



# GeraldinePrimary

Phone: (03) 693 8208

Email: [office@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:office@geraldine.school.nz)

Web: [www.geraldineprimary.school.nz](http://www.geraldineprimary.school.nz)

## Newsletter

Week 9, Term 1

Thursday 31 March 2016

### From our Principal....

I trust all GPS families have had an enjoyable Easter break. 2016 is one of the rare years when Easter fell outside of the term holidays. When this occurs, Easter Tuesday is classed as a school holiday. There are now just two and a half busy weeks until the end of the term.

The **newsletter** is put onto our website each time it is published. On the newsletter page, there is also a login area. You don't need to log in to view the newsletter – it can be accessed by clicking on the individual dates. The log in function is for school staff only to edit the site.

This term there are two **school policies** which are being reviewed – school swimming pool and alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances. These can be accessed through our School Docs site. The instructions for reviewing policies through School Docs are available on our website under the School Info tab.

The triennial **Board of Trustees election** process takes place in the first half of next term. In the first week of Term 2 we will be calling for nominations. The three-week period for nominations will close on 20 May. In the last newsletter I outlined the role of the Board, how often they meet and whom you can contact if you want to learn more about being on the Board.

Parent Trustees are elected by their fellow parents. Elected Trustees can also be members of the local community who don't have children at GPS. While they will bring a range of skills from their lives as parents and in their line of work, worthwhile and concise training is provided through the NZ School Trustees Association. There are likely to be three existing members of the

Board who won't be re-standing. If you have any queries about being on the BOT, please see myself or any Board member. Nominations will open on Monday 2 May (first day of Term 2) and nomination forms will be available from the school office on this date. The next Board of Trustees meeting is on Tuesday 12 April at 5pm and is open to members of the public.

Many thanks to everyone involved in this year's **Breakfast BBQ**. Our Year 5 and 6 students did a sterling job with their stalls and adjusted to the wet weather very well. A special thank you to Fresh Choice for the donation of sausages and bread, to Bruce and Justin from the Geraldine Lions for cooking the BBQ, to the Lions for the use of the cooking trailer and to all families who provided items to sell. Proceeds from the BBQ go towards our sponsored child from Myanmar; Htet Wai Yan Oo.

Bookings can be made online now for **3 Way Conferences**. Bookings will close on Wednesday 6th April at 2pm. The website address is [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) . Use the event code **v2r9a** to access our school portal. Please note that teachers will be involved in 3WCs all day and normal classes won't be taking place. Children will come to school for their 3WC only.

### **Touch Rugby**

On Thursday evenings we had 2 Year 5 and 6 teams competing in the Old Boys Touch Tournament in Timaru. Well done to all those children who participated. Both teams showed good sportsmanship and developed their skill level. Thanks to Lisette Henry and Glen Shaw who coached these teams.

### **SC Triathlon**

Congratulations to our Girls Triathlon Team; Kristin Schoneveld, Lydia Hanrahan and Charlotte Orange. This team came 1<sup>st</sup> in Girls section at the South Canterbury Triathlon last week.

Congratulations also to our Boys Triathlon team; Ben Wyborn, Jack Boorer-Lilley and Cody Roberts who came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Boys section at the South Canterbury Triathlon last week.

We are about to review our **School Charter**. The Charter is a document that outlines the Purpose, Vision, Values and key Strategic Goals of the school. All schools are required to have a Charter as it is a document that provides the Ministry of Education assurance that we are meeting our obligations as a school.

To help develop our Charter, the review process will be asking parents and staff key questions about our school, namely:

- ✓ What are our greatest strengths?
- ✓ How can our school be improved?
- ✓ What skills, knowledge and attitudes do we want our Year 6 leavers to have?
- ✓ Key words that you would like to see GPS described as in the future.

These questions will be put forward in an online survey and the link to this will be provided in a separate newsletter. I encourage as many parents as possible to be involved in this consultation, as it will provide the Board of Trustees with valuable information that will help shape our new Charter.

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton,  
Principal / Tumuaki

## **School Notices**

### **Room 3**

Let's do it again!!!

Kayaking, orienteering and team games.

It was such an awesome day. Rolling down the hill, jumping out of the kayak, screaming up the hill, running around finding orienteering posts, it was a blasting, lasting day. The students were so cool and we laughed and learned heaps.

Thanks so much to the awesome parents who came along and provided transport.

EEEEWWWWW do we have to talk about germs?

Room 3's germ experiment is based on how many germs we have on our hands and how can we reduce the number.

