



Geraldine Primary

Phone: (03) 693 8208

Email: office@geraldine.school.nz

Web: www.geraldineprimary.school.nz

Newsletter

Week 10, Term 2
Thursday 7 July 2016

From our Principal....

The end of term is upon us and it's certainly been a term with a lot of highlights in it. No doubt you will all be looking forward to a change of pace over the break.

The commencement of the **junior block upgrade** is scheduled for the start of the holidays, which is good news. Rooms 7 and 8 moved into the library several weeks ago and Rooms 6 and 9 moved into Room 15 earlier this week. The Room 15 New Entrant class is using the meeting room in the admin area. When we return from the break, you can expect to see some security fencing around the junior block. Access from Huffey Street is likely to be restricted, as the gates will be used as access points by the contractors. Please use the Cox Street / Wilson Street entrances.

Many children will be bringing home **reports** today. All Year 4 – 6s will bring home interim reports. Year 1 – 3 students who had a birthday this term or who had a birthday approximately six months ago will also bring a report home. Each child will receive two written reports each year. Please take the time to go over them with your child over the holidays.

When reading through the reports, it is important to understand how the **levels of the NZ Curriculum** work. Year and 2 students will typically be working at Level 1 of the curriculum, Year 3 and 4's at Level 2 and Year 5 and 6's generally work at Level 3. It will usually take two years to work through a curriculum level, so it is entirely likely that, for example, a Year 5 child who was working at early Level 3 in 2015 is continuing to work towards

the achievement of Level 3, as a Year 6 in 2016 Naturally some students will be working above or below these levels, just as children progress at different rates. Your child's achievement will be made clear in their report.

3 Way Conferences have been scheduled for all day on Monday 22 August. While no classes or school buses will operate on this day, children are expected to attend the 3WC and have input into a discussion about their learning, alongside a parent(s). Details about bookings will be made available early next term.

As a staff we are becoming increasingly aware of the **attendance** levels of some of our students and their regular patterns of absence from school. A satisfactory attendance rate is at least 90% and the higher the attendance, the fewer the gaps in learning. If a child has attendance of 80%, this equates to a day away from school a week. Across a term, this is ten days away and over a year this amounts to 40 school days away. Primary schools are typically open for instruction around 190 days a year. If an 80% attendance rate is sustained over a five-year period, by the time a child reaches Year 6, they will have had a year out of school, thus a year's worth of learning will be missed.

There will always be genuine reasons for student absence – being sick is the most common one. We do ask that parents keep their children home if they are unwell. We also ask that before taking your child out of school for other reasons, you consider the impact on their learning and be mindful of maximising their time at school.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank all parents who have assisted with school **events, trips or fundraisers** this term. Your involvement and support is much appreciated by the school and without this, our ability to provide a range of exciting opportunities would be limited.

Finally, I wish all members of the GPS community a safe and enjoyable mid year break. If you are going out of town, please travel safely. I look forward to seeing you all at the start of Term 3.

Until next term,

Andrew Leverton
Principal

School Notices

Parking on yellow lines

Drivers will be aware that it is illegal to park on yellow lines. There have been reports of drivers doing this either side of the crossing, particularly at the end

of the school day. This creates a safety hazard for those using the crossing, not to mention the illegality of the act itself. We ask that all drivers do not park on the yellow lines at any stage.

Activity Fees

A kind reminder to pay Activity Fees if these have not been done already - \$80 per year per child, or \$20 per term for those starting at GPS during the year. Broken down further, this amounts to \$2 a week or 40 cents a day! We ask that these are paid over the holidays to our school bank account 01-0841-0024832-10. A regular payment option can also be established. Please note that Activity Fees are a cost recovery for expenses related to your child's learning across the school year. We do not charge a voluntary School Donation.

Class News

Room 9

This term Room 9 have been learning about "Wheels".

We went for a trip to the Geraldine Vintage Machinery Museum with Room 6 and 15. We walked down with some of our Mums and Dads.

At the museum the men showed us around and told us about the machinery. We saw lots of tractors, cars, farm machinery, fire engines and motorbikes.

