

# Gore Main School Newsletter

Week 4 GMS Newsletter 2022



## What's Up Mr Puna???



**Kia ora whanau** - Well..... Week 3 was a big week!!!! I am so proud of how we all got through last week. Everyone stepped up and did what needed to be done. Our GMS Safety Plan proved to be successful and assisted us in identifying close contacts. Thank you for all your hard work during this time.

We are now at Phase 3 of the COVID-19 response. New Zealand's COVID-19 response continues amid much larger numbers of daily cases.

You may well have seen the headlines in the media about the numbers of cases being seen in schools. Please don't be alarmed by this. It is only natural that as cases in our community

increase, they will appear in our school. We have really good systems in place to respond to this and to keep any spread of the virus – should it appear – to a minimum.

You may have seen Dr Jin Russell in the media noting research from New South Wales about their recent Omicron outbreak showing that spread within the school setting is very low (less than 4% of cases at school infected someone else when at school). We have seen that in New Zealand too.

This is why we remain open at Red. It's great for a child's wellbeing and learning to be at school with their friends and school staff, and we have very good systems in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Your job remains the same, too: please continue to keep a really close watch of your whānau for anyone with symptoms. If unwell, please stay at home and get advice about getting a COVID-19 test.

With Phase 3 of the Omicron response, the key change is that it is only confirmed cases and their household contacts who need to self-isolate. Everyone else, including those who may have had close contact with the case but aren't in the household, must continue to monitor for any symptoms of COVID-19.

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are now being used to diagnose COVID-19 as well as PCR tests. This means that you will get an almost immediate test result back if a RAT is used.

If anyone in your family is confirmed as having COVID-19, you and your household must be isolated for 10 days. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can if someone in your household has tested positive for COVID-19.

Transmission of COVID-19 is still most likely to happen in your home – so please keep doing all those good things to keep your whānau safe.

Wash your hands, get lots of fresh air, cover any coughs and sneezes, clean surfaces regularly, and seek advice if anyone is not feeling well. And please wear a mask when you are out and about. There is information online to help your family prepare to isolate if you need to.

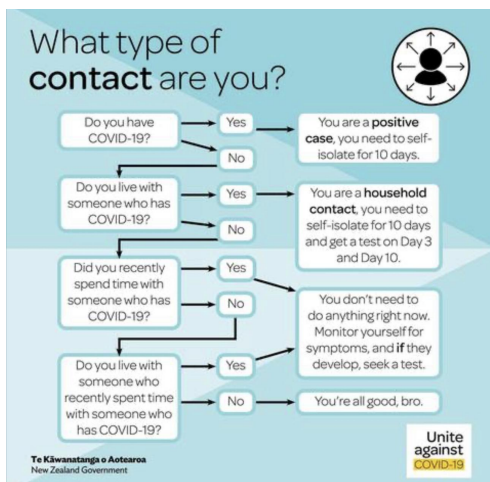
The most important advice we can give to keep your whānau safe is to act as if you have COVID-19. More than a third of people who have COVID-19 will not have any symptoms if they have had three doses of the vaccine. Please think about who you visit and what health measures you can put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

We will no longer be sending classes home for online learning unless we have a significant number of staff isolating at home and we are unable to maintain health and safety procedures at school. If teachers are required to stay home and isolate, they will be away from school for 10 days.

Finally, we know how hard the impacts on COVID-19 have been for many families in New Zealand. If you know of a family in your community who is struggling, please encourage them to reach out for support for example to access food, medicine, or access financial support: Help is available – COVID-19 Health Hub.

[Prepare to Isolate Link](#)

[COVID Health Advice Link](#)



If you have any concerns about sending your child to school, please do get in touch. We are here to help.

The attached flow chart will help you in identifying what type of contact you are and what you are required to do (Also on our Facebook page).

## Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews are able to take place as long as safety procedures are in place. All parents **MUST** wear a mask, use hand sanitizer upon entering the room, and there will be a 2 metre distance between parent and teacher. We need to keep our teachers safe so that they don't get sick so thank you for following these guidelines.

