



Geraldine Primary

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Newsletter

Week 3, Term 1

Thursday 18 February 2016

From our Principal....

The Senior Syndicate triathlon was held yesterday. It was fantastic to see our children participating so well in this event and pushing themselves to achieve a goal. Many thanks to everyone who came along to support their child and also to those parents who acted as marshals along the course.

We have reviewed our end of day procedures for when children leave the school grounds. We ask that only bus children use the gate by the office. If children and families need to access Wilson Street, they can do so using the gate between the pool and the school hall. This is for safety reasons and to avoid potential accidents at this busy time.

We also ask that when you are dropping your children off at school in the morning, please park on Huffey Street and not in or over the entranceway to the staff carpark. Again this is to avoid potential accidents.

This term the Board of Trustees is reviewing two policies: Swimming Pool and Alcohol, Drugs and Other harmful substances. These can be accessed and reviewed by parents through the SchoolDocs portal:

gps.schooldocs.co.nz Instructions are included later in this newsletter. I would encourage parents to visit the SchoolDocs site and have input into the review process.

We are having a coffee morning on Friday 4th March from 9-10am in the school staffroom. This is a way to have a catch up and meet other parents. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Finally, if your child is absent from school we do need to be informed about the absence. Please call the office and press 1 for the absence line. We are required by the Ministry of Education to assign a code to every absence and therefore need to know why your child is not at school. If no reason is given then this marked as an unexplained absence, which will automatically revert to a Truancy code. By phoning the school office and providing a reason this saves staff considerable time by not having to follow up on children who are not at school.

If your child is going to be away from school for more than 3 days a written note is required providing the reason.

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton
Principal / Tumuaki

School Notices

New students

A special welcome to our new students James, Luca and Samuel who all started in Room 6 recently to Te Rangi who started in Room 7, and to Justin in Room 17.

PB4L

Congratulations to the following students who received PB4L certificates last week:

R1	Blake Booth	R2	Shilah-May Bradshaw
R3	Dan Renfree	R4	Billy Wheeler
R5	George Powell	R6	Katie Coles
R7	Eli Reardon	R8	Grace Worner
R10	Jasmine Watson	R11	Jessica Skinner
R12	Vlad Ruban	R13	Riley Nicholls
R14	Georgia Coles	R17	Danny Batty

Congratulations also to Mia who won the Gotcha end of year voucher. The following children all won Gotcha draws at the end of last year: Riley, R12; Maxine, R12; Lilly, R11; Riley, R11; Zac, R15; Chloe, R17; Dougal, R12; Cayden, R12; Talia, R16; Ella, R1; Sophie, R15.

At assembly last week Wilbur, R7; Tilly, R2; Daniel, R2 and Zech, R11 all won Gotcha draws.

Middle Syndicate Triathlon

This is going to be held on Tuesday 1st March at 1pm in the Geraldine Primary School grounds (postponement day Thursday 3rd March). All Middle

Syndicate children have been given a note about this today with more details.

Relay For Life Mufti Day!!

We will be having a Mufti Day on Friday the 4th of March to raise money for the Geraldine Gladiators Relay for Life Team which some of our staff and children are part of. Can children please come to school dressed in rainbow colours, with a gold coin donation toward this great cause.

Also there will be a donation bucket in the school office for anyone who would like to donate to The Cancer Society and our local teams!

Swimming Pool

The **school pool** is now open

Our pool is heated and the temperature sits at about 26°C. Children need to bring their togs each day. Children must bring a note for their teacher if they are not to swim. All swimmers are to practise the hygiene rule for the pool, an example being if your child has had diarrhoea there is a two week exclusion before they can swim again. Please name all clothes.

Library Books/Journals/Readers

There is a box under the table in the office for any books to be returned.

Lost Library Books.

We have a fabulous resource with a huge selection of books the children love to read and make excellent use of. We encourage the children to get books out to read independently and support reading at home. But last year 120 books were not returned to our Library. This cost our school between \$1800 - \$2400. This equates to \$15 - 20 per book, and as you will understand we cannot sustain this loss.

So starting this year, we have found ourselves in the position of having to charge for any library books that are lost or damaged.

Books are electronically issued to the children, (they have their own personal individual barcode). Each book has a barcode which is zapped and issued to that child.

We will be sending notices home for overdues and if they are still not returned by the date on the overdue notice, then we will have to charge you the replacement cost.

We want all children to have access to these books and foster responsibility when issuing and looking after them while reading them so that others can too.

Thank you for your understanding

STUDENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PERSON

Hi everyone and welcome back to the new school year. I thought that this time would be a good time to introduce myself to the new families and children joining our school.

