

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

Thursday 28th August 2025: Term 3 Week 7

Kia ora, whanau/ hello everyone!

Well, Spring is a hop, skip and a jump away. However, it feels like it has been here for a while already looking at the garden! There is a bit to update the calendar with as we cram what we can in last Three weeks of term 3.



Please let teachers know as soon as possible if your child/ren are going to bring a pet to school **for pet day on Friday the 24th of October**. Those bringing pets with the aim of being judged will need to start a pet diary, so please get in touch via email or dojo with your child's teacher.



Story character day is coming up on Tuesday the 16th of September. All children are encouraged to dress up with a character in mind and a book in their hand. A costume however doesn't have to be purchased. Go through some of your child's favourite books and see who might jump out at you both. Drawing mouse-like features on your face and dress in the style of Thea or Geronimo Stilton. You might have fairy wings at home and come as one of the fairy class. You might wear shorts and a striped top and come as James with an orange balloon as your peach... Susie Fogg from dragon in a wagon. A yellow safety hat and hi vis as the driver of the yellow digger... Imaginations can run wild and in the same breath, it can be a "normal type" character. ENJOY and good luck!

This Friday the 29th (TOMORROW) is a COL teachers only day, **NO SCHOOL NO BUSES!** School is back to normal on Monday.



Well done to all our students who have been working hard this week! 😊

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The amazing Mrs E has been doing science enquiry with the senior class. The learning plus questions that come afterwards have been fantastic. We have 3 weeks left with Mrs Earwaker and will certainly miss having Mrs E in our little school. No doubt we will see her beaming smile at Zone events and round the district!



On the last day of term (Friday 19th) we will be having a **celebration assembly** and shared lunch/kai. Lunch will be at 1pm with the assembly taking place straight after. Families are welcome to come for both the food and assembly, children can then be taken home at the completion of the assembly or wait for the bus and go home as usual. If you require any further details please get in touch with your child's teacher.

Zone football is coming up next term, we encourage all families to get out with the soccer ball to practice passing, dribbling and throwing in the ball at home. Every little bit helps and if there are any parents keen to help us with coaching 1 of the 3 soccer teams it would be greatly appreciated. Please let Brendan know in the office if you are keen ASAP.



The 50th anniversary of the 1st recognised Māori language week is coming up in September. We will be encouraging an increased use of reo not just over this week, but leading up to it as well. In our newsletter and in day to day school communications. We encourage inclusion and if you

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are ever left wondering what a term or word/phrase is/means please, don't hesitate to enquire with us at kura/school. The theme for the 50th is "A Forever Language". Having just been through Polyfest there is a great energy around our blended cultures but the enjoyment our tamariki/children get from the whole experience.

Being Grateful

Something that made me smile today was doing the tinikling and itikitik dance at Polyfest.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn about maths and division and writing.

I felt good today because I have been doing well with maths and doing chores for my mum.

Someone I'm grateful for is Austina because we used to play together but we haven't seen each other for 5 years.

Today I felt loved because I have been taking care of Mum and Mum has been taking care of me.

By Leeonn

This piece of work from Leeonn, certainly makes you give thought to what is important.

My Home in the Philippines

When I think of home I know home is very safe but I don't want to go outside at night because of the snakes.

When I think of home, I can see nature all around me because there are lots of big coconut trees, the road and my neighbourhood.

When I think of home, I can hear dogs barking, cats meowing, Mum cooking food in the kitchen and cartoons on the TV.

When I think of home, I feel hot because in the Philippines it is usually 35 degrees!

When I think of home, I always think of my favourite restaurant called Jolly B. There is always chicken and ham and rice and spaghetti and Coca-cola to drink.

When I think of home, I think of eating ice-cream with my grandfather. My grandfather once climbed up a tree with an axe in his hand and chopped the coconut so that we could eat the crunchy white meat and drink the sweet coconut water.

I miss being in the Philippines because I have a big family there but now we are separated.

By C.J.

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We would like to take the time to mention
and thank those members of the
community that have contributed to our
school, they are listed as follows:

Leslie Clifford Frisby
O'Connor Agri Services Limited
Brok Dairies Ltd
Thwaites Contracting Limited
Thwaites Contracting Ltd
Maken Milk Limited
Brownie Dairies Ltd
Gorge Road School
South Coast Bulls Limited
Alan Wells and Janine Wells
Maken Milk Limited - 111 Moffat Road



Botting Landers Partnership
H & E Grotemarsink
Waimahaka Farms
MNM Farming Ltd - Waituna Rd
Waituna Investments Ltd - Lawson



Thank you everyone who has completed the nomination process. We will confirm the offices after the School board meeting on the 15th of September.

Upcoming Events Dates subject to change	
Friday 29 th August	COL TOD NO School – No Buses
Wednesday 10 th September	Story telling competition 10am
Sun 14 th – Sat 20 th September	Maori Language week (50 year celebration).
Monday 15 th September	School Board meeting (BoT)
Tuesday 16 th September	Story character day (dress as a character from a story book)
Friday 19 th September	Celebration Assembly – shared kai at 1pm then assembly to follow.
Friday 19 th September	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 6 th October	First day of term 4
Friday 17 th October	Life Education
Monday 20 th October	School Board meeting (BoT)
Friday 24 th October	Pet Day
Monday 27 th October	Labour Day NO School – No Buses
Friday 31 st October	Southern Zone Football tournament

LUNCH FOOD LIST

Pies (Mince & Cheese) or Mince	\$1.50	Popcorn lightly salted 12g	\$1.00
Pizza (Ham/Cheese) or Hawaiian	\$2.50	Choc Chip Cookie	\$2.00
Juicies (wildberry or tropical)	\$1.50	Small Sausage rolls not always in stock	\$3.00
Moosies (Chocolate)	\$1.50	Toppas not always in stock	\$3.00

