



Geraldine Primary

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

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Newsletter

Week 11, Term 1

Thursday 12th April 2018

From our Principal

The first term of the year is nearly over and as you read this, your children will no doubt be looking forward to the two-week break that lies ahead. While this term has been slightly longer than most, it has certainly flown by with a number of events taking place. Many thanks to the staff and parents who have planned, assisted and attended activities such as class trips, camps, sport events, swimming and fundraisers.

There have been many people within our school community who have worked together to ensure that the children at GPS receive a varied and interesting education. A big thank you!

Our **Breakfast BBQ** last Friday was again very successful, with \$1918.50 being raised – about \$100 more than last year. Congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 students for the running of their stalls and the combined efforts of all involved. Thank you Geraldine Fresh Choice for providing sausages and bread, to our Home and School for their assistance with tea and coffee, the local Fire Service for their attendance and allowing the students to climb inside the fire truck and to the Geraldine Lions for the provision of a BBQ trailer and cooking of the sausages. Many people combined to make the morning very enjoyable and successful.

Over the past term we have been developing an outdoor sign for our school pepeha / mihi. You may be familiar with your child's mihi if they share it at home. We are now looking to have a sign placed at each of the Wilson and Cox Street entrances, so they are visible to everyone when they enter our school. The pepeha will read:

Tēna Kōutou Katoa

Kō Tarahaoa te mauka

Kō Waihi te awa

Kō Arai-te-uru te waka

Kō Arowhenua te marae

Kō te kura tuatahi o Raukapuka

The signs are being made at the moment. We plan to unveil them on the first day of Term 2 (Monday 30 April), at 9am. All members of the GPS community are invited to attend this ceremony. If, in the event that the signs are not ready, or the weather is inclement,

we will keep you all up to date via Facebook and our Skool Loop app towards the end of the holidays.

Lynda Brodie, who has been our Kiwisport co-ordinator for the past three years will be leaving GPS after the first week of Term 2. Lynda has brought a wealth of energy and passion to her role and this has had a positive impact on the programmes that have been offered to students, as well as support that she has provided to staff.

On behalf of the GPS community, I wish to acknowledge what Lynda has done for our school and other schools in the area and wish all the very best for future roles and opportunities.

For the past two and a half years I have been involved in the formation of a **Community of Learning (COL)** alongside other local schools and early childhood providers. COL are a Ministry of Education initiative aimed at increased collaboration between schools and improving student achievement. They have been established throughout many parts of the country over the past two – three years. The name of our COL is Ka Awa Whiria - The Braided Rivers, a name which typifies the area we live in. Over this time Principals and Head Teachers within the COL have met to discuss student achievement challenges and ways that teachers across the education sectors can collaborate to improve outcomes for students at a local level.

There are a number of key roles to be filled within the COL and one of these is that of COL Leader. I have recently been successful in my application for this position, which has been endorsed by both the GPS Board of Trustees and Ministry of Education. From the start of Term 2, this will see me focusing on COL Lead responsibilities for part of the week, which may be done either within or outside of GPS. For the rest of the week I will continue to be Principal of GPS. I applied for this position confident that GPS will continue to function effectively, which is testament to our staff and the systems that we have in place.

From Term 2 for two days of the week, Murray Davidson will be Acting Principal and will take on aspects of my Principal role. Combined with his Deputy Principal duties and attached release time, Mr Davidson will be released from his teaching responsibilities for a total of four days a week. Ingrid Hanrahan will provide continuity in Room 5 and will be teaching for these four days.

While I am looking forward to the exciting challenge of being Lead Principal for Ka Awa Whiria COL, I remain fully committed to providing ongoing leadership as Principal of Geraldine Primary School.

I welcome any queries that you may have about the above. Please feel free to email me - principal@geraldine.school.nz or see me at school.

We have recently received some **wonderful wins** in local schools' competitions. Many thanks to everyone who 'liked' our school photo of the students promoting milk and water on Facebook. This was run by WAVE South Canterbury. We received enough likes to win the competition and receive \$100 worth of sports equipment.

We have also won \$500 from the work on our gardens/orchard from the Plant, Soil, Food company. This will be used for more plants.

