



## Waikoikoi School - Little School Big Spirit!

# Newsletter

### Principal's Note:

Welcome to 2024. It is incredible to be back at school. This is an action packed term so please make sure that you check the calendar as it will be updated regularly. I would like to congratulate Thea, Gareth and Ava McCall of the arrival of Oaklyn. Thea is on maternity leave from her position in the office. Wendy Allan and Laura McPhail are covering the position. Check out over the page for some information about them.

Our first trip is to Waimumu Field days on Wednesday 14th February. We will be leaving as soon as the bus arrives so students that travel can they please be here by 8:30. We will not be having breakfast at school. We are going to investigate and hopefully purchase everything we need for our hens. The wonderful Vicki Crawford will be joining us. Students will need to wear their uniform, vest, a large packed lunch and a drink bottle. Please don't send any money. In order to go on trips during the year can you please fill out the attached permission form [Permission Form 2024](#)

We have started practicing for athletics. Students will need sports shoes at school each day please. Athletics is at BMC grounds on the 22nd of February (postponement 23rd of February). Parents need to transport their own children to this event and students will need to be in uniform. If you need any support please get in contact. No bus will be running. I will send a programme when I have it.

Please remember that whatsapp is the best way of communicating if you do not need an immediate response. You can call the office as well. Please don't text as we have poor reception. The wonderful Vanessa Rufford will be teaching on Monday and Tuesday this term and I will be teaching Wednesday - Friday.

Homework this term is reading. Junior students will bring a school reading book each day. Senior students will have a novel that they have chosen from the library. We will be going to the library on a Friday - Please check the calendar. More information about this on the next page

We are having a working bee on Monday 19th of February at 2pm. Please come along to help with gardening, clearing spouting, tidying the grounds, hedge cutting and weed wacking. All help is appreciated. Please bring any tools that you will need

Ma te wa  
Jacqui Dillon

## How long should my child spend on reading homework?

We suggest children should be reading each night (minimum of 5 nights per week). Use the following guide to determine how long your child should be reading for each night. This is a guide and outlines what we think should be a minimum – depending on the ability and interests of your child, you may lengthen this time, however we suggest you only do that if your child is happy to read on!

**Years 1 & 2 5-10 minutes**  
**Years 3 & 4 10 minutes**  
**Years 5 & 6 10-15 minutes**

## What should my child be reading?

Reading at home should be enjoyable and easy. In most cases, your child's teacher will send a book home that your child can read independently. As children become more capable readers, they will choose a book from the library or read a book that is of interest to them.

### General tips for helping with reading.....

If your child forgets to bring their book home, reading anything is better than reading nothing and if there is nothing they can read independently, read something to them! Get your child to read aloud to you, even if they are a capable reader – they could read you their favourite paragraph and tell you why they like it!

Don't expect your child to read perfectly. Make sure that when an error has been made, you allow time for the error to be noticed by your child.

Don't allow the book to be a struggle – take turns at reading the pages if you need to.

Make this a fun experience for everyone.

Remember, if you are too busy, they can read to a sibling or even read to someone on the phone or listen to an audiobook in the car while you travel.

### Introducing a story.....

When settling down to read, it is a good idea to have a chat about the story. It may be that your child is very familiar with the story and this isn't necessary. If you feel it is, here are some discussion points:

What is the title (tell them if necessary)

What might the story be about?

Look through the book before reading and talk about the pictures (discuss detail in pictures such as expressions, actions, background)

Predict what might happen in the next picture (as you turn the pages)

### Prompts that may be useful during reading.....

To encourage having a go: What is the first letter?

What sound does it make?

What other sounds can you see/hear in the word?

Run a finger under that word while you read it slowly.

Do you know the ending?

To encourage checking meaning: You said..... Does that make sense?

### After reading....

It is important to make sure children understand what they are reading. We do this through questioning. As children become more competent readers, they should be able to ask more complex questions that take a bit more thinking to answer!! The table below might be a useful guide when asking your child questions about their reading. The more complex levels of questions are lower down on the table.

