cohen O'Donoghue
Room 7 Kyan Loomans and Raymond Wallis
Room 8 Indy Nolan and Ashton-Scott Young
Room 9 Paige Alexander and Alex Mitchell
Congratulations to all these children and keep up the good work.

**COME AND
JOIN US**

FRIDAYS SHARING ASSEMBLY

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.

**NEWS FROM
THE PTA...**

FROM THE PTA...

THANK YOU - Our thanks to Ant Rigter and the BOT for purchasing a new fridge/freezer for the hall kitchen.

AGM DATE - . The AGM is being held on 15 March at 7pm in the staffroom. All are very welcome to attend. We will be electing President, Secretary and Treasurer. There will be a quick general meeting after the AGM.

NAME IT LABELS FUNDRAISER - Pamphlets for this are with this newsletter. We gain funds through this by commission. Please have **orders back to the school office by 3pm this Friday 11 March**. Cheques to be made out to: *Gordonton School PTA*.

OXFORD PIE ORDERS - Please support this PTA fundraiser and stock your freezer with these delicious treats! There are also lunch size pies, sausage rolls and lamingtons available to order on the order forms. Order forms were sent home last week and **orders and money are to be returned by 3pm Friday 18 March**. If you didn't receive one please come to the office. Delivery date is Thursday 24 March.

PUMPKIN HARVEST FESTIVAL - Our inaugural pumpkin festival to celebrate the autumn harvest and weigh-in our giant pumpkins will be held on Friday 1 April at 5pm. This is a **family fun night** so please plan to come along as there will be something for everyone! We will be having: *wobbly train, food, games, pumpkin and vege creation judging* (this is sponsored by Global Vets) *and more*. Start planning your creation for the family scarecrow section and dust off those pumpkin recipes for the **'Parents Pumpkin Cook off!'** More details next week. To make this a really fun and enjoyable night for the kids and our community **we do need your help!** If you are able to help please indicate of the form provided and return to school or phone Jenny Smith at 8243672.

GORDONTON SCHOOL RECIPE BOOK - We still have these on sale. We have them at the school office if you would like to come and have a look or purchase some. They are wire bound and done similarly to the Edmonds cookbook - look VERY professional! They are \$15 and to order please come and see Diana at the office. Please make cheques out separately to: **Gordonton School PTA**, please don't include payment in with a school payment.

PTA MILK / ICEBLOCKS / CHOCOLATE MARSHMELLOW BUNNIES FOR SALE - Every Wednesday flavoured Anchor Milk, Iceblocks and Chocolate Marshmellow Bunnies, will be for sale at lunchtime. (The Iceblocks will only be sold during term 1). These will be sold under the shade sail on the quad at lunchtime if the weather is good or they will be brought around to classrooms if it is raining. Milk flavours available are Chocolate/Strawberry/Caramel/Banana and will be \$1 each. Iceblocks are 50c each and Chocolate Marshmellow Bunnies for \$1 each. Just bring your money along at lunchtime, no slip required.

**RM 3 & 4
CAMP &
CHOCOLATE
INFO**

ROOM 3 AND 4 CAMP AND CHOCOLATE INFORMATION

A reminder that camp payment or arrangement for payment needs to be in by **this Friday 11 March**.
Chocolates - For those who have sold chocolates can you please fill in the slip provided to let us know how you want this money disbursed - either have it taken off your camp fees or if you have already paid camp fees in full, have the money reimbursed. We will not be ordering any more chocolates to sell so if you have unsold boxes or bars that you can't sell can you please return them so that they can be passed on to those who require more to sell.



PLEASE ORDER BY THURSDAY MORNING



SAUSAGE SIZZLE FUNDRAISER FOR ROOM 3 / 4 CAMP - SORRY NO LATE ORDERS
There will be a sausage sizzle this Friday to fundraise for the Room 3 and 4 camp. Sausages \$1.50, drinks \$1, banana or choc chip muffins \$1 and iceblocks 50c. **Please fill in the order form with this newsletter and return by Thursday morning**, as we need to know how many of the above to purchase. **As this is our last sausage sizzle we will only be ordering what is ordered by Thursday morning so if your order comes in after that we will not be able to fill it.**

APPLES FOR SALE



FRESH APPLES - THIS IS THE FINAL TIME TO ORDER - ONLY \$3 THIS WEEK
Room 4 are selling **Fresh Apples** (they will be Royal Gala) to raise funds for their school camp. **\$3.00 for a 2kg bag this week to say thanks for your support.** Please complete the slip provided and drop into the office by Thursday afternoon. Pickup will be after assembly on Friday outside the hall. Remember this is the last time to order as we are finishing this fundraiser this week.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?



SOCCER INTEREST
Calling all Ronaldo's and Rooney's out there! We are looking for any of those students who are interested in playing for and representing Gordonton School! This is open to both boys and girls of all ages. There are strict rules around the ages of those in a team, so if there are not enough numbers there may not be a team. We also require expressions of interest from parents who would be keen to help coach or manage a side. So come one come all lets get Football happening! If you are interested please fill out the slip provided and get them into Mrs Bell at the office.