I'm Deana Averill, Student and Family Support Person based at the primary school. I also work with families and children at Woodbury school, Kindy and Pre school.

If ever you need support or advice or indeed someone to talk to you can always approach me. If I can help I will, if not I will find someone who can.

I am employed by the Geraldine Children's Social Work Trust and offer a confidential service from 8.30am till 12.30pm Monday to Friday term time. Either drop into the office block and ask for me or phone me on 6938208. Please leave a message if I'm not around. I also organise coffee mornings twice a term which are advertised in the newsletter, so may see you there.



Look forward to meeting with you, Deana.

Dental Clinic

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

School Calendar - Week 4

Wednesday 24 February Swimming Sports Y4-6 at the Community Pool
12 o'clock start

Friday 26 February Postponement for swimming sports

Week 5

Tuesday 1 March

Middle Syndicate Triathlon

Thursday 3 March

Postponement Middle Syndicate Triathlon

Week 6

Tuesday 8 March

Y6 Camp commences – Lindisfarne

Friday 11 March

Y6 Camp ends

Week 7

Wednesday 16 March

Board of Trustees meeting, staffroom, 5pm –
All welcome

Thursday 17 March

Room 2 & 3 kayaking
SC Triathlon

Friday 18 March Room 4 & 5 kayaking

Week 8

Thursday 24 March Breakfast BBQ

Friday 25 March Good Friday – School Closed

Week 9

Monday 28 March Easter Monday – School Closed

Tuesday 29 March Easter Tuesday – School Closed

Thursday 31 March –

Friday 1 April Room 4 & 5 rock climbing
SC Swimming

Week 10

Friday 8 April 3 Way Conferences all day

Week 11

Friday 15 April Open Assembly 1.30pm
Term 1 ends 2.45pm

2016 Term Dates

Term 1

Monday 1 February – Friday 15 April 11 weeks

Includes:

Good Friday – Fri 25 March (school closed)

Easter Monday – Mon 28 March (school closed)

Easter Tuesday – Tues 29 March (school closed)

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

Welcome to the 2016 School Year, particularly to our new students, families and staff. The GPS Home and School Committee is here to support the school and its families. It was wonderful to see so many of our families getting together early in the year at the School BBQ.

Annual Community Stock Scheme 2015

We are delighted to announce that the proceeds from the sale in December of the donated 21 calves and 4 lambs has raised well over \$9000 for our school which is needless to say a significant contribution. We wish to acknowledge the following families who so generously donated the calves and lambs: Wood; Rangitata Dairies; O'Kane, Fisher, McRae; Eason; Johnstone (Hamish & Amy); Coles; Wells; Sherriff; Davies-Parnham, Grant and Chapman. We appreciate that this donation is even more significant given the current dairy climate.

Thank you to Rob Wilson, Malcolm Wood, Kevin O'Kane, Joe Wyborn and Woodleys Transport for the pick-up and transport of calves to the Temuka Sale. Thanks also to Rod Sands of PGG Wrightson who sold the calves and lambs for us.

We look forward to thanking our families personally at the upcoming Stock Scheme lunch (date TBA) where the winner of the coveted Heaviest Calf Trophy will be announced.

Sausages

One of the popular Home and School services offered is cooked sausages (in bread, with tomato sauce and onions as options) every Friday. Orders are taken for sausages on Friday mornings between 0820 - 0850 on the hall veranda. Children need to have the correct change of \$1.50 per sausage, or purchase a sausage card from the School Office that costs \$15 for 10 sausages. The card is stamped and signed for each sausage ordered. 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 - see contact for Michelle Howell below.

Sausage Roster

The Friday sausages relies on volunteer support. Two volunteers take the orders in the morning and two further volunteers cook and serve the sausages from 11.15 - 12.30. Please contact Michelle Howell 027 693-7367 if you are able to assist with this service that usually involves only two duties per term.

Second Hand Uniform

Another popular service is the sale of second hand uniform every second Friday following the school newsletter from 0850 - 0915 in the Meeting Room in the school office block.

We welcome donations of clean and tidy uniform.

Sale Dates:

Friday 19 Feb

Friday 26 Feb

Friday 11 March

Remainder of Term 1 TBA

Upcoming Events:

Easter Art Exhibition 23 March - 27 March. This is an annual cash and carry event run by John and Kaye Jackson, supported by the Home and School. All entry fees and commission on sold artworks are donated to the school. Entry forms for artists are available from the school office or email gpeasterart@gmail.com. We will be seeking volunteers to assist with the running of this event over Easter - details next newsletter.

