Thursday 18th September 2025: Term 3 Week 10

Kia ora, whanau/ hello everyone!

Last week for the term and there is a renewed energy after storybook character day. Scripts and parts for our end of year production were given out to our tamariki. Aladdin!! Always a highlight of the school year, can't wait to see and hear the results. 2 weeks of practise during holidays will give a good head start.



Aladdin Scripts went home on Tuesday.

Rats/gems/maids to be sorted /confirmed when back at school.

Please look after scripts and bring back to school **first day of next term**, Monday 6th of October. Take time in the holidays to become familiar with lines/words in songs etc. Ready to hit the ground running.

Concert December 3rd. Put the date on your calendar. Every child has a part to play and it's really important that each child attends the production and prize giving night. If you know your child will be unable to attend please alert the school ASAP.

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 before the end of term.

The Big Grow

This year, as a new addition to Pet Day, children will be growing vegetables – either lettuces or radishes. Children will plant their seeds and bring these home to care for over the holidays. They will also be given a plant diary to record how their plant grows. Children are free to feed and name their plant, or even repot if required. All plants will be returned to school for Pet Day judging where each child will talk about growing their plant.

Reminder everyone has a diary to fill in over the holidays for pet day.



We had an amazing visitor today. James Golden from the Toi Tois Lions vege seedling stall stand popped in. James grows the seedlings that are for sale at the lions stall down at Fortrose. The proceeds from the sale of plants go towards the many community projects Lions are involved in. James donates his time and is helped by Wendy (who is also a resident in Fortrose) and his parents Leigh & Philip. Many hands help to make this a success.

Fortrose Café opens again this weekend, take a trip over that way for a treat and cuppa. Keep some cash on you and pop into the township, find the stall and get your seedlings for the upcoming growing season.

Kāore te kumara e kōrero mō tōna ake reka

The kumara (sweet potato) does not say how sweet he is

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Story character day was a great success on Tuesday. All children were encouraged to dress up with a character in mind and a book in their hand. It was fantastic to see the variety and creativity from all our tamariki! A big Nga mihi / thank you to all parents for getting in behind this one also!



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Tomorrow is 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. We know it is a busy time of year on farm, please don't stress about the food. There is always plenty available, if you require any further details please get in touch with your child's teacher.



The 50th anniversary of the 1st recognised Maori language starts next week. We encourage inclusion and if you 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 been through Polyfest this term there is a great energy around

our blended cultures, but also the enjoyment our tamariki/children get from the whole experience.



We have been very busy getting the gardens ready for the new growing season. Thank you to Charlie Keenan for a donation of growing soil and manure to top up our gardens. Sue and Jo for getting the process under way.



We were wondering if anyone had **spare watering** cans or **redundant gardening tools** they might be able to donate. Brendan is happy to come pick them up or feel free to drop into the office.

Upcoming Events Dates subject to change		
Sun 14 th – Sat 20 th September	Maori Language week (50 year celebration).	
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	
Date tbc	Southern Zone Triathlon	
Monday 1 st December	School Board meeting (BoT)	
Wednesday 3 rd December	School Production & prize giving	

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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

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 Otepuni 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.

Book Bus Timetable 3 Nov: 1 Dec Waikawa Reserve 10am-10.45am; Tokanui School 11.15am-12.30pm; Fortrose Picnic Area 1.15pm-2.00pm; Gorge Road School 2.30pm-3.30pm

Sports-tastic School Holiday Programme

Our popular Sports-tastic programme is back! Packed with games, skills, and plenty of sporty fun, it's the perfect way for tamariki to stay active and entertained.



17 22 – 24 September



9:00am - 3:00pm (drop-off from 8:30am)



https://stadiumsouthprogrammes.flicket.co.nz/

Adventure Park ft. Bounce House

Get ready for non-stop energy and laughter as the Bounce House returns! Climb, jump, and bounce your way through this epic adventure.



17 22 – 24 September



Session times daily: 10am | 11am | 12pm | 2pm | 3pm | 4pm

\$15 general admission (all ages) – includes free access to our Multi-Wall (normally \$10 per person).



https://stadiumsouthprogrammes.flicket.co.nz/

Our last event sold out - don't miss out!

