



GeraldinePrimary

Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve

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Newsletter

Week 7, Term 4

Thursday 24 November 2016

From our Principal....

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

Our **Athletics Day** yesterday was certainly one to remember! Firstly, for the way the students went about their various activities in such a positive manner and secondly for the heat that we all experienced through the day. I was really impressed with how our children managed themselves and competed positively. Many thanks to all the staff involved, who ensured that their events ran smoothly. As always we had a large contingent of parents and whanau attending the event and we certainly appreciate the levels of support that we receive for school activities.

Our **Mufti Day** last Friday raised \$809.00. We will use this to give to schools in North Canterbury who have been affected the most by the recent earthquakes. We are seeking advice from the Ministry of Education as to which schools have been affected and will let you know which schools we have been able to support. Many thanks to the GPS community for their generosity.

At long last **Rooms 6, 7, 8 and 9** will all be back in their classrooms by tomorrow and will no doubt enjoy their new environments. This been an 18 month project and it is great to see it completed. We

plan to have an official re-opening on the first day of term 1 2017, after our start of year Powhiri and the school community will be invited to this.

Since earlier in the year we have been in discussions with the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) and Timaru District Council (TDC) regarding the **speed limit outside the school**. The NZTA manage Cox Street as a State Highway, while the side roads are controlled by the TDC. There have been two separate consultations with local residents and interested agencies. At this stage things are looking promising to lower the speed limit on Cox Street to 40km at either end of the school day and also to have a school crossing patrol installed. The school patrol will provide a safer environment for those who use the crossing.

The speed limit on the surrounding side streets looks set to remain the same, but some adjustments to the road environment, particularly on Wilson Street, appear to be a better possibility and will be something to readdress at the start of the 2017 school year.

I have spoken with the staff, the Board of Trustees and Home and School about the expectations we set for the wearing of the **school uniform** and how consistently it is worn throughout the school. While most students are supported to wear it correctly, as we approach the end of the year it is timely to clarify expectations, so that we can start 2017 in a positive manner in this regard. Details will be shared in the last newsletter of the year.

Our school **Facebook** page has been going for most of the year, and **Twitter** for the last two years. Many parents and family members have received posts and updates through these two forums. I would encourage you to sign up to one or both of these as a way to keep up to date and in touch with school events. You don't have to be an active user of Facebook or Twitter, but by having an account you can regularly link in with our school via social media. A flyer is included with this newsletter regarding how to sign up. Please note that the Home and School group now have a Facebook page of their own as well.

We are again having our **Helpers Morning Tea** on Monday 5th December at 10.30am. If you have helped in class or at school events this year, you are most welcome to attend this morning tea. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please refer to our school calendar about events between now and the end of the school term – the next few weeks will be busy ones.

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

Ngā mihi nui,

*Andrew Leverton
Principal / Tumuaki*

School Notices

Room 11

Wow what a busy term it's been! It was so hot yesterday at the Athletics Day but we all had such a great day and tried our best in each sport. We were all very good at putting on sunscreen throughout the day and wearing our hats, as we know how important it is to SLIP SLOP SLAP & WRAP.

Last week Mrs Smith was on leave so we had Mrs Sullivan teaching us in Room 11. We had a great time with her and enjoyed learning about people in our community who can help us like the police, a neighbour, our teachers, the principal, friends etc.

We want to thank the Home and School team for organizing the Fun Run. We all had so much fun and some of us even tried out new things like climbing over straw bales and diving down a water slide! We all agreed that we would love to do it again some time!

We have some artwork going up in the office area soon, so if you're popping in between Friday and the end of the year please have a look.

Enjoy the rest of the term!

Room 9

Room 9 have had a great term. We loved dressing up as our favourite book or movie character and we had so much fun at the "Fun Run". We painted flowers, leaves and butterflies on our rocks to display at "Arts & Plants". Ryan was lucky enough to win an awesome prize for his rock. We have been learning how to keep ourselves safe and had a visit from the police officer and she taught us about different types of touch and we practised being confident and saying "No"!

