



Geraldine Primary

Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve
Whaia e koe te iti Kahurangi

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Newsletter

Week 5, Term 1

Thursday 1st March 2018

From our Principal

We are approaching the half way mark of Term 1 and it has certainly been a busy term so far. Our Year 4-6 swimming sports last Friday provided students with an opportunity to participate and compete in a variety of races suited to their swimming ability. It was wonderful to see each student put in their very best effort and we again enjoyed a high level of parental support for this event.

Today we launched our whanau groups in very colourful style with each child and staff member getting dressed up in their group colour. Each whanau group had lunch together before taking part in some fun activities that the Whanau Group Leaders had planned. Congratulations to everyone for their enthusiasm and especially to our Leaders for their organisation of the day.

Tomorrow afternoon Tāwhirimātea Syndicate (Y3 and 4) are holding their triathlon at school and we wish them all the very best for this. Year 5 classes are off to Raincliff on camp in week 8 of term, which will be the first time for this year group. Year 6 classes are going to Lindisfarne once again for their camp next week. Many thanks to all the parents who are assisting with these camps.

Our Board of Trustees currently has a casual vacancy for an 18 month term, which will run through to the next Board election. This is a wonderful opportunity to be involved in the governance of the school and have a deeper understanding of GPS. If you would like to find out more, please contact me at school or ring the office for the contact details of our Board Chairperson, Rob Wilson.

The Board of Trustees has set the strategic direction for the school for the next three years. This has been summarised below:

OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIC AIMS

Purpose: "To provide positive and purposeful learning experiences that will help each child to become a life-long learner."

Values: Caring, Achieving, Respectful, Responsible.

Strategic Aim One:

Enabling all students and staff to have the opportunity to reach their full potential –

- 1.1 Achievement in Literacy and Numeracy
- 1.2 Maori Achieving as Maori
- 1.3 Develop staff and student capacity in digital technologies

Strategic Aim Two:

Development of GPS culture by supporting the health and wellbeing of students and staff -

- 2.1 Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)
- 2.2 Continued development of Environmental Education practices
- 2.3 Implementation of the Learner Profile
- 2.4 Development of wellbeing and mindfulness practices
- 2.5 Implementation of Whanau Groups

Strategic Aim Three:

Support and encourage continued positive relationships between the school and community -

- 3.1 Effective communication and consultation with our school community
- 3.2 Creating and maintaining effective transitions to and from Geraldine Primary

On Friday 16 March the Primary Teachers Union (NZEI) will be having meetings during the school day to discuss matters pertaining to their collective agreement. School will continue to be open on this day however there will be alternative programmes in place to allow staff to attend either a morning or an afternoon meeting. This will see children working in another class for part of the day. If parents wish to keep their child home on this day, they are welcome to do so.

Each term the Board of Trustees reviews policies as part of a three-year cycle. This term we are asking parents / whanau to assist us in this process by reviewing the **Home Learning policy**. To access instructions for this and for any policy, please visit our school website, click on the [School Info](#) tab at the top of the page and then the [School Policies](#) tab in the side bar.

A reminder to families that school commences at 8.50am. Children should arrive at school before this, so that they have time to get ready for the day ahead. Being on time and punctual is an important life skill as is getting to class on time at the start of the day and after a break.

We ask that children who are late to school for any reason report to the office before going to class. If your child is going to be away, please contact the school office and leave a message along with the reason for absence. We are required to know the

reason for absence, so the accurate Ministry of Education code can be used. If a reason isn't provided, the absence is classed as unjustified.

Some of you will be aware by now that we have been advertising for a new Office and Financial Administrator. Jane Paton has accepted a position in the office at Geraldine High School. We wish her all the very best in this new role. Her last day will be Wednesday 14 March.

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

Ngā Mihi nui,
Andrew Leverton
Principal / Tumuaki

School notices

A special welcome to our new students:

PB4L Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who received a PB4L Certificate at assembly last week:

R1	Lucy Patrick	R2	Zoe Keane
R3	Zech Reardon	R4	Tasman Pidgeon
R5	Leilani Short	R6	Ruby Ellis
R7	Molly Patrick	R8	Macy Oliver
R10	Riley Nicholls	R11	Maddie Berry
R12	Ollie Barnett	R14	Blake Booth
R17	Rhys Lawson		

Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following children who were lucky enough to win a Gotcha Draw recently: Frankie, R12; Hayley, R2; Ollie C, R12; Mia, R2; Cullen, R2; Murphey, /r2.

South Canterbury Relay for Life

As you will all be aware South Canterbury Relay for Life this year is being held at the Geraldine Rugby Club on the 10th March from 10am to 10pm.

