



# Geraldine Primary

*Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve*

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## Newsletter

**Week 9, Term 4**

**Thursday 8 December 2016**

### **From our Principal....**

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

This is the final newsletter for the school year. It has been rewarding to see the work that the staff, students and school community do together to make our school the great place that it is. A school's positive culture doesn't occur by accident. Rather, it is the way that we all work together for the betterment of each other. This happens in many forms for adults and students alike and I commend everyone who has contributed in some way to make our school 'culture' happen over the past year.

Our **Final Assembly** will be held next Wednesday, 14 December at 1pm. This is the last time that we will come together as a school to farewell our Year 6 students. All students are expected to be present at this assembly as it is a normal school day and I encourage parents and family members to join us as well.

Last Thursday a group of staff joined with **Paige Chellew** (Rm 12) at the **South Canterbury Graduate and Retirees function** to celebrate Paige's successful completion of two years of teaching. Her mentor teacher Kirsty Smith (Rm 11) spoke of Paige's achievements over her year at GPS. The completion of two years of teaching is a milestone in a teacher's career as they move from being provisionally to fully registered teachers. Congratulations to Paige and thank you to Kirsty for a very successful year.

We extend a warm welcome to **Donna Roger**, who is the new **Social Worker in Schools** for GPS, Woodbury, and Geraldine Pre School and Kindergarten. Donna started with us last Thursday and spent the morning visiting the other schools / centres on Friday. If parents would like to access support for themselves or their children and wish to meet with Donna, they should contact her through the school office to arrange an appointment. She is off site on Tuesdays, but at GPS for periods of time on the other days of the week.

In a previous newsletter (24 November) I mentioned some minor adjustments to how our **school uniform** should be worn and what is acceptable. For most children, from the start of 2017, no adjustment will be necessary. Revised expectations are included in this newsletter. I ask that these are read over the holiday period so that any required uniform purchases are made before the start of the new school year. Please ensure that all uniform items are clearly named and if an item has been passed on to you, it is renamed.

I would like to thank the **Staff** for all their contributions and effort throughout the year. Together, they have worked tirelessly to assist students with their learning and support

each other. I know they will be looking forward to a well-earned break over the holidays.

Our **Board of Trustees** also deserve special thanks for the professional way they govern the school and make key decisions for our strategic direction. They all give significant time to the school, a lot of which is behind the scenes. I thank them for the support they have given both myself and the staff this year.

Special thanks also to our **Home & School** group who have worked tirelessly throughout the year with their fundraising ventures to support the education that our children receive. Well done to everyone involved.

Please check the school calendar for key end of year events and the school terms for next year.

A heads up regarding a couple of events early in term 1. We will be having a **powhiri** for our new staff, students and families on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9am in the school hall. All new and existing families are welcome to attend the powhiri. New staff, students and parents will be lead into the hall and seated at the front. Following the powhiri we will be having the official opening of the remodelled Junior Block. School families are encouraged to join us for this opening.

Our **Start of Year Family BBQ** on Wednesday 1st February at 5pm. The school pool will be open, as will the PE shed for games equipment. Put this date in your diaries for next year!

**Classes for 2017** will be posted in the library and hall (court side) windows at 4pm Friday 27 January. **Class and Syndicate organisation** for 2017 is as follows:

### **Junior Syndicate – Years 1 and 2**

Room 9	Miss Andrea Bathgate	Year 0 - 1
Room 6	Mrs Rochelle Fisher / Mrs Carol Tait	Year 1
Room 7	Miss Erin Barclay	Year 1 - 2
Room 8	Mrs Siobhan Hayward / Mrs Pauline Ramsay	Year 2
Room 13	Miss Paige Chellew	Year 2

### **Middle Syndicate – Years 3 and 4**

Room 12	Miss Sarah McCone	Year 3
Room 17	Miss Elizabeth Murray	Year 3
Room 11	Mrs Kirsty Smith	Year 3 –
	4	
Room 1	Mrs Jo Drake / Mrs Sarah Wilson	Year 4
Room 10	Mrs Cathy Taiaroa	Year 4

### **Senior Syndicate – Years 5 and 6**

Room 2	Miss Rosie Ulrich	Year 5
Room 3	Mrs Chelley Leov	Year 5
Room 4	Mrs Bronwyn Waldron	Year 6
Room 5	Mr Murray Davidson / Mrs Ange Dudson-Moko	Year 6

### **Learning Support**

Room 14 Mrs Debbie Scott

### **Senior Leadership Team**

Mrs Siobhan Hayward – Assistant Principal / Junior Syndicate Leader

Mrs Jo Drake – Middle Syndicate Leader

Mr Murray Davidson – Deputy Principal / Senior Syndicate Leader

Mr Andrew Leverton – Principal

Several weeks ago we held a **muffi day** for schools in the North Canterbury / Kaikoura area who have been affected by the recent earthquakes. In addition, the Year 6 classes have agreed to donate a further \$600 which was left over from the Breakfast BBQ fundraiser that was held earlier in the year. The combined total of \$1,400 was given to the following seven schools: Kaikoura Primary, Kaikoura Suburban, St. Joseph's Kaikoura, Lynton Downs, Hapuku, Waiiau, Rotherham. Many thanks once again to everyone for your generosity, in both of these events.