We have heard the good news, we are moving back into our class on Thursday, it is going to be so exciting to see all the changes and discover all the new things.

Room 12

We have been up to all sorts of things in Room 12 this term.

For writing we have been working on narratives and creating stories that are interesting and exciting!

For maths we've been doing Geometry with Mrs Scott and we created some vehicle pictures out of 2D shapes.

During our Discovery sessions with Room 13, we found one of the activities really exciting. We learnt how to make boats out of different types of paper and then checked to see what boats could hold the most wooden blocks. We found out that boats made out of slightly thicker A3 paper held the most. We found it too hard to fold the paper that was the thickest. A4 paper only made a small boat and usually only held about 10 blocks before the boat sank! It was important to balance the boat by carefully putting blocks on each side. Our record was 60 little blocks in one boat!

Room 13

WAVE

Recently the whole school participated in Wave Challenge Day. There were hurdles, jump jam, skipping, relays, obstacles, ball skills, scootering and tug of war competitions. Well done on the Wave team for organizing and running these events. Here are some stories about the day.

Yesterday it was Wave Day my favourite one was skipping and hurdles. When we went to hurdles. There were big ones, medium ones and little ones. I jumped over all of them. The skipping was fun too. I think Alex was the best skipper.

Eligh Worner R13

I liked the scooters because I was speeding and I got a speeding ticket. I liked doing the big hurdles because they were fun. I also liked the blind fold obstacle because my buddy helped me through the course. And it was awesome.

Heath R13

Yesterday it was Wave Challenge Day part 2. First we did relays. In the first relay we hopped around cones that were in a zig zag pattern. Then we had to run in a line. It was easy. Then we did Jump Jam. We did four Jump Jam songs. The first one was Bills, the second one was Magic 2.0, then we did Iko Iko and the last one was Everything's Gonna Be Alright. Next we did ball skills. My favourite part was dodge ball. The last one we did was tug of war. We won against Room 12.

Finn R13

School notices:

Stranger Danger

We have been alerted to the possibility that there may be a risk of someone following children and parents around the town. With this in mind we ask parents and children take extra care on the way to and from school. If children are walking to school, we strongly encourage them to walk in groups, ideally under the supervision of an adult. We also ask that parents talk to their children about safe walking and what they can do if they are in an uncomfortable situation. Any incidents should be reported to the local police.

Swimming Pool Opens

The school pool will be open from Monday. Each class will have a set time each day, so please remember togs, towels and sunscreen. Formal lessons commence in Term 1, with the older children going to the community pool.

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.

Sun Hats

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: Lance, R9; Ella, R1; Cassidy, R10; Lilly G, R1; Danny, R17; JJ, R17

PB4L Certificates

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

R1 Poppy Wheeler	R2 Alana Berry
R3 Georgia Coles	R4 Gracie Snow
R5 Teagan Marett	R6 James Baddeley
R7 Samuel Welford	R8 Jackson Snow
R9 Sophia Chapman	R10 Gracie May Waters
R11 Cayden Howell	R12 Eva Maynard
R13 Lenny Simpson	R14 Charlie Shadlow
R15 Aliyah Turpin	R17 Justin Higgins

Energy Efficiency Certificate – Room 1

Rubbish Classification Certificate – Room 5

Activity Fees

Thank you to all families that have paid their Activity Fee over Terms 1-3. This is a reminder that the Activity fee is \$80.00 per child each year needs to be paid. If you have any difficulties with this, please let Mr Leverton or the office know.

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.

Wave Disco Tomorrow, 25th November 2016

Juniors; Rooms 15, 16, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, & 13

6 – 7.14pm

Seniors; Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, & 17

7.15 – 8.45pm

This Disco will be supervised by staff and parents need to drop their children off and pick them up again at the end of the sessions. For safety and organisation reasons could all of the junior children please be picked up from the school playground side of the hall. (Not through the main entrance because the seniors will be starting to arrive). Please note this disco is for Geraldine Primary School children only.