Question Type	Meaning	Examples
Literal	Information that is given in the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What happened when.....?</li><li>• Why did....happen?</li><li>• What happened after....?</li><li>• Why did it happen?</li></ul>
Inference	Information implied but not given in the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How did you know....?</li><li>• Why do you think....happened?</li><li>• How do you think he/she felt when....happened?</li></ul>
Vocabulary	Determining the meaning of words in the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does this word mean?</li><li>• Why was this word important in the story?</li><li>• What is another word for....?</li></ul>
Evaluation	Evaluate additional information not given in the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do you think of the story?</li><li>• What do you think the author meant when they said.....?</li><li>• How was....like you?</li></ul>
Reorganisation	Using two or more pieces of information given in different parts of the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In your own words tell me what happened in the story?</li><li>• Tell me the main events in the story?</li><li>• Can you tell me an event in the story that has happened to you?</li></ul>
Reaction	Expressing an opinion on information given in the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How did you feel when....?</li><li>• Have you had an experience like.....?</li><li>• Tell me a time when you felt like.....? Why?</li></ul>

**Introduction of new staff in the office. We are so excited to have new members join our Waikoikoi School team.**

**Laura McPhail,**

I moved to Gore in 2012 from Christchurch where I had worked as a dispatcher for the Police and after moving to Southland. I worked for the Ministry of Justice and then the Gore Police as a typist. For the last six years I have been a stay at home mum for our two children, Kate 5 and Austin 3. My husband Glen is 5th generation on our sheep farm in Benio.

I am very proud to be involved in a farming community and having a much better appreciation of rural life and many new skills. I love Gore and feeling like I am part of place rather than a cog in a wheel of a big city.

As a family we enjoy four wheel driving and we are lucky enough to have my inlaws that have retired to Frankton where we can spend time there.

I am so excited to have this part time job at such a special wee school and feel very lucky to be here. I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know the children here.

**Wendy Allan**

Hi, I lived in Riversdale all my life, then moved to Gore two years ago. My husband is Andrew Allan and we own Ewan Allan Honda in Gore. We have a daughter Shanae, who is off to university next week to study Osteopathy. I am looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know your children. You have such a lovely school and awesome Principal and Teachers, so looking forward to working here.

# Eastern Southland Cricket

Please find attached and below Southland Cricket's info for **CRICKET** in **Eastern Southland** during **TERM 1 2024!**

**SMASH PLAY CRICKET** (Yr1/2 Boys & Girls), **SUMMER SMASH CRICKET** (Yr3/4 Boys & Girls) and **GIRLS SMASH CRICKET** (Yr3-8 Girls) will return **every Tuesday** at Hamilton Park starting on **Tuesday 27th February** running for 6 weeks.

And **FRIDAY NIGHT CRICKET** (Yr4-6) will be back **every Friday** at Hamilton Park from **Friday 23rd February** running for 6 weeks, which is combined through the **West Otago Junior Cricket** setup.

Like last term, parents/guardians should register their player(s) online via the **PLAYHQ ONLINE SYSTEM** using the specific registration links for each school/club and these are as follows below.

The registration page link for **Waikoikoi School** (Tuesdays, through 'Country Schools Cricket') is at this link here:

<https://www.playhq.com/new-zealand-cricket/org/country-schools-cricket/9d4d0b68/register>

The registration page link for **West Otago Junior Cricket** (Fridays) is at this link here:

<https://www.playhq.com/new-zealand-cricket/org/west-otago-junior-cricket/081358fe/register>



## Whats is happening at school this term?

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
WEEK 1			1	2 Library	3/4
5 WEEK 2	6	7	8	9	10/11
12 WEEK 3	13	14 Field days	15 Mrs Taylor Teaching	16 Mrs Taylor Teaching Library	17/18
19 WEEK 4 Sports Activator Working bee	20	21	22 West Otago Athletics	23 West Otago Athletics postponement date	24/25
26 WEEK 5	27	28 Assembly	29	1 Gore Library visit	2/3
4 WEEK 6 Sports Activator	5	6	7 Eastern Athletics	8	9/10
11 WEEK 7	12	13	14	15 Library	16/17 Golf Tournament
18 WEEK 8 Swimming Lessons Waikaka	19 Swimming Lessons Waikaka	20 Swimming Lessons Waikaka	21 Swimming Lessons Waikaka	22 Swimming Lessons Waikaka	23/24
25 WEEK 9 Otago Anniversary Day	26	27 Sports Activator	28 Library	29 Good Friday	30/31
1 WEEK 10 Easter Monday	2	3	4	5	6/7
8 WEEK 11	9 Assembly	10	11	12 Last day of Term Library	13