"I liked the Queen's car," said Ryan.

"I liked climbing on all the tractors," said Jordan.

"I liked the car with the picnic basket at the back," said Adele.

Room 13

In Room 13 we have been learning about Flight. We went to the Air Force Museum and since we got we got back we have learnt lots of things about planes and flying. We made kites with our buddies from Room 2 and we made bird pictures with pastel and dye. On Friday we had a challenge with the Middle Syndicate and we had to make a plane using 6 straws, 6 bits of white paper, 2 paper clips, one metre of tape, some plasticine and a pair of scissors. It was hard but fun!

We are looking forward to the holidays.

By Room 13

In Room 13 for writing we wrote five senses poems and acrostic poems and now we are doing instructions. We have been learning about flight. We went to the Airforce Museum. Our class had a man teaching us about Flight.

We were in groups so half of us were doing a scavenger hunt and the other half were in the class. The man's name was Chris. My mum came on the trip.

By Finn

Room 14

During term 2, Room 14 students have been looking at Town Planning and in particular, Geraldine. We answered a questionnaire about which places evoke certain emotions in us and we turned them into poems:

Geraldine is...

As wet as the Swimming Pool,
As exciting as the new Subway,
As peaceful as the Geraldine Library,
As healthy as the yummy food at the cafes,
As helpful as the Police.

By Nikia

Geraldine is...

As old as the Movies,
As peaceful as my bedroom,
As dangerous as the boat at the Running Duck,
As dirty as the sandpit at school,
As safe as St Johns,
As wet as the Pool.

By Josie.

We looked at a variety of board games and created our own with a Geraldine flavour. When they are finished, we will play them with some children from another room.

Room 17

Room 17 has had a busy term with a trip to the Wigram Airforce Museum relating to our topic on Flight. We enjoyed making our own planes and doing a scavenger hunt around the museum. We were also very lucky to have Mr Worner (James' dad) come and visit our class. He is a pilot for Air New Zealand and he talked to us about his schedule, what the bands on his arms mean and the 'bird poo' on his hat (that is really ferns to show that he is a captain). We all got to wear one of his hats. We did some paintings for Matariki, creating a sunrise picture with 7 stars on it using paint. We have been focusing on being Responsible in PB4L and we have been practising looking after our own and others' things. We have been very lucky to have two new children join us in our class this term. By Room 17

Rippa Rugby 2016

This year Geraldine Primary School entered two teams into the annual Rippa Rugby tournament. We had a mixture of boys and girls from both Years 5 and 6. Kevin O'Kane spent his lunchtimes coaching the teams and building their skills in Rippa.

Both teams played exceptionally well on the day in very chilly conditions. With the support of many parents, both teams won all of their games in the heats except one.

The Geraldine Rippas had a great run of games right up until a tough match against Pleasant Point. Always a strong school, we knew it would be a hard game. The Rippas played well and show a high level of sportsman ship and fair play. Unfortunately the game didn't go their way but they held their chins up as they left the field.

The Geraldine Thrashers also had a fantastic run in the heats, winning all their games and qualifying for the semi finals. Their semi final game was also against a Pleasant Point team. The Thrashers didn't manage to secure a win again this team, however the played very well to reach this level of the competition.

Both teams should be very proud of the way they represented the school at the tournament and for showing team work and maturity in the face of defeat.

New students

A special welcome to our new student Charlotte who started in Room 15 recently.

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.

PB4L Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who received PB4L Certificates recently:

R1 Poppy Slater

R2 Harrison Taylor

R3 Jessica Craddock
R5 Connor Boase
R7 Wilbur Talbot
R9 Ollie Barnett
R11 Emily Muff
R14 Ashlee Roberts
R17 Bryn Hanrahan

R4 Ben Wyborn
R6 Madison Geary
R8 Gian Ramos
R10 Matteo Kimura
R12 Siobhan Stack
R15 Zak Booth
Mr Leverton – Meg Johnson

Gotchas

Congratulations to the following children who won the Gotcha draw at assembly: Aria, R7; Meg J, R5; Adriana, R3; Georgia, R1; Hunter O, R10; Mya, R13.

