

To ensure our students are able to take their place in the world, they will be Resilient, Resourceful, Respectful and Responsible

Thursday 28th March 2019: Term 1 Week 9

How refreshing it is to see rain, things were definitely getting a bit parched. However I am not enjoying the darkness in the mornings.

ASSEMBLY

We did not award certificates this week. Miss Evans and Mrs Marshall were both off site.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

The PTA are selling Entertainment Books. There's a flyer enclosed with this newsletter, with special offers if you purchase **before tomorrow!**

The PTA does an amazing job raising funds to buy goods and subsidize events for your children. This year they have purchased sandpit toys, sunhats and are looking into helping with the Winter Camp, and Big Day Out. Please give their ventures your support.

BoT

The policies and procedures that underpin how things are done at Gorge Road School are now available to view online at: <https://sites.google.com/view/grspoliciesandprocedures/home>

During their meeting this week the BOT discussed some rumours that had been shared with them. They found that the stories as reported were not supported by any actual evidence, and would have been better discussed directly with the school instead of through potentially harmful gossip.

The BoT acknowledge that their role is **Governance** (the BIG picture not daily details), and in future will refer these matters to the complaints procedure, and to the school.

If you have concerns look at the procedure, come to school, **talk with us**, and allow us to look into the matter. The procedure is on the above site and gives clear guidelines.

Please do not spread unsubstantiated gossip.

BOT ELECTIONS

There will be an election mid-year to select your next Board of Trustees. It is timely to think about whether you wish to have your name put forward for consideration by our parent voting body. Nominations will not be called for until next term. We will have vacancies for three parent-elected representatives. Members of the BOT do not have to be parents, but they are elected by parents/caregivers.

Board Training will be part of the induction process for incoming BOT members for 2019- 2022.

GRIP= Leadership for Year 6/7

On April 8th Year 6&7 children are invited to attend a leadership conference. This year the conference is in Gore. Children will need to be at school by 8.15 am. in order to get to the conference before it starts. Children will need to bring food and drink for the day.

Please complete and return the slip below so transport can be organised.

.....
is / is not able to attend the GRIP conference on April 8th.
(delete whichever doesn't apply)

.....

Parent signature:

Date:

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WINTER CAMP

Parents who indicated they will come on camp need to have a current police vet. Many of you still have one from previous years, however if you don't then one will be accompanying this newsletter. Please look carefully at the required forms of identification before bringing the form back to the office.

ZONE SWIMMING SPORTS

Mrs Keenan will be taking Carter, Isobel and Oliver to Tokanui for the Zone Swimming Sports. These were the only children who came close to swimming at the time required to qualify. We wish them well tomorrow.

GORGE ROAD SCHOOL SURVEY

What a terrific response with 18 out of 25 families responding. I have pulled together your comments from the community survey, and over the next few weeks I will report back your responses and our 'where to from here statements'...

1. VISION STATEMENT:

All responses were positive about keeping the GRS values/ vision statement as it stands.

2. HEALTH & PE PROGRAMME

The most important things to include in the programme:

All forms of movement, running, jumping, throwing, swimming, gymnastics, dance

Ball skills= 4 Team Sports/ class activity= 9 Fitness= 7

Swimming (and survival) = 6 Athletics/ running/ balance / gymnastics= 4

Getting outside, camping, Eotc = 5 Nutrition= 5 Hygiene= 2

Mental health/ relationships/ and well-being= 6

Team sports and ball skills are especially valued by community; there will be a greater focus on these in class PE sessions. Athletics is also considered important, though the community appears unaware of amount of time staff do spend coaching for Athletics Day. This year 4-5 half-hour sessions over 4 weeks. When children weren't swimming they were doing athletics practice.

Swimming plays a valued part of the existing GRS programme with children experiencing REAP Swim For survival for 2 weeks, and school swimming for a further 4 weeks during the year. Approximately 2-3 times the amount of swimming experienced in town schools.

Healthy eating is regularly covered, especially in the Life Education van.

Given the 'fragile' nature of some of our students and the pressures of modern life an increased emphasis on mental health and well-being (resilience) would be timely. This is possibly something an outside expert could be sourced for.

3. MAORI ACHIEVEMENT

Suggestions for respecting and building Maori language, culture, identity and achievement:

What we do is fine= 5 (PolyFest) Making greater use of local Maori resource people= 2

Do less of it Make it mandatory to learn Maybe a weekly class if they want to

Learn more about other cultures and languages as is a multicultural school=2

History of local area Visit a marae/cultural visits Skipped the question= 6

Most families are content with what we have done in the past and our continued involvement in Polyfest.

Contrary to a belief that we turned down a local Maori resource person, we have been working with the Ministry and our local people for the past two years, upskilling staff in Te Reo and Tikanga Maori as well as extending our knowledge of 'cultural responsiveness'. This was not aimed just for Maori but embracing all cultures in our multicultural school.

A few helpful suggestions have been made to add to what we already do- marae /cultural visits/ local history. We have plans to highlight Matariki with a night-time performance next term .

Week at a Glance

Friday 29th March

Zone Swimming for those involved.