The Home and School Committee is a group of parents/caregivers who meet approx 4-6 weekly during term time to provide support and fundraising for our school. We welcome new members for 2016. For enquiries please contact Sarah Wilson or attend our next meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday 22 Feb, 7pm, School Staff Room

How to review a GPS policy on School Docs

School Docs is an online portal that houses all our school policies and procedures.

This term we are due to review our policies on:

- ✓ School Swimming Pool
- ✓ Alcohol, Drugs and Other Harmful Substances

We would like your help with this. This will only take you a short while.

Go to: **gps.schooldocs.co.nz**

If you are asked for a user name, enter **gps**

If you are asked for a password, enter **geraldine**

This will take you to our School Docs home page.

In the search bar (top left), type in the name of the policy to be reviewed and click search.

With the policies that now come up, click on the policy you wish to review. There are often additional procedures which can be read alongside the policy.

Read through the policy and to comment, go to the **Red Policy Review** button (top right)

Click the parent / caregiver option and type in your name if you wish. Click the **Login** button. A new window will appear – you can now review this policy. You will be asked to rate the content and implementation of this policy. You can provide a comment if you wish. Click **Submit** when you're done.

This is how our policies are reviewed by parents / caregivers, staff and Board of Trustees members. Please feel free to look at any other policies. All policies are reviewed over a 3-year cycle.

You can send feedback on any policy at any time to the Principal via email by clicking the **Blue Send Feedback** button at the top right.

If you have any queries, please feel free to see our Principal - Andrew Leverton.

Community Notices

New Residents Meeting 7.30pm on 2nd March at Harcourts Offices, Geraldine.

Anyone interested in playing Saturday afternoon **Netball** in Timaru this season for **Geraldine** please contact Alison Patterson 0276417024 or 6937673.

Monthly (Second Tuesday of the month) Quiz night @ Geraldine Town & Country Club \$5.00 per person, up to six in a team, 7.30pm start. All Welcome, Enquires phone the club 6938713.

Monthly (First Sunday of the month) Car Boot Sale and Market Day, \$10 per site, 9am to 12.30pm. All Welcome, enquires phone the club 6938713

After School @ Kids Alive Open Day: Thursday 3rd March We are holding an Open Day for Parents/Caregivers and children to come and see what we offer as a Programme. Come and have a chat from 3.00 pm there will be afternoon tea, crafts and games for children. If you are unable to attend and would like to know more about the programme please phone Lorraine on 0274038126 or 693 9447 (home) for more information or visit www.kidsalive.co.nz to find out more.

Geraldine Rugby Club JAB Registration Day - Sunday 28th Feb 10 - 12 noon

Geraldine Rugby Club Rooms, Raukapuka Reserve, George Street

Subs \$60 includes a "Ball for All" ball, and for those new to the club a hoodie.

Eftpos available on day

Registrations also taken on **Wednesday 2nd March 3 - 4pm**

Players must be registered by a parent/guardian on one of these dates to be eligible to play.

Expressions of interest are sought for coaches of the 15 aside teams (U11, U12, U13), please email geraldinerugby@gmail.com
Coaches and managers needed for all other grades, please let us know at registration if interested.

Any enquiries contact Mel - 027 749 3338 or 03 614 8845

Brainwave Early Years Presentation Wednesday 2 March 2016 10am-12 noon. Venue Temuka Alpine Energy Stadium AD Hally Lounge (upstairs)> RSVP by 29 February 2016 to Lyndsey Hubert ph 027 4076017 or 03 6155180, email lyndsey@aws.co.nz
Door Charge – free. Light finger food, tea and coffee available after the presentation. Pre-schoolers welcome.

Reminder – Winchester/Geraldine AMP entry forms can be handed in at the GPS Office. Junior Schedule also at GPS Office.

Parenting course starting in Geraldine

Build a great family team. Join a Toolbox parenting group in your region and discover new ideas and strategies to add to your parenting toolbox.



Middle Years (6 to 12)

Geraldine Friday 26 February 2016 9am- 11am
(No session at Easter 25th March)

For more information about the content of the middle years course view this [link](#) to our website

\$75 per person \$110 per couple for each six week course. *Subsidies available*
All courses are free to foster carers, whānau caregivers, adopters, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, and Home for Life Parents thanks to government funding.
To register for this courses, please contact **Lorraine Morgan ph: 693 9447 mob: 022 4155407 or email: lorrainemorgan@xtra.co.nz**

Geraldine Multi Challenge Run / Walk / Bike – 20th March 2016.
www.geraldine-multichallenge.co.nz. Entry forms at GPS Office.

COFFEE HOUR

FRIDAY 4 MARCH

FROM 9.00 – 10AM

Geraldine Primary School staffroom

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

CRECHE AVAILABLE.



Deana