# TERM ONE



## WEEKS 1,4,7,10

MANE - NACHOS  
TUUREI - MEATBALLS & MASH  
WENEREI - SPAG BOL  
TAAITE - BBQ CHICKEN PIZZA  
PARAIRE - CHICKEN BURGER

## WEEKS 2,5,8,11

MANE - COTTAGE PIE  
TUUREI - CHICKEN PASTA  
WENEREI - FILLED ROLL  
TAAITE - MAC N CHEESE  
PARAIRE - BEEF BURGER

## WEEKS 3,6,9

MANE - SAVOURY MINCE  
TUUREI - FISH & CHIPS  
WENEREI - SANDWICH  
TAAITE - LASAGNE  
PARAIRE - BEEF SUB

## SIDES

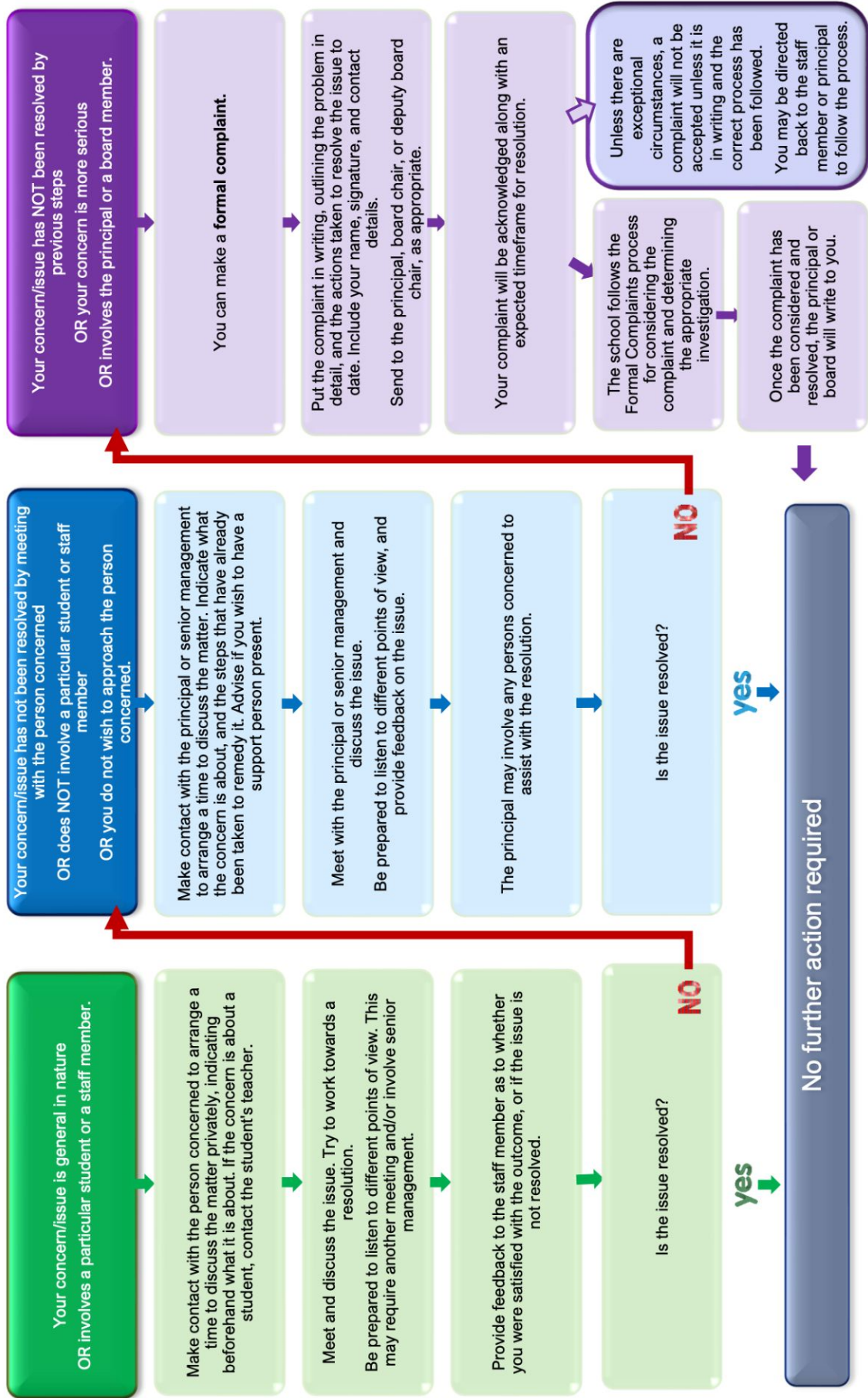
CHEESE STICK  
FRUIT  
YOGHURT  
BAKED SLICE  
MUFFINS  
POPCORN



Just a reminder of the process that you need to follow if you have a concern or complaint that needs dealt with. Below is our concerns and complaints process.

# Concerns and Complaints Process

Most concerns can be resolved informally by discussions with the people concerned.



This flowchart aligns with the school's Concerns and Complaints policy and procedures.