STORE THIS IN YOUR PHONE



SCHOOL CELLPHONE
We have the school cellphone up and running, if you wish to text in your child's absence you can text it to **027 482 4360**. **Please - only use this for texting, don't leave phone messages. The phone is turned off at 3pm so please don't send any texts that are for that day after that time - ring the school phone 8243602.**

*Regards,
David, Mary, Brian, Grant, Lisa, Genevieve, Jaimee, Sam, Karen, Diana, Bridget, Marie, Julie W, Michelle, Julie F, Alison T, Carol, Fiona, Alison M and Dennis.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING



- COMING UP**
- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| March | 12 | Orders and money to be returned for Name It Labels fundraiser by 3pm |
| | 15 | PTA AGM - 7pm in staffroom |
| | 18 | Orders close for Oxford Pie orders - money and orders to be in by 3pm |
| | 21-23 | Room 3 & 4 camp |
| | 24 | Delivery date for Oxford Pie orders |
| | 25 | Class and Individual/family photos being taken |
| April | 1 | Pumpkin festival - 5pm in school hall |
| | 11-13 | Room 1 & 2 camp |

OUT AND ABOUT



COMMUNITY NOTICES
DINNERS @ FIREPOT CAFÉ - Casual Dining | Beer | Wine | platters. **Every Friday Night. Bookings essential, phone 8242006**

BUDGIES FOR SALE - Yellow/Green Colourings, Males \$12.50. Please Phone Alison Matthews on 8243220 or see me at school.



WOBBLE – essentials for little kids – everything for babies and toddlers. **March Specials:** 10% off Amber Teething Necklaces; HOT Mountain Buggy Deals; Specials on Cots & Bugaboo Strollers and much more! Located in the Rototuna Shopping Centre. Phone: 855-3630. Open 9am-5pm Monday – Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday. Email info@wobble.co.nz. Webstore www.wobble.co.nz.



TAUPIRI JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB WEIGH IN - This is being held this Sunday 13 March from 10am - 12 noon at the Taupiri Rugby Club, Murphy Lane, Taupiri. All new players need to bring a copy of their birth certificate or passport please as a copy is needed for our records. Fees are payable on this day. For more information contact Leah Scott at 027 686 9499 or 8243894.



GREAT BEGINNINGS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE - We are now OPEN! Ages 0 - 6 years. Directly opposite Gordonton School. We are open from 7.30am - 5.30pm. Extensive rural outdoor area. Great beginnings....where children are only limited by their imagination. **Phone 8243227 - please note correct phone number.**

OUT AND ABOUT CONT...

LOST DOG - Our lovely dog Sue has gone missing in the Gordonton area. She is a black/tan huntaway cross cattle dog with a chain collar. Any sightings please phone Wayne or Deb at 8243070.



CHARITY AUCTION - Oxfam Trailwalker Charity Auction 10th March at the Bill Gallagher Centre, The Hub, Wintec (in town). Tickets \$15 inc. guest speaker, nibbles. Cash bar available. Items for auction include: flights to Queenstown, Woodbox voucher, accommodation, boat charter, wine, beauty therapy, magazine subscriptions..... So get the girls together for a night out! Tickets available from the FirePot Cafe (thanks Michelle) or call Jacquie Sherborne on 824 3144 (hm). All proceeds to Oxfam NZ. We are looking for further sponsorship (goods, services of all kinds). If you are interested in this marketing opportunity call Jacquie or email jacquie.sherborne@tatua.com The auctioneer will read a brief on your business and show slides when auctioning your sponsored items.



WAIKATO JUNIOR RUGBY REGISTRATION DAY - Saturday 12 March at Willoughby Park from 10am - 4pm. Sign up for an exciting year of rugby with your chosen Waikato club. Plus the NZRU Trophy tour will be there! Bring your camera and have your photo taken with the trophies.

FOOTBALL (SOCCER) INTEREST FORM

My child/ren.....

DOB..... is interested in playing soccer.

I can help manage / coach a team

Name..... Phone.....

GUITAR LESSONS - FOR YEAR 3 - 8 ONLY

My child/ren in Room/s.....

are interest in learning to play the guitar. Signed.....

APPLE ORDER - Orders must be in on Thursday afternoon - 3pm (this Friday is the last time)

Child's name..... Room.....

No. of 2kg bags wanted..... @ \$3 per bag = \$..... enclosed

NB Pick up will be after assembly on Friday outside the hall.

SAUSAGES IN BREAD, DRINK, MUFFIN & ICE BLOCK ORDER FORM
SAUSAGES - \$1.50, DRINKS - \$1 MUFFINS - \$1 & ICE BLOCKS - 50c
ORDERS MUST BE IN BY THURSDAY MORNING - SORRY NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN

Family Name.....

Pupil NameRoom.....No.of Sausages No. of drinks

No. of iceblocks No. of Muffins (banana / choc chip).....

Pupil NameRoom.....No.of Sausages No. of drinks

No. of iceblocks No. of Muffins (banana / choc chip).....

Pupil NameRoom.....No.of Sausages No. of drinks

No. of iceblocks No. of Muffins (banana / choc chip).....

Pupil NameRoom.....No.of Sausages No. of drinks

No. of iceblocks No. Muffins (banana / choc chip).....

Amount enclosed Please specify **if you do not want tomato sauce** put on your sausage.

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL HELPER SLIP - FRIDAY 1 APRIL

Please tick if you can...

..... I can help set up on Friday 1 April after school

..... I can help weigh giant pumpkins on the night

..... I can help run a game / activity on the night

..... I can help clean up afterwards

..... I can donate a spot prize or cash for purchasing prizes for the children

Please tick if you can supply / loan any of the following items for the night...

..... Stock weighing scales

..... Small hay bales

..... Orange balloons

..... Old sheets for banners

..... Country / harvest themed tablecloths

Name..... Phone.....

ROOM 3 AND 4 CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISING REFUND

I would like the refund owed to me (please circle):

Refunded Put towards camp fees Put into Activity Fee Put into Stationery Credit

Child's Name..... Room.....