We started off by cutting the bread in half and we had 6 clear plastic bags that we were putting the 6 pieces in. Then Mrs Leov touched one piece of bread while wearing gloves. She then walked back in with cleanly washed hands literally she opened the door with her elbow. Then she gently touched another piece of bread with her hands. We split up in to two groups one with the boys and one with the girls. We then passed the bread around within our group. The first piece we touched gently and the second piece we squashed as we passed it around because we wanted to see if it made a difference. Each piece was put in a separate numbered bag. After

a few days passed by, we checked the bread to see how much mould had started to grow from the germs we had on our hands when we touched it. The more germs.....more mould.

Most of the class was sure the boys would have the most germs because they played more sport. Yeh right.....

Over the days the mould grew and grew. After about 10 days we all gathered in a circle and we passed the bags around and examined them to see if there was mould or not.

We took photos and kept track of the mould growing, making statement about what we were discovering.

Horror of horrors we soon discovered that the girls bread had the most germs and the mould grew incredibly fast and was disgusting to look at under a magnifying glass. The boys bread also grew mould but not as fast. The bread touched by Mrs Leov was almost exactly as it was on the first day. We concluded that we need to be washing our hands more effectively using hot water and soap.

by Ella, Alli and Georgia R3

## **Room 11**

In Room 11 we have enjoyed learning about Flat Stanley and the environment around us – at school and Geraldine. We have each created our own Flat Stanley and we are enjoying taking him out and about on all sorts of adventures.

We are missing our two wee classmates Jess and Anna but we know that they will be having an amazing time visiting their friends and families overseas. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures when they are home!

For writing we are really enjoying writing character descriptions of Lego figurines – something that has got the whole class enthused!

Character description by Rose:

This is Emma:

She has glossy awesome hair and a shiny top with a lovely smile.

She has nice colourful bright shoes, a fantastic dark skirt and nice bright skin.

She has sparkly eyes. She has nice beautiful sparkly cool pictures on her top.

Really, really, nice bright clothing and a nice shade below her eyes.

Extraordinarily cool clips and wavy hair.

She also has a bright skin coloured nose.

## **Room 12**

In Room 12 we have been busy at work! For our Topic we have been focusing on Geraldine and what makes our school and town special. To

help with this we have created our Flat Stanley's that we have recently taken home for adventures around Geraldine and New Zealand. Before we took them home we had to show him around Geraldine Primary School. Here are some of our photos!

We can't wait to see where else he goes around New Zealand! Find out more about what we have been up in Room 12 to on our class blog: <http://room12gps.blogspot.co.nz/>

## **Room 6**

We had a lovely Easter break and ate lots of yummy Easter eggs. Last week we had fun making Easter baskets and these cute bunny ears.

## **Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP)**

As part of our Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP), we would like to teach children how to ride a bike. If you have a child's size bike that you are happy to donate or loan to school, please contact Deb Scott, PMP Co-ordinator. Many thanks.

## **Reminder - Whanau Hui Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 6.30pm**

All our Maori Whanau are welcome to this consultation evening. Please note this hui is for adults only.

## **Breakfast BBQ**

Despite the bad weather last Thursday morning, the Breakfast BBQ was a great success and we raised \$1,282.20 for our sponsored child.

The Winner of the Jellybean jar was Kerry McArthur – 243 jellybeans  
Taylah Stevenson won the grocery raffle.

## **New students**

A special welcome to our new students: Sophia Chapman and Jessica Buck who started in Room 9 and Isaac Pask who started in Room 17.

## **PB4L Certificates**

R1	Ella Chapman	R2	Olly Adams
R3	Maelle Rossignol	R4	Olivia Chapman
R5	Nikia Wills	R6	Maddilin Geary
R7	Sophia McDonald	R8	James Fitzsimons
R9	Sam O'Connor	R10	Hunter Outhwaite
R11	Holly Berry	R12	Lucy Patrick
R13	Elise Coster	R14	Nikia Wills
R17	Mia Pierson		Mr Leverton – Caleb Young



## **Home & School**

### **Easter Art Extravaganza**

Another successful Easter Art Extravaganza was held at GPS over the Easter weekend. This would not be possible without the considerable input and organisation by John and Kaye Jackson who travel some distance to set-up and run the exhibition. Thank you to local businesses for supporting the successful opening night and to Fresh Choice for providing the impressive cake to celebrate the 10 year anniversary. Thank you also to everyone within the school community who supported the 10th Anniversary Easter Art Extravaganza by either assisting on the door or assisting with set-up or pack-up. We would also like to thank Subway for their generous sponsorship via vouchers for John and Kaye whilst in Geraldine. Congratulations to Jim Fielder from Timaru who won the raffle prize. Figures regarding the dollar amount raised for the school will be available in the next newsletter.