**Interviews - 2nd-3rd March 3.20pm-6pm**

Please use this QR Code to book or go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz> and use the code **vfxpx**



# Welcome to GMS

We would like to welcome Aubree Tarapipipi, Oliver Ronald, Davina Matakere and Millie Walker to Gore Main School. We hope you have enjoyed your first week at school.

## Mask

Year 4-6 - Please ensure that your child comes to school with a mask each day.

## Athletics

Unfortunately because of the current restrictions Sport Southland have decided to postpone Southland Athletics until Term 4. We have decided along with most of the other schools around Gore to carry on with our GMS Athletics Day on the 4th March. Unfortunately, like last year, parents/caregivers/spectators will not be able to attend this event. We are currently working through how to hold the event safely and to stay within the rules.

## GMS RED Light Safety Plan Continues

This plan follows the framework as set out by the Ministry of education.

- **All Year 4-6 Children must wear masks inside unless they have an approved medical exemption.**
- **We ask that parents provide their child with a mask but we will have some at school should they forget them.**
- **No Assemblies unless outside and classes are spaced apart.**
- **Children to be dropped off and picked up from the gate.**
- **We will have stagger finishing time to start with to reduce congestion.**

- **Room 1-5 2.50pm finish and leave at the middle gate and Room 7-9 3pm and leave at the crossing gate.**
- **No parents in classrooms other than in Room 1-2 and only to settle the child, and we ask that you leave when the child is settled/happy. These parents must wear masks and sign in at the top of the ramp.**
- **All other parents please drop off and pick up at the gate and maintain 1 metre distance from each other after school.**
- **Children from 5-11 years are now eligible to get vaccinated.**
- **If children are sick (with COVID or flu like symptoms) they must stay home and get tested.**
- **If you or your child gets COVID please notify GMS as soon as possible and isolate for 10 days.**
- **Online distance learning will be made available if children or classes are required to stay home.**
- **Please make sure you have access to Seesaw via your classroom teacher.**
- **Our focus is still very much on education and progress of learning, if you need to talk with your classroom teacher please do so by email, phone or ask for an appointment after 3.15pm.**

Please follow all of the points stated above. If you have any questions or concerns about the current situation please direct them to [principal@goremain.school.nz](mailto:principal@goremain.school.nz) and let the teachers focus on teaching.

## Year 6 Camp

Currently we are still aiming for Year 6 Camp at the end of the term. As mentioned above things could change very quickly. Because of this we have also booked some dates for term 4. If it becomes unsafe to continue with camp then we will postpone to term 4. We will be in touch soon

to notify you if you have made the parent help list. **We will be making the decision on camp no later than the 6th April.**

## eTap Parent App

If you do not have eTap @school Parent App up and running then please email the office and we will send you an invitation to sign up. This app is how you will receive notices, newsletters, permission slips and let us know if your child is going to be absent from school.

## Junior School News

Junior Syndicate News

### Room 5 News

Tēnā koutou from Ruma Rima.

Term 1 has started very well with lots of learning about how to be a Year 3 student and the quality of work expected at Year 3 level.

We loved learning about The Treaty of Waitangi and we found out many facts about our history. We created our own class treaty with excellent ideas we all agreed to, about how we will have a successful learning year together.

Every Friday afternoon we do our learning in Bannerman Park. We are such a lucky school to have this resource just next door! So far we have learnt the difference between a tree, shrub and flower, the parts of a tree, the parts of a leaf and we can identify the name of a few plant species. We have the best time exploring in nature! In writing, we are learning to inject exciting adjectives into our sentences, in order to provide greater detail to our readers. The adjectives being used are fantastic! We are also learning to use a dictionary to correct spelling errors once our draft writing is completed.

We are practising athletics skills in preparation for Athletics Day. We are disappointed there will be no spectators due to Covid, but many photos

and videos will be added to our class Seesaw Journal for parents to view.

Ruma Rima wishes all our friends and whanau an enjoyable weekend.



# Senior School News

Kia ora from the Senior Syndicate

The senior school has been busy practising for athletics and getting in as much practice as we can before we hold our athletics day soon. We are hoping for a sunny day next Friday.