SC Primary Schools Cross Country

On Tuesday 14th June the South Canterbury Primary Schools Cross Country event was held at St Andrews.

Our teams consisted of George, Uziah, Ben, Kristin, Emily, Rebekah, Jack, Matt, Jonty, Charlotte, Grace and Phoebe all ran and competed well. Stand outs for the day were Kristin and Rebekah who placed 5th and 9th for the Year 6 girls race. Matt, Jack and Jonty who were 2nd, 6th and 8th in the Year 5 boys race.

Our Year 5 boys also came 1st in the teams event. They have been invited to compete in the Regionals which will be held in Wellington in September. We are very proud of their success and wish them luck.

Hi Viz Vests

All children who regularly walk, scooter or cycle to school should now be wearing the vests kindly donated to our school recently. Spot Gotchas are being given to children who are wearing their vests to school. It is also timely to remind children that if they are cycling to school they need to have a working light on their bike these dark mornings. All children cycling or scootering to school should be wearing helmets for their safety.

Reminder

It would be appreciated if dogs could be tied up further along the road outside the school to the north of Room 13 and to the south of the junior playground. This is to avoid congestion outside the gate and to remove potential risk whilst children are entering and existing school. Thank you to all dog owners in advance for their co-operation in this matter.

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.

Mufti Day

Thank you for the wonderful support of our recent Mufti Day for the Geraldine Children Social Worker Trust. Our mufti day raised \$465.00. For this is community funded service.

Heritage Photos - School photographs will be taken on 1st August.

Family Ski Day - Sunday 21st August

More information will follow closer to the time.

School Calendar -

Term 2

Week 10

Friday 8 July

The Nukes Ukulele concert
Last day of term 2

Term 3

Week 1

Monday 25 July

Term 3 commences 8.50am

Week 2

Monday 1 August

Class Photos

Thursday 4 August

Senior Syndicate Ski Trip (Mt Hutt)

Week 3

Monday 8 August

Life Education commences

Week 4

Wednesday 17 August

BOT Meeting 5.30pm

Friday 19 August

Kapa Haka at Flava Festival, Timaru

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

Geraldine Primary Community Stock Scheme

While we are all enjoying a very mild winter, spring is not far away and once again we are asking our local farming community to support our school by rearing calves and lambs for our annual stock scheme. We are very aware

that yet again this season is proving to be a challenge to our farming families and that this donation is even more significant than in previous years.

For those families new to the scheme, a calf (heifer or bull) is selected earlier in the season, tagged with a tag provided by the Home and School, reared on farm and then collected early December for auction at the Temuka Sale Yards. All calves are weighed individually before sale. Lambs may be similarly donated. All donated stock is very much appreciated and the funds raised are used to further our teaching resources available to our children at Geraldine Primary.

Please look out for the flier which will accompany our first newsletter next term or contact Robyn Skinner on 02777 51290 or 693 9148 if you have any questions. Thank you.

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 5 August

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 1 August, 7pm, Staff Room. New members most welcome.

Community Notices

FREE Parenting Programmes – “The Incredible Years” Presented by Family Works

Family Works South Canterbury is again running the popular and highly successful “The Incredible Years” FREE parenting programmes, for parents of children aged 3-8 years. “**The Incredible Years**” empowers parents with valuable **skills** and **resources** for more positive, rewarding, parenting.

The Free 14-week programmes run from August to November (Terms 3 & 4), times vary.

Additional individual support is provided and child minding is available on request (day programmes only).

“The Incredible Years” - for parents of children aged 3-8 (Timaru & Temuka)

Act Now – Places on These Popular Courses are Limited!

For more information and registration (enrolments must be received by 1 August):

- **Ph:** Family Works on 03 688 5029 (Liz - ext 804)
- **Txt:** 0274 688 200
- **Email:** liz.munro@pssc.co.nz
- **Website:** www.pssc.org.nz/family-works