



GeraldinePrimary

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Newsletter

Week 4, Term 2
Thursday 26 May 2016

From our Principal....

A lot of training has taken place over the last few weeks in the lead up to our **school and district cross country** events. It was pleasing to see the effort that everyone put into their respective races in the Domain for the school event and at Peel Forest Station for those who were selected for the district cross country. Well done everyone!

We had five nominations for parent-elected representatives on the **Board of Trustees**, so no election was required. We welcome new Board members Frances Coles, Juliet Marsden and Justin O'Brien, along with returning members Joe Wyborn and Rob Wilson. Jo Drake continues as the staff representative.

I would like to acknowledge Glen Smith, John Hayhoe and Ingrid Hanrahan who did not restand for the Board. I wish them all the best for their future endeavours. On behalf of the GPS community I thank the previous Board members for the time they have committed to the school over the last three years and for the strong and effective governance that they have provided.

We have recently evaluated the procedures we will follow should we need to enact an **emergency closure** once the school day has started. Closure could be due to natural events such as snow, high winds or flooding. There are a number of steps that we will work through to ensure children and staff are able to get home safely. Our initial focus will be to contact the parents of all bus children to advise that the buses will be coming home early and

for these parents to confirm their child's travel arrangements with school staff. Bus children will not be sent home on the bus if parents cannot be contacted on the primary cell phone or landline number provided to the school office. We ask that parents refrain from phoning the school so that phone lines can be kept clear for these outgoing calls.

If emergency closure is enacted, bus children will meet and be checked off in the hall, while non bus children will be supervised in various classes:

Non bus children from:		Once bus chn gone, non bus chn:	
Rm 1	stay in	Rm 1	stay in Rm 1
Rm 2	stay in	Rm 2	stay in Rm 2
Rm 3	go to	Rm 2	stay in Rm 2
Rm 4	stay in	Rm 4	stay in Rm 4
Rm 5	go to	Rm 4	stay in Rm 4
Rm 6	stay in	Rm 6 (Rm 15 / 16)	stay in Rm 6 (Rm 15 / 16)
Rm 7	go to	Rm 8 (library)	stay in Rm 8 (library)
Rm 8	stay in	Rm 8 (library)	stay in Rm 8 (library)
Rm 9	go to	Rm 6 (Rm 15 / 16)	go to Rm 8 (library)
Rm 10	go to	Rm 1	stay in Rm 1
Rm 11	go to	Rm 12	stay in Rm 12
Rm 13	stay in	Rm 13	stay in Rm 13
Rm 15	stay in	Rm 15 (Meeting room)	go to Rm 8 (library)
Rm 17	go to	Rm 13	stay in Rm 13

Please note that rooms in brackets will be used when the junior block rebuild is occurring. Bus children who have alternative travel arrangements made for them can either be collected by a parent or caregiver from the hall (before buses depart) or from the office (once buses have departed).

Once parents of bus children have been contacted, we will post updates on our school Facebook page and on our website via Twitter. Children who are not on buses can be collected from the above classes before the end of the school day.

If the school is closed before the start of the school day, the system is more straight-forward. Once the decision is made not to open, or to delay opening, information will be posted on Facebook, the school website and on Port FM and Hokonui Mid Canterbury. We work in with Geraldine High School, whom we share buses with as well as many family connections.

Safety on the **school crossing** is an ongoing and important issue, with driver behaviour being a concern on a regular basis. This typically involves speed and failure to stop upon request by the adult on duty. While driving 50km per hour past a school as children arrive and leave is legal, many people,

including myself would deem that such a speed is excessive at either end of the school day. As such, I ask that we all lower our speeds around the school in order to keep crossing users safe. I have raised this point in writing with the NZ Transport Agency, Timaru District Council and the Police and hopefully in an upcoming addition of the Geraldine News.

I have also requested the installation of a Kea Crossing whereby trained senior students under the supervision of an adult hold a sign, which is swung out onto the road to stop traffic and allow people to cross safely. The training for students and supervisors would be provided by the Police. I will keep you all informed as this develops.