On behalf of the staff and school community, I wish our **Year 6 leavers** all the very best for the next chapter in their education. Thank you and well done for the effort you have put in over your time at GPS. They are a fantastic year group who have achieved so much together. I wish all members of our school community a safe, enjoyable and relaxing festive season and look forward to seeing you all again in 2016.

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

*Ngā mihi nui,*

*Andrew Leverton  
Principal / Tumuaiki*

### **Class News Room 17**

This term Room 17 learnt a new song called "What Shall We Do With The Grumpy Teacher?". We have really enjoyed singing it and it didn't take us long to learn. We are also very lucky to have had a new person in our class this term. We have been learning some Christmas carols, to sing on

the Village Green. We spent a lot of time painting our rocks for the Arts and Plants Festival. We think they look amazing. We have started swimming and it has been very cold out of the pool but very warm in the pool. We made a reindeer picture with Mrs Wilson. We trained hard for athletics when the weather let us. The day was very hot, but we enjoyed being with the Seniors this year. We have also been learning about Keeping ourselves safe and what to do. We all had fun at the disco. In the first week of school we did a Maori exchange with the other middle syndicate teachers, we did kore art, drama, waiata, poi and rakau. It has been a busy year and we are all looking forward to the holidays.

By Room 17.

### **Room 3**

Room 3 have enjoyed and been inspired by the recent Summer Wonderland Song. So we have decided to write our own song using that tune but based on Geraldine Primary. So when you read it have the tune of Winter Wonderland in your head.

School bell rings, who is missing  
In our class, tree is twinkling  
We work really hard and play in the yard  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

On one day, bring your bike lid  
Here to stay is the new kid  
He sings a Maths song, as he's dabbing along  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

In the playground we can build a stick fort  
Then pretend that we are Iron Man

We'll say "Are you OK"  
They'll say "I'm fine"  
Playing in the pit all made of sand

Draw a picture of a creature  
Write a story for my teacher  
Look at the Christmas Tree all the lights we see  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

School bell rings, are you skyping  
In the office, they are typing  
A beautiful sight, we've no homework tonight  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

At the fort, we laugh and play  
At the start of each new day  
Climbing up high, till we reach the sky  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

In the classroom we can learn hard maths  
Our poor brains just don't know what to think  
We talk about our news and current events  
We write so much our pens run out of ink

In our class we're inspired  
Even when we are tired  
All the chapters we read, the teaching we need  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.  
Laughing in the classroom cos we can.

Merry Christmas to everyone from Room 3

**Room 14**

The students in Room 14 have been learning about various poetic forms and have produced some excellent poems:

All Blacks

Rugby Black Top

Diving Tackling Running

The captain is Kieran Read

The Best

By Kyro

BEAR GRYLLES

Tough Blood and guts

Climbing Killing Swimming

Bear Grylls loves the outdoors

HERO

By Caleb

One odd otter

Two troops trapped

Three tigers tugging

Four flavoured fudge

Five fat flippers

Six snails safe

Seven sisters swimming

Eight electric eels

Nine naughty nanas

Ten tossing towels

By Charlie

I read a pirate book,

Dig a hole and take a look.

By Carlos

I like to drink a fizzy red,

Oh no! I've spilt it on the bed!

By Nikia

**Room 2**

We have been experiencing very fun things this term, we did three major activities, We did Flippa Ball, Christmas Craft and Inquiry Rotation.

### **Flippa Ball**

We have been playing Flippa Ball in the pool for kiwisport lately the aim of the game is to score the most goals. It is just like water polo but you are allowed to touch the ground and swim with the ball but you have to use your elbows and you can only use one hand.

### **Christmas Craft**

As part of our end of year Christmas Craft we made little santa stockings.

We decorated them with buttons, ribbons, foam decorations and we wrote words and names in glitter glue. We blanket stitched the edges and the back together. We all had fun!

### **Inquiry Rotation**

We have been doing a Inquiry Rotation as part of the senior syndicate. Miss Ulrich has been doing Stop Motion. A stop motion is when you take lots of photos and put it into a video.

Whaea Ange did Rakau sticks and we learnt a song that we performed in the hall.

Mrs Waldron and Mrs Leov did drama and singing, Room 5 and Room 2 made a routine to Revolting Children.

By Alana and Will.

**School notices:**  
**Lost**

Polar Fleece named Emily Geary. If found please return to the office or to Room 1.

### **Year 6 pool party and BBQ**

This will be held on Monday 12 from 12:30. This is a different date to what was originally planned.