All lunch orders must come from home via a note/envelope (written by an adult). Money can be paid in cash or via a bank deposit to 03 1745 0027472 00 with Name and lunch as reference. We will no longer use credits as money will be sorted on the day and sent home within the week. Mr Mason will take charge of doing the ordered lunches. **Please if ordering Juicies note down the flavour on order**

ABSENTEES: To report an absence please use the **Skool Loop** (preferred option) or

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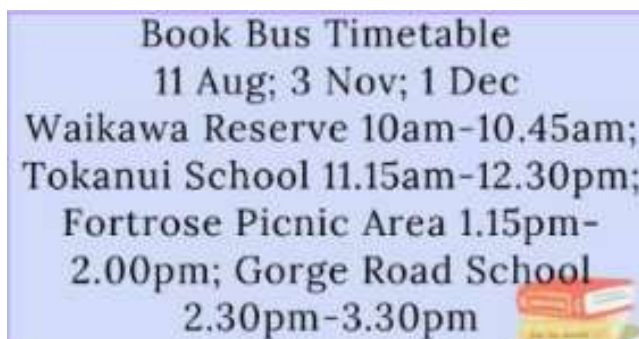
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phone the land line 032395763 opt 1 or 3 before 9.30am, text 0274674373 or email office@gorgeroad.school.nz It is a Ministry requirement to have a reason recorded for the absence; e.g. appointment, sick, dentist...

SCHOOL UNIFORM TOPS: We no longer carry these in stock, they can be purchased from the UniformNZ website then collected at their shop which is now at 142 Otepunui Avenue.

<http://gorgeroad.uniformnz.com> this is the polo top we wear to sports day but can be worn every day as a uniform if you wish. Note the sizing is on the small side. We also have the option of a grey/red hoodie with logo on front. These hoodies are warm and the perfect garment for these cooler days.

A reminder to all parents to ensure your tamariki / children have something for **fruit/brain break and lunches are healthy**. We know it is tough to make the contents of a lunchbox exciting during winter.



Ever thought about giving football a go... but didn't know where to start?

Here's your chance – and you don't have to do it alone!

We're inviting mothers and daughters to join us for some fun, free "Come & Try" football sessions – perfect for first-timers or anyone just keen to get active and try something new, together!

Whether you've played before or it's your very first kick of a ball, these sessions are all about having a go in a friendly, relaxed environment. No pressure, no scoreboards – just lots of laughs, movement, and quality time on the field.

When: August 30th - 10am to 10:45am

Where: ILT Football Turf

Cost: Absolutely free!

Great for mums, aunties, nanas, and female caregivers

Perfect for daughters from 5 years and up

A fun and active way to build confidence and connection

So bring your runners or boots, bring your daughter, and come make some football memories together. To find out more, message us or contact Leigh on leigh@southlandfootball.org.nz

Register below on the following link <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/364155>

Let's try something new – side by side!

School lunches

Ngā kai hauora o te wā tina ki te kura

A healthy, balanced lunch gives children everything they need to play and learn well.

Involve your child in choosing and making lunches. This will make them more likely to eat and enjoy their lunch.

Lunch box checklist

Include items from the following food groups.

Something filling – Go foods (carbohydrates)

- Grain foods – they give children energy and brain power. Choose high-fibre and wholegrain bread. Try mixing it up by using wraps, flatbread, pita bread, grainy rolls and crackers.

Something lasting – Grow foods (protein)

- Milk and milk products – they provide calcium, which helps to build strong bones and teeth. Cheese slices and yoghurt are great snacks in lunch boxes. Include a small ice brick or a frozen water bottle to keep them cool and at a safe temperature.
- Lean meat, chicken, fish, eggs, nuts and beans – they provide protein to help build strong muscles and key nutrients such as iron and magnesium for growth. Peanut butter, chicken, tuna, eggs or hummus make great high-protein sandwich fillings.

Some colour – Glow foods (vegetables and fruit)

- Vegetables and fruit – they provide fibre and important minerals and vitamins. Cut vegetables into manageable pieces such as carrot, cucumber or celery sticks. You can also add vegetables to sandwich fillings. Use fruit that fits easily in a lunch box such as mandarins, small apples, grapes or a pottle of diced fruit. To keep the cost down, buy vegetables and fruit that are in season. Eat fruit instead of drinking fruit juice.
- Bottle of water – try adding fruit or vegetables like lemon, cucumber, oranges or berries to make flavoured water. See *Make your own flavoured water* from *Healthy Kids* (www.healthykids.org.nz).



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IN-CONFIDENCE

Become an Oranga Tamariki Foster Caregiver in Southland

Help make a Difference in a Child's Life!

Are you ready to provide a safe, loving, and supportive home for a child in need? Oranga Tamariki is looking for caring individuals and families who can help children in care to grow, heal, and thrive.

We are currently seeking caregivers who can offer:

- A safe and nurturing environment
- Emotional and physical support to children in need
- A commitment to helping a child reach their full potential

As an Oranga Tamariki caregiver, you'll receive training, 24/7 support, and a financial allowance to assist with the care of the child. You'll also join a network of compassionate individuals dedicated to making a lasting, positive impact in the lives of children.

Who can become a caregiver?

- People with a genuine desire to care for children
- Families, singles, and couples
- People with different life experiences, backgrounds, and cultural connections

Every child deserves the chance to grow up in a loving, stable home. Could that home be with you?



Contact us today to learn more about joining the Southland caregiving whānau.

Call: **Isla Hardy**

Email: Isla.hardy@ot.govt.nz

Website: orangatamariki.govt.nz

Together, we can make a brighter future for children in Southland!



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Gorge Road School

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