As mentioned in earlier newsletters, on **Friday 3rd June school will be closed** for a day of staff development. We will also be **closed on Monday 6 June for Queen's Birthday.**

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton,
Principal / Tumuaki

School Notices

Room 6

Here are some stories that Room 6 wrote about the Cross Country:

I am going to the Domain. James

I am running with everyone. Maddie

I am running super super fast. Harry

I am running with my friends. Olivia

Maddi and I are both winner. Katie

I ran very fast. Jacob

I ran fast at the Domain. Dudley

Room 4

The Cross Country

In Room 4 we have learning about our town Geraldine. We had to write all the things we knew about Geraldine and then we had to work on some realistic questions that we wanted to find out. We have spent some time researching and have found a lot of interesting facts. We now have to head into the township to find out more. In maths we have been looking at perimeter and area as well as practising our addition and subtraction. We have had to use some of our information to rearrange the layout of the school. This has been a really fun task to do as part of our learning.

By Lily Schwalger.

We were off and racing, aching to win. Pushing past everyone, pushing ourselves, pushing our limits. Sprinting, jogging, sprinting just to get to first place and to reach our goals. We had been practising hard just for this race. Puffed and tired but excited as we passed through the finish line. It was an amazing feeling as we finished the race and realised that now we had to do it all again at the district competition.

By Lydia Hanrahan.

I can hear people cheering, yelling and clapping. On your marks, set, go and everybody moves. I run as fast as I can, looking out for my friends as I head around the tree again. I had almost finished the race and I head into the oval. I hear "Go Ashlee, Go Ashlee". I finished the race and I am really happy as I came in the top 10.

By Ashlee Roberts.

On Tuesday we had the cross country. It was a long run. It was at the Soccer grounds. The Year 5's and 6's had to run around the domain twice.

We were all nervous before the race because we didn't know how we were going to do.

When our race started we all took off and ran really fast for the first lap and then for the second lap we were a lot more puffed.

Overall I really enjoyed the cross country. My favourite part was finishing the race.

By Jamie Royce Banbridge.

I was running fast but not sprinting as I was saving that for the end. I was already super puffed and wished that I was home sick. I kept going even though I felt like stopping. Finally I could see the finish line and 3 2 1 I had done it, I had got to the end and I was so happy with myself.

By Gracie Snow.

Clap! The wooden clappers slammed against themselves as the boys sprinted, some jogging ahead heading for the gigantic tree. As I passed around the tree I saw some ahead of me but more were behind me I wonder how they got ahead of me! I saw the finish line ahead and I was still behind some of the fast boys. I didn't care that I didn't finish in the top ten it's all about doing your best, setting yourself a goal and having fun.

By Dan Watson

Room 10

Term 2 is going by so quickly. We have had another busy start to the term. We have all participated in Cross Country. Well done to all children who have made it to the Districts Cross country. Eight children from Room 10 are representing Geraldine at districts.

Constable Chris came in on Thursday to talk about road safety. He took us out to the road crossing so that we could practise crossing the road. Thank you to the parents who drove past and slowed down for us.

On Friday we are hosting Middle School Assembly.

We are all getting excited about our trip to the Wigram Airforce Museum in week 6.

2016 GPS Cross Country Results

5 yr Girls 1st Mya Sutton, 2nd Jade Dudson-Moko, 3rd Grace Worner

5 yr Boys 1st Sam O'Connor, 2nd Ben Morton, 3rd Wilbur Talbot

6 yr Girls 1st Portia McRae, 2nd Chloe Halsey, 3rd Sienna Lees

6 yr Boys 1st Isaac Boorer-Lilley, 2nd James Fitzsimmons,
3rd Baxter Hopa-Parke

7yr Girls 1st Zoe Slater, 2nd Evie Grant, 3rd Toia Sheed

7yr Boys 1st Lenny Simpson, 2nd Ryan O'Connor, 3rd Hunter Schokker-Hill

Yr 3 Girls 1st Talia Bradshaw, 2nd Kiera Wynn, 3rd Rose Fletcher-Young

Yr 3 Boys 1st Vlad Ruban, 2nd Dougal Grant, 3rd Riley Dudson-Moko

Yr 4 Girls 1st Nicole Schoneveld, 2nd Ella Chapman, 3rd Poppy Slater

Yr 4 Boys 1st Blake Booth, 2nd Jack Eason, 3rd Jonny Simpson

Yr 5 Girls 1st Charlotte Orange, 2nd Phoebe Wilson,
3rd Grace Davies-Parnham

Yr 5 Boys 1st Matt O'Connor, 2nd Jack Boorer-Lilley, 3rd Jonty Sowden

Yr 6 Girls 1st Kristen Schoneveld, 2nd Emily Coleman, 3rd Rebekah Skinner

Yr 6 Boys 1st Finn O'Kane, 2nd Ben Wyborn, 3rd George Powell

Lost Property

With the cooler days approaching, children will be wearing their polar fleeces to school each day to keep warm.