Thanks to the Home and School for providing money to purchase food, drink and prizes and decorations. Also thanks to the GPS Wave team for organising activities for this event.

Headlice

There have been some cases of headlice reported. To reduce and eradicate head lice in our school we ask that parents are extra vigilant and treat their children at the first sign.

If staff spot head lice or eggs in a child's hair, we will contact parents / caregiver and ask that the child is collected from school to be treated before returning to class.

School Calendar -

Term 4

Week 7

Friday 25 November

Wave Disco

Week 8

Tuesday 29 November

Maori Whanau Hui, 7pm, Staffroom

Wednesday 30 November

New Entrant (2017) Parent

Information Meeting, 1.30pm, R9

Week 9

Monday 5 December	Helpers Morning Tea, 10.30-11am, School Hall
Tuesday 6 December	Home & School Meeting 7pm
Thursday 8 December	South Canterbury Athletics
Friday 9 December	Postponement Date SC Athletics Principal's Assembly, 1.30pm – all welcome

Week 10

Monday 12 December	Y6 Pool/BBQ – Community Pool
Tuesday 13 December	Reports home to parents BOT Meeting, 5.30pm
Wednesday 14 December	Christmas Carols on the Green 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	Term 4	16 October–15 December

Home & School

Thank you to the School Community for the great support of last Friday's sausage sizzle, the proceeds of which will be donated to The Red Cross Earthquake appeal. We raised \$410.30 which is a fantastic effort.

Adidas Fun Run

The Fun Run prizes are due to arrive at school shortly and will be sorted and distributed hopefully on Friday. We will notify any parents who may need to come and collect prizes due to size and/or value. The final fundraising tally is still being calculated and we look forward to sharing this total with the school community soon.

Christmas Trees

The sale of the Christmas trees has been deferred till 2017, as on review, it was considered the trees will be a more appropriate size for sale next year.

Car Boot Sale

The school community will have noted that we took a break from the Car Boot Sale this year, but this will be considered again for 2017.

Second Hand Uniform:

The final sale of second hand GPS uniform for 2016 will be: Friday 2 December. If any parents/caregivers are in urgent need of uniform beyond the advertised sale dates, please text 021 02644-332. Donations of clean tidy uniform are always appreciated.

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.

Community Notice

Go Geraldine Christmas Parade: Friday 2nd December 2016. The parade starts at **6.30 pm** this year from the corner of Hislop and Talbot Street and will travel along Talbot St to Peel St. Spend local this season for a chance to win in the **Santa Sak** draw. Come along to the **Domain** after the parade for the Santa Sak Draw, Prize Cup Presentation and an hour of festive family entertainment. For more information see www.gogeraldine.co.nz/events or contact Janene 027 555 6524.



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Keeping up to date through social media and online information

As well as our regular fortnightly newsletter, parents and friends of the school are able to obtain online information about Geraldine Primary in several ways:

Our school website...

www.geraldineprimary.school.nz

This contains general information about the school, including enrolments, policies, key events and term dates. Our fortnightly newsletter is also posted on the website. On our website you will also find information posted on our Twitter site.

Twitter...

There will be times when it is important for us to be able to communicate with families as quickly as possible, for instance in the case of emergencies or school closures. Twitter is one way to do this. We can also post reminders, photos or news stories about school events.

Our Twitter page is: twitter.com/geraldineps1 . To follow us on Twitter through your mobile phone text: **follow geraldineps1 to 8987** . You will now receive GPS Tweets. Please note that Vodafone does not support Twitter – if you are with this provider you won't be able to receive GPS Tweets.

Facebook...

This runs alongside our Twitter page as a way of communicating with our community about events that are occurring at school or if we need to get important information out to families as quickly as possible. Information posted on our Facebook site is similar to what is posted on Twitter.

To find our page, go to www.facebook.com and search for Geraldine Primary School.