### **Trail Bike Ride**

Our next fundraising event will be the Trail Bike Ride held over local landowners properties in stunning locations on Sunday 17 April (first Sunday in School Holidays). Please refer to [www.myrides.co.nz](http://www.myrides.co.nz) for details.

### **Breakfast BBQ**

Thank you to all Home & School supporters who assisted with cooking sausages and making tea and coffee - it was great to see all the families who were able to attend.

### **Second Hand Uniform**

Another valuable service is the sale of second hand uniform every second Friday following this newsletter from 0850 - 0915 in the Meeting Room in the School Office Block. We welcome donations of clean and tidy uniform.  
Next Sale: Friday 1st April

### **Sausages**

Sausages are available every Friday lunchtime. Orders are taken for sausages every 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.

### **Home and School**

New or potentially interested committee members are most welcome to attend our next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** Correction to previous newsletter: the next meeting is:

Monday 11 April, 7pm, School Staff Room

## GERALDINE SCHOOLS TRANSPORT NETWORK

We have noticed an increase in requests from parents of children who are not eligible to access bus transport, wanting to use the bus service on an occasional basis for after school care/social arrangements.

We have sought clarification from the Geraldine Schools Transport Network who advise the following:

- Only registered bus students who normally use the bus are able to change their normal bus arrangements by filling in a yellow bus pass. These are issued on a case by case basis and as space permits, but will not be approved for changes for sporting arrangements, play dates, birthday parties or sleepovers.
- The yellow bus passes for eligible bus students must be handed to the school office at least 24 hours prior to the bus departure.
- Bus drivers are instructed to drop off and pick up students at the designated point, unless a yellow bus form has been completed and approved within the above timeframe.
- Children who are not eligible for bus transportation will only be permitted access on a bus on a case by case basis and this will typically be in the event of an emergency or extenuating family circumstances. Events such as changes for sporting arrangements, play dates, birthday parties or sleepovers are excluded from the above circumstances.

For safety reasons we request that parents do not remove their children from buses at the High School. A roll check is done at the Geraldine Primary School Prior to Departure for the High School. A second roll check is completed at the High School once the primary children have transferred onto their home buses. Safety is paramount.

**Reminder** Emergency Bus Evacuation starts with the Police Educators at Geraldine High School. Please be aware that buses may run a few minutes late. The timetable is as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> April –	Geraldine Flat, Ruapuna
5 <sup>th</sup> April –	Carew & Orari
6 <sup>th</sup> April –	Te Moana & Woodbury
8 <sup>th</sup> April –	Waihi & Hinds
12 <sup>th</sup> April –	Orari Extension & Rangitata

## Notices

### **GIVE YOUR CHILD A HEAD START IN THE WATER!**

CBay Learn 2 Swim Programme enrollments are now open for term 2 and our Holiday Programmes

Swim School Office Hours & Administration: Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm / Ph 03 687 7721

Or 03 687 7226 for information on the above programmes

### Drama for kids!

School holiday programme, Drama workshops!

Come and join in the fun, at the *Geraldine Academy of Performance and arts!*

- Drama games
- Confidence and team building
- Improvisation
- Parachute games

Tutor Zoe Boon Ba(hons) Drama and Performance studies

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> April for ages 6-9.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April for ages 10-13.

All workshops run from 9-3

\$70 for two days

\$40 for one day (Must be the Monday or the Wednesday)

Enquiries or booking: email: [thezoeboon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thezoeboon@yahoo.co.uk) phone (03)6939712

Minimum number of students 8, maximum 20. (workshops will only run if minimum number is reached)

The South Canterbury SPCA are having a Pet Day here at the Animal Home on Sunday 10 April from 1-4pm.

There will be a pet parade, pet photo competitions, lots of demonstrations, displays and stalls. This is a free fun day out for families. We would appreciate it if the attached flyer could either be posted on a school notice board or included in your newsletter leading up to the day.

Adapted from Disney's 2008 Broadway production, Disney's THE LITTLE MERMAID JR. features the hit songs "Part of Your World," "She's in Love," and the Oscar-winning "Under the Sea."

Theatre Royal Timaru 21st to 23rd April. Tickets \$20 for Children and Gold Card holders \$25 for Adults.

The **Active Kids Holiday Programme** team have April's programme and timetable of activities all set to go. Parents will find detailed information and can register on our website [www.sportcanterbury.org.nz](http://www.sportcanterbury.org.nz)