All polar fleeces look the same so please name your child's clothing clearly. If your child now has a former pupil's polar fleece, please change the name on it to avoid confusion at school. The lost property box is situated by the hall for anyone to look through for their lost clothing, and it is regularly displayed after school assemblies for the children and parents to check as well.

New students

A special welcome to our new students: Trinity who started in R12, and Phoebe who started in R2

PB4L Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who received PB4L Certificates recently:

R1	Jody Quiambao	R2	Riley Spijkerbosch
R3	Isla Fisher	R4	Caleb Shaw
R5	Meg Johnston	R6	Mitchell Winterburn
R7	Samuel Welford	R8	Chloe Halsey
R9	Lance Brodina	R10	Nicole Schoneveld
R11	Lewis Pace	R12	Sepia Allpress
R13	Angelo Wharehinga-O'Keefe		
R14	Daniel Marshall	R17	Hayley Pidgeon

Mr Leverton: Billy Wheeler

Gotchas

Congratulations to the following children who won the Gotcha draw at assembly: Grace, R8; Hayley, R7; Vlad, R12; Isla, R3; Baxter, R8; Nicole S, R10.

Illness

We have been advised by the local Doctor that they are seeing a lot of Strep throat, children presenting with sore throat and or rash, and or strawberry tongue. Children need to see their GP's as soon as possible and stay at home.

If your child has been unwell with vomiting and /or diarrhoea they need to remain at home for 24 hours after symptoms have disappeared.

Dental Clinic

The Geraldine Primary School Dental Clinic is now open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during term time. To make an appointment at any time please phone 0800 846 983.

Family Works Counsellor at the Community Resource Centre every Thursday

Jo Blakemore works with adults, children families and couples and can be contracted by phoning Family Works on 03 688 5029 to self refer or speak to Deana at school who has application forms (for the service) available.

School Calendar -

Term 2

Week 5

Friday 3 June

Teacher Only Day – School Closed

Week 6

Monday 6 June

Queens Birthday – School Closed

Wednesday 8 June

Rooms 1, 13 & 17 visit to Airforce Museum,
Christchurch

Thursday 9 June

Rooms 10,11 & 12 visit to Airforce Museum,
Christchurch

Week 7

Tuesday 14 June

SC Cross Country (pp 16 June)

Wednesday 15 June

Board of Trustees meeting, 5pm

Week 8

Wednesday 22 June

SC Jump Jam

2016 Term Dates

Term 2

Monday 2 May – Friday 8 July

10 weeks

Includes:

Teacher Development Day – Fri 3 June (school closed)

Queen's Birthday – Mon 6 June (school closed)

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

Road Crossing

The Home & School Committee has funded the new collapsible road cone seen gracing the pedestrian crossing before and after school. Both the school and this committee are committed to maximising the safety of our children and we wish to thank the road crossing volunteers for their time and commitment providing this service on a busy road.

We are currently looking for some relief volunteers to assist when those rostered on duty are unable to supervise the crossing. If you are able to help, please contact the school office.

Trail Bike Ride

The figures have been counted and we can now report that the trail bike ride has contributed just under \$8,000 for the benefit of the GPS children. This is a significant fundraiser for the school and we would like to thank most sincerely the following farmers who have generously allowed the trail bike ride to take place on their land:

Hamish and Sue Sheed

Willy Turnbull

Adam and Katherine Glass

Blakeley Pacific Forestry

Thanks also to Dave Knipe and Kevin O'Reilly who also assisted with the preparation.

It is worth noting that none of these families currently have children at Geraldine Primary School so we are very fortunate to have this generous community support.

Second Hand Uniform

Available for sale this Friday in the Meeting Room, school office block, from 0850 – 0915. Donations of clean tidy uniform are always appreciated.

Term 2 Sale Dates:

Friday 27 May

Dates and venue for remainder of Term 2 will be confirmed in the next newsletter.

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 20 June, 7pm, Staff Room. New members most welcome.