Geraldine Primary School staff are very supportive of this event and are entering a team. We will have our school tent up for the day so please come and say hello if you are at the relay.

A Super Hero Muffi Day – A big thank you to everyone who supported our Muffi Day last week. We raised a total of \$473.20 for the Relay for Life.

Pub Quiz - GPS staff are running the first Pub Quiz of the year on Wednesday March 7th at the Village Inn. Get your quiz team ready and come down for a fun night. Teams of 4, \$10 per person. We are looking for prizes for raffles for this event. If you or your business can help out in any way with a prize, e.g. bottle of wine, chocolates, vouchers, can you please drop these into the school office or contact Siobhan Hayward at school.

Online Payments

For those who wish to pay online, our account number is:
ANZ 01-0841-0024832-10

Emergency Contact details

If you have had a change of address or phone number over the holiday period, please make sure that the office has up to date details.

We have had several instances recently where we have incorrect information and no back up emergency contact numbers. Please feel free to ask at the office to check the information we currently hold for you.

Dental Clinic

The Geraldine Primary School Dental Clinic is now closed until Term 2.

Please phone 0800 846 983 to make an appointment to go to a clinic in Timaru or Ashburton

School Calendar

Week 5

Friday 2 March Tawhirimatea (Y3-4) Syndicate Triathlon – pm

Week 6

Tuesday 6 March Y6 Camp at Lindisfarne for rest of week

Week 7

Friday 16 March SC Triathlon for selected students
Teacher Union Meetings

Week 8

Monday 19 March Y5 Overnight Camp at Raincliff
Friday 23 March 3 Way conferences – all day (no classes)

Week 9

Thursday 29 Marcy SC Swimming for selected students
Friday 30 March Good Friday – School Closed

Week 10

Monday 2 April Easter Monday – School closed
Tuesday 3 April Easter Tuesday – School closed
Friday 6 April Breakfast BBQ, 8am

Week 11

Tuesday 10 April R2 & 3 Bushcraft walk
Friday 13 April Celebration Assembly hosted by Tawhirimatea Syndicate (Y3-4)

2018 Term Dates

Term 1	31 January – 13 April	Term 2	30 April – 6 July
Term 3	23 July – 28 September	Term 4	15 October – 18 December

Home & School

Welcome to our new families for 2018. For children and families new to Geraldine Primary School, please take a look at the Home & School flyer in your enrolment pack to find out what we do and to indicate if you are willing to help us in any way. Basically we support the school with fundraising activities and supporting the school at some events. It is a great way to become involved with the school and to help the school provide the best possible environment for our children.

AGM: This is scheduled for **Mon 12 March 2018**. We welcome new members and will contact all of the parents who have indicated an interest in joining this committee or finding out more about it.

Trail Bike Ride 2018: This will be held on **Sunday 15 April** which is in the first weekend of the school holidays. We are reliant on the generosity of local farmers for this event to proceed. Visit www.myrides.co.nz if you are interested in participating.

Geraldine Primary Home & School Facebook Page: have you liked us yet?

Sausage Sizzle: Sausages are available for our children every Friday lunchtime. Orders are taken on Friday mornings prior to school starting 0820 – 0850 on the hall veranda. Sausages cost \$1.50 each. Payment is by cash (correct amount please) or by purchasing a card for 10 sausages (\$15.00) from the Office. Gluten free sausages are available for purchase for \$1.50. Please assist your children to ask for a gluten free sausage when they place their order, **and** when they collect their cooked sausage. Gluten free sausages will be served in a serviette.

Second Hand Uniform: This will continue to be available from Rosie's second hand clothing on Peel Street. Rosie's is open Tuesday to Thursday 10.30am to 3.30pm. We request that donations of uniform continue to be dropped off at the School Office.

Pea Straw Fundraiser

Small bales \$7 each

Medium bales \$50 each

Orders to Julie Copland-Batty 027 626 2897 or 03 615 9240

Community Notices

MAINLAND SILVERMOON TACTIX VISIT:

We are lucky to have some of the best netball players in Canterbury come to our Centre for a Have a Go day for our children.

So come along and have a session of skills/drills, Have-a-Go with some of your favourite netball players from the SILVERMOON Tactic.

FREE -

When - Friday 9th March Venue - Geraldine Primary School Netball Court.

Yr 3-8 - 4-4.55pm

Yr 9-13 - 4.55pm - 5.30pm

Can you please text your interest to myself so we have an idea of numbers for the day or any questions text Marissa on 021 422 326

Geraldine Combined Hockey Club

Registration day for the coming season.

All Primary aged children (Year 1 -8)

Geraldine Primary School Community Hall

5th March 2.50pm to 4pm

Primary contact Karen O'Kane 0211672782

geraldinehockeyclub@xtra.co.nz