Upcoming Events

Friday 12th April

Tri-athlon and BBQ lunch and Ice Cream

Friday 12th April

End of Term 1 2019

Monday 29th April

Start of Term 2 2019

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House Wanted To Rent In Gorge Road School Area

Do you have a vacant house between now and 30th June? A school family is in need of preferably a 3 bed roomed house, references available. If you are able to help please contact the School office: Phone 032395763 or office@gorgeroad.school.nz

Taha Maori And Te Reo Programme

Calling Community or School member who would like to offer their support to our teachers in our Taha Maori and Te Reo programme, please ring or email the School Office with their contact details and Sheree Keenan will be in touch. Thank you.



2019 Junior Rock n Roll Nationals

Stadium Southland
Easter Weekend
20th & 21st April 2019

General Admission
Adults \$10/session, 5-12yr \$5/session
Under 5yr Free
(Floor Access Weekend Passes Still Available)

Enquiries to:
Nicky Phillipson
Invercargill Rock n Roll Club
2019juniornationals@gmail.com
027 213 1592

Hi from BoT

The teachers have conducted their informal chats with families who booked in and both parents and teachers alike have said they were successful all round. Please remember though, Gorge Road has an open door policy and you are always welcome to pop in and chat with your child's teacher if you have any concerns or queries.

Thank you to the families who completed the survey either by online survey or paper copy. The feedback is always valuable and gives the board useful insight into how our families see things. Thank you!

Next term we will have board elections. Please participate in these either by standing to be on the board or by voting. It's an important part of our school system 😊 More information will filter through as we get it.

Hope you can enjoy our warm autumn days!
Ruth

Country Calendar Wetlands Trip

On Thursday the 21st of March Ailie, Kara, Caleb, Myself, Carter, Megan and Fushia went on a wetlands trip to the Munros farm.



First we went in three cars to the farm we had to go down a long gravel track to the wetlands, when we got out of the cars we had to walk to a spot that was near the pond. We walked through the Manuka, flax and rush bushes. When we got to the pond we had to be quiet, because the people from Country Calendar were filming the geese but then they flew away in a v shape.



After that we watched the people take out the net then we walked back to the area where the tubs were, and then we used the small hand nets to get the small fish that were as big as a whitebait to another tub. The reason we did this was to put them in clean water so we can see them and film them moving around.

We wanted the big eels that were really fat and long. The longest was one metre and 25 cm long.

two buckets to the cars.

Next Gay Munro led us over a little bridge and up a path to the lookout stairs there we saw a trap with a camera.

After that we went up the stairs to the top of the lookout we could see the rest packing up. We decided to have morning tea up on the lookout. We had a great time learning about the lagoon.



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By Max Roubroeks

Child vs Adults

In the following writing I will convince you that it is better to be a child than an adult because

1. Children have longer holidays.
2. Children are more flexible.
3. You don't need to get a job.

Firstly, it is better to be a child because kids get to have longer holidays than adults kids can stay home or go to town and buy toys and food. Adults have to go to work during the holidays and only have a small amount of holidays.

Secondly, it is better to be a child because we are more flexible, kids are young and strong so they can do backflips, the splits and backbends. Adults won't be able to do it because they might break their hip and break their backs too.

Thirdly, it is better to be a child because kids don't need a job kids are too young to have jobs. Adults are old enough to get a job and the only jobs that kids have are learning at school and chores at home.

In conclusion it is better to a child than an adult because we have longer holidays, are more flexible and don't need jobs.

By Taya (9)

Leadership

In the following writing I will convince you I am a brilliant leader because I am a good sport, I take notice, and thirdly, I explain.

Firstly if I lose I shake hands and congratulate the winning people by saying good work. I say better luck next time and be positive not negative about losing.

Secondly I take notice of my class, if someone is down I ask if they are okay and if they aren't I will try and turn their frown upside down. I will take notice of my teammates if they look stuck I ask if they would like my help.

Thirdly I explain what we are doing I don't shout at them or when we are doing math I don't tell them the answer I try and explain how to do it.

In conclusion I know I have convinced you I am a brilliant leader because I am a good sport, I take notice and I explain what to do patiently.

Caleb Herbert

TOP ART

Just a reminder for you all *TOP ART* is available for viewing from **9 April through to 11 April** in the SGHS West Hall, off Tweed St through the red doors, from 9am through to 5pm (closed over the weekend).



Big Rides Day
TWO LOOPS—MORE RIDES—LESS QUEUES!!
SUN 31 MARCH, 10AM—2PM
Southern Field Days site, Waimumu
All weather venue!

- \$5 gate entry per child (includes first ride)
- 1 adult per 2 children under 10 years
NO EXCEPTIONS—SAFETY FIRST
- Extra rides: 2 for \$5 or 5 for \$10
- Free entry for adults

Note: Passengers will be loaded from queues into Rides as they pull up to the door.

CASH ONLY!
NO EFTPOS
AVAILABLE

For kids of all ages, whatever the weather!
A huge variety of 'Big Rides' to experience: trucks, silage chopper, fire engine, diggers, tractors, milk tanker, bus and much much more!

FAMILY FUN—FOOD & DRINKS—SAND PILES—BOUNCY CASTLES

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PLEASE NOTE: No bookings are required!

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Thank you for supporting those who support our school.

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