This week the Enviro Council members were announced. While it is disappointing for the students that didn't make it this year, we hope they will try again next year. Unfortunately Miss Burgess can't have everyone in the group. We look forward to hearing more news from the 2022 Enviro Council soon.

Have a fabulous weekend everyone

## Room 9

Our whakatauki this week is 'Mauria te pono' which translates to 'Believe in yourself'. Room 9 had a chat about what this means for us at school and how good things can happen when you try. It is so important to never ever give up!

We have been hard at work in Room 9 and the teachers have been super impressed with the great attitude and work ethic the Year 6 students are showing! We would like to welcome to our class Ollie and Mia and know they will enjoy being members of our Gore Main Community.

On Thursday we welcomed back the Sports Activator and learnt about high jump. This coincides with the athletics practice we have been doing daily.



This year we have 11 student council members, 11 enviro members and 15 PALs leaders in Room 9. They are all rising to the task of being incredible leaders and so far are doing an amazing job!

Next week is Week 5! Camp is looming closer everyday!! We know the students are eager to learn which parents will be coming along and more information around this will come out soon. Unfortunately we have had over 20 parents wanting to come along as parent helpers but we can only accommodate 12, we will have to do a ballot to decide.



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## GMS Stationary List

All stationary lists are available online via our website or you can request a list at Paper Plus Gore. [Link to stationary list](#)

## Reading Diaries

Next Monday night marks 25 Reading Nights. If your child has read every night and reached this milestone then they will be coming to see me for their Reading 25 Nights Prize. Also the class with the highest percentage of people reaching this mark will win a prize. Happy reading!

## School Uniform

Time for the sunhat reminder. Still some children with no sunhat. Please ensure that your child has their school sunhat at school every day.

## Teacher Only Day

On Friday 11th March 2022 school will be closed for staff professional development. This means a long weekend for you and your whanau.

## Subway Friday

Subway orders are every Friday and must be placed before 8am each Friday morning.

## Piano, Keyboard Lessons

Any child interested in taking piano or keyboard lessons you can contact: Mrs Sutherland who lives close to the school and her number is 2081741 if interested.

## Enrol Today

If your 4 year old is not enrolled then come and see us today. We have limited spaces left for 2022. Call the office and book an appointment with Mr Puna. If you know someone who should come to GMS then tell them to get in touch with us today.

## GMS Discovery Time Transition Programme

Turning 5 and starting school can be a stressful time for 5 year olds and also for parents. At GMS we are making that transition as seamless as possible. When you enrol at GMS and from around 4.5 years old, you can bring your child along to Discovery Time. Discovery Time is every Wednesday from 1.30-2.30pm. This gives your child time to become familiar with teachers, classmates, older children and the principal. There is no limit to the amount of sessions you can come to. By day 1 your child will be running into school.

## Shooting Star Awards

**Room 1:** Harper Moyle - for always being positive at giving new things a go!

Leo McDougall - for being amazing with counting at Maths time.

**Room 2:** Noah McKay - being brave when coming into school each day!


Paul Esveld - super work on his writing!

**Room 3:** Blake McCall - amazing presentation of all work.

Phoebe Gilchrist - amazing work on place value.

**Room 4:** Cole Baxter - fantastic work at reading time.

Theo Crossan - great perseverance & giving all his writing a go even with a cast on.



**Room 5:** Sophie Raymond & Esme' Le Grange - excellent Year 3 work effort.

**Room 7:** Charlie Grant - great descriptive writing.

Billie Smith - great vocabulary choices in writing.

**Room 8:** Zoe Manlunas - excellent writing.

Abdul Hafeez Abdul Halim - excellent thinking when preparing his reading responses.

**Room 9:** Jake Barnett - for amazing basic facts knowledge.

Isaiah Mitchell - an amazing start to writing.

Ben Abernethy - awesome work during reading time & showing excellent leadership skills.

