



Geraldine Primary

Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve

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Newsletter

Week 4, Term 3

Thursday 17 August 2016

From our Principal....

Kia ora Whanau. Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou - greetings to you all.

Our **3 Way Conferences** take place next Monday - 22 August from 8.15am to 5.45pm. The bookings will close tomorrow at 3pm, so please ensure that you have booked by then through www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the code **w8kc4**. Further to previous notices, normal classes won't operate on this day and there will be no school bus service for GPS students. Children will come to school for their 3wc only. Goals set at the 3WC earlier in the year will be looked at and new ones set for the remainder of the year.

Stop work Union meetings

We wish to advise our school community that the primary and secondary school unions have organised a series of stop work meetings across the country to discuss the proposed Ministry of Education funding model for schools. The meetings in our area will take place on Friday 9 September. All staff who are members of the union are entitled to attend one of two meetings.

These proposed changes, if implemented, will mean an increase in financial complexity for schools and Boards of Trustees, significant decisions around staffing levels and a likely increase in class sizes. The changes represent an erosion of funding to state schools, which are already under funded. The fact that both the primary and secondary sector unions are meeting together indicates the seriousness of this matter.

School will be open as usual on this day, but there will be reduced staffing levels to enable staff to attend a meeting. For each year group, there will be one teacher at school at any one time. In the junior syndicate, there will be two teachers at school.

While an alternative programme will be provided by staff throughout the day, parents are welcome to keep their child(ren) at home if they wish. Please let the office know on the day, or in the days leading up to Friday 9 September if your child(ren) will be away.

The staff are currently involved in **Te Reo Maori** lessons with Addie Couch-Snow each Thursday this term after school. This is broadening our understanding of Te Reo, to in turn assist with programmes in classes. Many thanks to Addie for sharing her time and expertise with us.

There have been reports in the media recently about families taking holidays during term time. We have noticed a sharp increase in numbers this year compared with previous years. Please inform the school office or myself in writing if you are taking your child(ren) out of school during term time and the duration and reason for the absence.

Kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui – be strong, be bold, be steadfast

Ngā mihi nui,

*Andrew Leverton
Principal / Tumuaki*

School Notices

3 Way Conferences

After School @ Kids Alive will be running a programme on the 3wc **day on Monday 22nd August from 8.30 am to 3.00 pm** at the St Andrew's Hall. You must register by Thursday 18th August. It will be \$25.00 a day or \$65.00 for more than three children. You can register online at www.kidsalive.co.nz (on the after school page) or phone 0274038126.

Class News

Room 7 & 8

Rooms 7 & 8 welcome you to Term 3. As our two classes are together in the Library we thought it would be a great idea to combine our newsletter news to you all. We are lucky to have such an exciting place to be working in while our new classrooms are being refurbished. Lots of books at hand to read!!! We are hoping that the job is going to schedule as we can't wait to be in our new rooms. We are doing well at sharing and working together. At times it can be very full on.

The term so far has been busy. It was great watching Elgregoe the Magician. Most of us really liked the rabbit's name! We have painted lovely snow pictures, visited with Harold last week in the Life Education Caravan and learnt how we are a VIP, a Very Important Person. We have also been working together in small groups at maths time on problem solving. That has been lots of fun. We have had to think really hard to solve the problems.

Some of us are taking part in the FLAVA festival on Friday which we are really looking forward to. We are sure the rest of the term will be just as busy. Here's to great learning from all the Very Important People in Rooms 7 & 8.

Room 6

Last week we went to visit Harold.

We learnt that we are all VIP's---very important people.

But Harold said he is a VIG--a very important giraffe.

I am a very important person. - Cameron

I am Maddison because I am me. I am a VIP. -Maddison

Harry is an important person. Harry runs super fast. - Harry

I am special because I am me. I love my sister and my mum because they are special too. -Tayla

I am a really important person because I am me. James

VIP's are me and my friends. We like playing together. - Maddilin

Room 10

Another busy start to the term. This is written by two boys who enjoyed the session:

On Wednesday the 9th of August Room 10 had cricket for kiwi sport. Two men came and taught us some simple skills to be good at cricket. They could hit the ball so far. At the end we had a little game team B won. "Every one had a great time."

We have been busy learning how to write a persuasive letters.

Krya speaking here, in my opinion we should be able to climb trees at Geraldine Primary School.

Firstly climbing trees is fun and to keep safe I would tell every one to always have a tight grip and what branches you can put your body on.

Secondly I would do my hardest to make sure no one and I mean no one would fall. Next if you have no one to play with and you're lonely you just have fun climbing trees.

I look forward to climbing trees in the future at Geraldine Primary School.

Students in our class are looking forward to participating in Flava Festival on Friday. Others can not wait to do the jump jam course in Timaru on Tuesday.

In my opinion the school should have fruit trees. I think about 20 fruit trees.

First I think we could pick the fruit off the tree for healthy snack break. In September the trees will look really beautiful when they have bloomed.

Lastly we will learn more because we will have healthy fruit to make our brains work.

Room 4

Life Education Visit

Over the last two weeks we have visited Harold and Rudi in the Life Education Trust truck. We have been talking about being unique and different. We learnt that we have 4 differences, our eye patterns and finger prints, our personalities and our individual DNA. It was lot's of fun seeing Harold and talking about how we are unique.

By Scott Robertson.

Healthy heart and lungs gives us
An awesome life but we need to
Remember to look after our bodies and
Overcome all the peer pressure and

Letting ourselves learn new things about how
Different we are.

By Corban Venz

Olympic Day

Last week we had an outstanding Olympic Games morning. It was fun filled with lots of amazing mini games. It was great as the sun was shining down and we were outside for most of the games. We played a game of speed badminton, A game of mini bocce, volleyball and a games with water pistols and we did some amazing Olympic chalk art. It was so much fun we would hope that we could have another one next year.