We'd really appreciate it if you could share this in your school newsletter, app, or social media. Flyers are attached in both PDF and JPG format for easy use. Ngā mihi nui,

The ILT Stadium Southland Team

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Approximately 1.3 million people die each year as a result of road traffic crashes. Between 20 and 50 million people suffer non-fatal injuries, with many incurring a disability as a result of their injury. Road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death for children and young adults aged 5–29 years. The main reason behind these road accidents is not following or knowing traffic and road safety rules.

Trafficquiz.com is a **free-to use** website developed with the aim of spreading awareness regarding traffic rules and road safety rules. Through <u>trafficquiz.com</u>, students can learn and test their knowledge about traffic and road safety rules in an entertaining way, i.e., by playing quizzes. Teachers and parents can also use <u>trafficquiz.com</u> regularly to refresh their knowledge about traffic, road safety, and child safety rules. School bus drivers can also regularly use it to learn and be conscious about following traffic rules. The benefit of being **online** is that <u>trafficquiz.com</u> can be used anytime, anywhere, on any device.

We request that you kindly share the links given below with students, parents, teachers, and the driving staff so that everyone can learn and be conscious about following road safety and traffic rules. This can save many lives.

The links are as follows:

1. For Age group (5 to 9 years):

https://trafficquiz.com/road-safety-quiz-junior-level-1/

2. For Age group (10 to 15 years):

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https://trafficquiz.com/road-safety-quiz-secondary-level-1/



here https://www.webscorer.com/Cyclingsouthland

Cycling Southland are running two Give it a Go track cycling sessions during the school holidays. These sessions are aimed at children looking to try track cycling for the first time. I have attached a poster as well as some more information. Please could you share this with your school?

Many thanks Lucy

Looking for an exciting activity for the school holidays? Why not come along to our indoor velodrome and try track cycling!

No previous experience required, bikes and helmets provided

When: 23rd and 24th September 10-

11am

Who: Open to children aged 10+ Where: Invercargill Velodrome, ILT

Stadium Southland

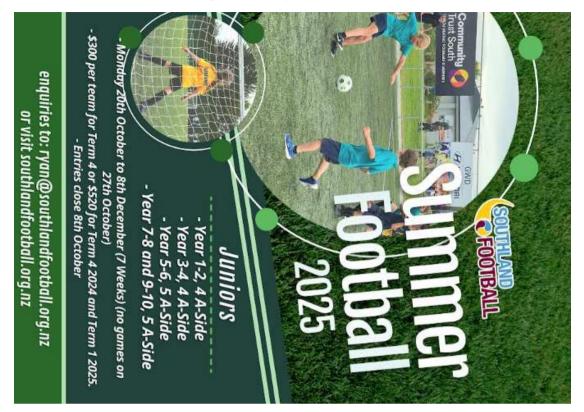
Sign up

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The South Coast Environment Society's











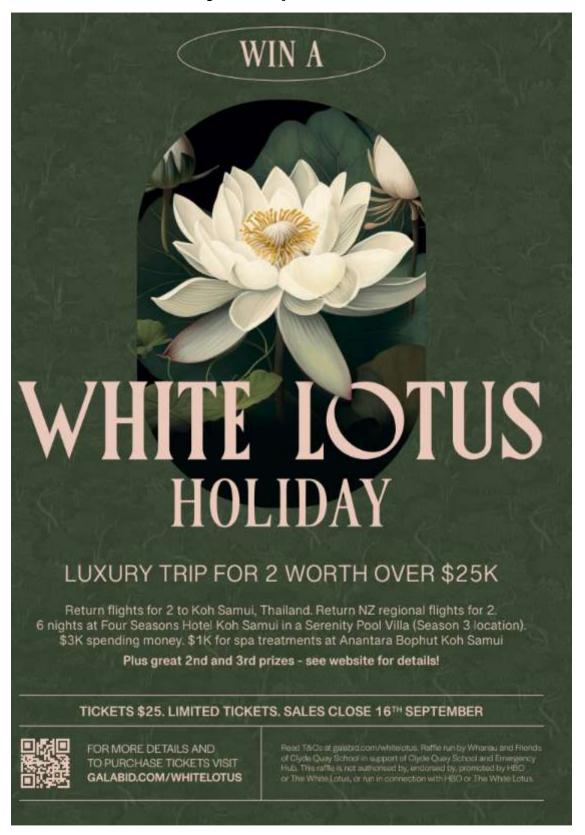




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School lunches

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 whanau.

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

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



If you would like to advertise on the Gorge Road School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com

SKOOL LOOP

o download our app: In Google Play & App Store search

'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.