## Values Awards

**Room 1:** Ellie Moyle - for always thinking of others & what makes them smile.

**Room 2:** Elliott Falconer - always doing the right thing in the playground & classroom.

**Room 3:** Caci Boyes - being a super star & doing the right thing at all times.

**Room 4:** Theo Grace - always doing the right thing even when others aren't.

**Room 5:** Adalita McKay - mature & wise thinking which always leads you to making excellent decisions.

**Room 7:** Jordan Goodwin - always on track & doing the right thing!

**Room 8:** Fos Grimaldi - is always doing the right thing without being asked.

**Room 9:** Ava Marvick & Lucas Raymond - always on task & doing what you should be!

## Dates Term 1

**2nd February** - Term 1 starts

**7th February** - Waitangi Day (School Closed)

**9th February** - Discovery Time starts at 1.30pm

**28th February** - BOT Meeting

**2nd-3rd March** - Parent Teacher Interviews

**4th March** - Athletics Day

**11th March** - Teacher Only Day

**11th April** - Year 6 Camp TBC

**14th April** - Last Day Term 1

## Outstanding fees

Hi everyone, this is a friendly reminder regarding overdue fees.

There were invoices sent home this week only to students/families who have accounts outstanding to be paid. The invoices are for activities that the students have participated in during 2021 and 2020. Please note these costs are for external activities that do not come under normal school curriculum costs eg touch,cricket which the school is charged for. I would really appreciate it if these could be paid as we are now starting into 2022 activities and would be nice to have the previous years cleared.

These same invoices were sent out at the start of Term 4 2021 and may have been overlooked which I do understand happens.

I am happy for people to pay the fees off as this may be another option which may suit your finances better.

Any queries when you do receive the invoice please let me know.

Many thanks Jan.

## New StoryWalk Book

*The Travel Bug* by Benjamin Gilmour is a wonderful story about the journey of a bug with an identity crisis who doesn't know who he is or where he's from. While journeying the world to find answers he meets wonderful creatures, sees amazing sights, and eats delicious food.

Bonus learning alongside boosting literacy:

Objects to find hidden in the pictures on each page  
Map to take from the first StoryWalk® post to fill in country names as you go  
Flags to match with the countries from the Welcome Trail signs  
Heaps of virtual travel links on the last StoryWalk® signpost



**StoryWalk®** Up Mid Jan-March 2022

Pack a snack bag and travel the world on this newest StoryWalk®! Challenge yourself to seek and find the objects on each page.

**THE TRAVEL BUG**  
Benjamin Gilmour  
James Gulliver Hancock

Grab a map from the start of the StoryWalk® or the Gore Library to fill in as you go.

**GORE DISTRICT LIBRARIES**

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

## Parenting Course

“NEXT CHAPTER PARENTING” offering Individual, or group, PARENTING SESSIONS via Zoom.

Ten one hourly sessions, weekly at a time convenient to you, available evenings. Topics covered include Communication, Empathy, Setting Limits, Quality Time, Consequences, Choices, Redirection, Pick your battles with your child, Problem Behaviour, Praise vs Acknowledgement, Time In vs Time Out, The Pause, Sibling Rivalry, Teenage Boundaries Erickson’s Stages of Growth, Personality Types and how it affects your children.

E: [brigid@nextchapterparenting.co.nz](mailto:brigid@nextchapterparenting.co.nz)

M: 0221087214

WINZ funding assistance where Eligible.

## Learn to Skate



**KIVI SKATE**

Open to future ice skaters & hockey players!  
Mondays or Fridays, 4-5pm  
From ages 4+  
\$12 Each session

Come along and Learn to Skate  
Contact our Facebook page or email [issrinkmanager@gmail.com](mailto:issrinkmanager@gmail.com) to register limited space.

## Have your contact details changed?

If your contact details have changed or you feel as though you haven't heard from us in a long time then we might have the wrong contact information. Please contact Jan in the office today and let us know.

## SchoolStream is Ending Soon

Please remember we will be changing from SchoolStream to eTap Parent App by the end of term 1. SchoolStream will only be used for emergencies between now and the end of the term.

Be sure to stay up to date with what is going on at Gore Main School by liking our Facebook or visiting our website

<https://goremain.weebly.com>

Gore Main School

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Phone: 03 208 7615

**HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND  
WHĀNAU**