By Georgina Rowley.

Outstanding and fun games

Lots of laughter

Yelling for my team

Medals medals and more medals

Positive personalities

Incredible challenges

Cheering for My team

Dynamic games

Awesome amazing morning at school

Yelling go go go.

By William Eason.

Olympian Art

We have been doing this amazing art that is not quite finished. We started with tin foil and we had to mould it into the shape of a person competing in an Olympic Sport. It was so much fun scrunching the tinfoil. Some people have made hockey players, shooters, boxers, swimmers and runners. We then covered them in a layer of newspaper and glue. We then had to put two layers of newsprint to given them some definition. Our next step will be to paint them. Look out for our photos of the finished versions. Below is a photo of some of the ones ready to be painted.

By Billy Wheeler and Caleb Shaw.

Maths Week – Week 6 29th August to 2 September

Geraldine Primary will be having a Maths Week in week 6 (29 August - 2 September) where we will be celebrating Maths learning throughout the school. Each day the students will have a challenge that they will need to solve as well as a scavenger hunt around the school looking for maths shapes. Each class will design their own set of challenges as well.

As part of this week we will be having an Open Morning on Thursday 1st September from 9.15am to 10.30am. We invite all parents/whanau to come and see maths in action in the classrooms. We would encourage you to come and see maths in your child(ren)'s classroom(s) and then *visit* other classes so you can see the progressions. Each class will be different and we would encourage you to talk to the children about what they are learning and also the teachers who will be able to explain their class programme.

Dental Clinic

The Geraldine Primary School Dental Clinic is now closed until Tuesday 13 September. To make an appointment at any time please phone 0800 846 983.

Curriculum Survey

The staff at Geraldine Primary are currently reviewing how we deliver the key learning in Science, Social Studies, Technology and the Arts (Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Art). We are looking at developing a 3 Year Overview so that we can ensure our children have a wide range of experiences and learning opportunities.

We have surveyed the staff and asked senior students what topics they are interested in. We would now like to gather ideas from our parent community.

Rather than ask you to complete another survey we are going to have our senior students ask you a series of questions.

We will be sending them out to interview you in week 6. Gathering data, summarising it and using that information is an excellent real maths activity. This will happen during the morning before school and in the afternoon. We promise that the survey will only take you approximately 2 minutes to answer.

If you would like to complete the survey in paper form there will be copies available from the Office after 25 August and we ask that they are returned by the 2nd of September so they can be analysed.

We thank you for your support.

The Curriculum Team

Daffodil Day Mufti Day - Friday 26 August

Wear mufti or yellow if you wish and bring a coin donation to place on our daffodil. Proceeds will be donated to the Cancer Society. This is one of the causes we as a school support by helping with a fundraising activity.

This is one of the ways we show support for our Sun Smart Accreditation programme as that is about trying to prevent cancer in future years.

Lost

Size 12 brand new fleece named Cradock. If found, please return to office or Room 3. Thank you.

School Calendar -

Term 3

Week 4

Thursday 18 August

Kapa Haka dress rehearsal, 1.20pm

Friday 19 August

Kapa Haka at Flava Festival, Timaru

Week 5

Sunday 21 August

GPS Family Ski Day at Roundhill

Monday 22 August

3 Way Conferences, No Classes

Tuesday 23 August

Jump Jam Workshop

Friday 26 August

Daffodil Day – Mufti Day, gold coin donation

Week 6

Friday 2 September

Transition to School visit, 9am

Week 7

Wednesday 7 September Senior Syndicate Tekapo trip

Week 8

Monday 12 September

Home & School Meeting, 7pm, Staff Room

Wed 14 September

Y5 & 6 Ski Trip

BOT Meeting

Thursday 15 September

Open Assembly (time to be confirmed)

Friday 16 September

Mufti Day for Geraldine Children's Social

Work Trust

Week 9

Friday 22 September

Term 3 ends

2016 Term Dates

Term 3

Monday 25 July – Friday 23 September 9 weeks

Term 4

Monday 10 October – Thursday 15 December 10 weeks

Includes: - Labour Day – Mon 24 October (school closed)

Home & School

Stock Scheme

Stock Scheme registration forms to kindly be returned to the school office by this Friday. Thank you for your generosity. Any queries please contact Robyn Skinner on 693-9148.

Second Hand Uniform: Please note changes as below

The sale of second hand GPS uniform will now be held on the **first Friday of every month** from 0850 – 0915 commencing Term 3. Any additional sale dates and times will be advertised in this newsletter. If any parents/caregivers are in urgent need of uniform between the advertised sale dates, please text 021 02644 332. The venue during the Junior Block upgrade will be the corridor of the Office Block until further notice.

Donations of clean tidy uniform are always appreciated.

Term 3 Sale Dates:

Friday 2 September

Sausages

Sausages are available every Friday lunchtime. Orders are taken for sausages on Friday morning between 0820 – 0850 on the hall verandah. Children need to have the correct change of \$1.50 per sausage or purchase a sausage card from the School Office which costs \$15 for 10 sausages. It is important that the orders are processed in the morning so that the correct amount of sausages and bread may be purchased and cooked in time for the lunchtime rush. So please ensure your child/ren places their order in the morning before the bell rings. Gluten free is also an option, but plans must be discussed prior – please contact Michelle Howell 027 693-7367

Next Meeting

Monday 12 September, 7pm, Staff Room. New members most welcome.

Community Notices

Piano for Sale, Kemble, in very good order, bright tone, nice touch.

Recently examined and valued by a professional tuner/restorer. The case is dark rosewood in near perfect condition, a lovely piece of furniture \$850.

Ph 021 1790 355