### **Swimming Pool Keys**

Pool keys are now available for sale from the school office. The keys cost \$55.00 and a \$5 bond is refunded at the end of the season on return of the key. An agreement will need to be signed prior to taking the key.

### **Sun Hats**

Please ensure that your child has the correct sunhat for the first day of term 1. A reminder that navy bucket style or rimmed small Sunhats are a compulsory part of our school uniform from the start of term 4 until the end of term 1. These can be purchased from The Warehouse, or from A Little House Embroidery, Winchester phone 03 615 6004 (cost \$12.50 with the option of 2 embroidered initials for an extra \$4 or 3 initials for \$4.50).

### **Gotcha Draw**

Congratulations to the following children who won the Gotcha Draw recently: Aydin, R10; Tilly D, R2; Lewis, R11; Ella, R3; Rose, R11; Ebony, R10.

### **PB4L Certificates**

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded PB4L Certificates at Assembly recently:

R1	Lilly Grant	R2	Carlos Johnson
R3	Adriana Savage	R4	Elsie Talbot
R5	Hershel Ranay	R6	Jacob Cunningham
R7	Addy Lawrence	R8	Cormack Auld

R9 Finn Wilcox

R11 Max Roger

R13 Finn O'Brien

R15 Kip Lester

Power Efficiency – Room 15

Rubbish Classification – Room 11

R10 Cassidy Sherriff

R12 Ashley Lawson

R14 Kyro Brook

R17 Jorja Macale

## **Gotcha Postcards**

These children received Gotcha Postcards for their amazing efforts.

60 Gotchas - Dougal Grant, Zoe Keane, Toia Sheed, Josh Morton, Hunter Wilson,

80 Gotchas - Riley Spijkerbosch

## **New Students**

A special welcome to our new students Piper, R5; Jorja, R17 and Josie, R15.

## **Basketball**

### Boys – B Grade

Geraldine Giants placed 15<sup>th</sup>

Geraldine Warriors placed 16<sup>th</sup>

### Girls – A Grade

Came second in a close final

Special thanks to Mark and Debbie Oliver and Megan Hopa who coached the teams over the season and for the time that they have given these teams.

## **Dental Clinic**

To make an appointment at any time please phone 0800 846 983.

# School Calendar -

## Term 4

Friday 9 December  
all  
change of

Principal's Assembly, **10am** –  
welcome. Please note  
time

### Week 10

Monday 12 December  
Pool

Y6 Pool/BBQ – Community

Tuesday 13 December

Reports home to parents  
BOT Meeting, 5.30pm

Wednesday 14 December  
Green

Christmas Carols on the

Final Assembly

Last Day for students

Last Day buses running

## 2017 Term Dates

**Term 1** 30 January–13 April

**Term 2** 1 May–7 July

**Term 3** 24 July–29 September  
December

**Term 4** 16 October–15

## Term 1

### Week 1

Monday 30 January  
followed by

9am start of year powhiri

Tuesday 31 January

Junior Block opening

Wednesday 1 January

Swimming starts

Start of Year Family Picnic &  
BBQ, 5pm

### Week 2

Monday 6 February

Waitangi Day – School closed

### **Week 3**

Thursday 16 February

Y5 & 6 Triathlon

## **Home & School**

### **Home & School Facebook Page**

The Geraldine Home and School Committee are delighted to share with you their new Facebook page. Please search for us (Geraldine Primary Home & School Committee) and 'Like' to keep up to date with events and information. Currently, we have 72 followers so it would be great to get as many of the school community on board in this social media age. Please share the page with other families too. We have decided to make this a public page as we view the Primary School to be integral in the Geraldine community.

Ideally, this will be the forum to share information from the Home & School to the entire parent/caregiver community and keep you up-to-date with social, networking and fundraising ideas. We would love to streamline all family communication through this page regarding sausage sizzles, road patrol, second hand uniforms etc. We know many of you are not able to commit to attending meetings or being on sub-committees but can help in other ways - a 'friend' of the Home & School - if you like. This Facebook page is the idea forum for that.

Please contact the Home & School via this page (private message or comment) should you have any questions or ideas. We value your support!

### **Adidas Fun Run**

The majority of prizes have arrived and been distributed. The total funds raised for Geraldine Primary School is \$10,000, an impressive effort and sufficient funds for two years of swimming lessons for our children. The fun run itself was great fun, a really positive atmosphere and a credit to the organising committee. Thank you to the GPS community for your overwhelming support for this first-time event.

### **Sausages**

Last day of sausages this Friday 9 December. A huge thank you to Michelle Howell for coordinating this service and all the volunteers who assist with taking orders and cooking sausages.

### **Thank You**

The school year is nearly at an end and we have the festive season and a well-earned break to enjoy. We wish all our school community a safe and enjoyable holiday break and look forward to another successful year for 2017.