Over the term some classes have been visited by **headlice**. Eradicating these can prove to be a time consuming and frustrating process for parents, not to mention the impact on children. It involves not only treating the hair, but wet combing to remove the lice as well, over a number of days. Over the holidays, please take the time to regularly check your child's hair using the above method. A reminder that if staff see evidence of headlice, parents are contacted to remove their child from school and treat the hair and comb as above. If you would like further support or information about products, please feel free to contact our Public Health Nurse, Claire Neilson – phone or text 027 2479301.

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

Ngā mihi nui,
Andrew Leverton
Principal / Tumuaiki

School notices

Pea straw - Limited quantities of small bales for \$7 each. Orders to Julie Copland-Batty 027 6262897 or 03 6159240.

Bible in Schools

This will commence again in the first week of term 2 and will run through until the end of Term 3. Sessions take place at lunchtimes on Thursday in the library from 12.15 to 1.00. Participation is voluntary and if parents wish their children to take part they should discuss this with them and remind them each Thursday. BIS is run by volunteers who are associated with St. Andrew's Church in Geraldine.

Policy Review

Each term the Board of Trustees reviews policies as part of a 3 year cycle. This term we are asking parents/whanau to assist us in the process by reviewing the Home Learning Policy. To access instructions for this and for any policy, please visit our school website – www.geraldine.school.nz, click on the school info tab at the top of the page and then the school policies tab in the side bar. This will then provide you with further instructions.

School Donations and Activity Fees

At the end of 2017 the Board of Trustees set the school donation for 2018 at \$60 per student, or \$15 per term. To break this down further - \$1.50 per week. These donations are tax deductible and voluntary and are set as the money we receive from the Ministry of Education generally isn't enough to run the school and meet all expenses. Money received from the donations goes towards the cost of curriculum resources.

There is also a base activity fee of \$20, which pays for visiting performers throughout the year. This is additional to the donation and is non-voluntary.

Automatic payments can be established. Our bank details are Geraldine Primary School Board of Trustees 01-0841-0024832-10. Please use your child's name as a reference.

Breakfast BBQ

Guess the Jellybeans
Raffle Winners

258 – closest guess – Jock Fisher
Grace Worner

Easter Egg guess

Jolene Sowden
68 – guessed by Lily Grant

Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following students who won Gotcha draws recently:
Emily Geary, R5; Mate, R10; Isaac Bl, R10; Braxton, R6; Molly, R7; Justina, R8.

New Students

A special welcome to Te Kaireka who started in R3 and to Caitlin, Tait, Rua, Luka, Jorja and Penny who all started in Room 9 recently.

Pool Keys

The school pool is now closed. If you purchased a pool key, please return it to the office as soon as possible. Key holders must return their key if they wish to purchase a key in subsequent years.

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 recently, 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 11

Friday 13 April Celebration Assembly hosted by Tawhirimatea Syndicate (Y3-4),
1.30pm
Term 1 ends

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 30 April Term 2 commences
Home & School meeting, 7pm – all welcome

Week 3

Wednesday 16 May R4 & 5 Kayaking
Friday 18 May Pink Shirt Day

Week 4

Wednesday 23 May BOT Meeting, 5.30pm – all welcome
Thursday 24 May Staff Development day – school closed
Friday 25 May School Cross Country

Advance Notice – Staff Development Day

As previously mentioned through newsletters, Facebook and our school app, on Thursday 24 May staff will be involved in a day of writing professional development with Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey – two leading teacher educators in writing. We look forward to hosting them to Geraldine Primary.

School will be closed on this day to allow all staff to attend.

2018 Term Dates

Term 2 30 April – 6 July

Term 3 23 July – 28 September

Term 4 15 October – 18 December

Home & School

Breakfast BBQ: What a fantastic school community event. It was heartening to see the efforts the senior children had put into the fundraising efforts for their sponsor child. Home and School would like to thank Bruce Chisholm and Justin O'Brien from the Geraldine Lions for so capably cooking the sausages on their state of the art BBQ trailer, and to Geraldine Fresh Choice for organising the sausages and bread. It is one of the benefits of the Home and School to assist the school with these events.

Trail Bike Ride 2018: Unfortunately we have just received word that this event has been cancelled this year due to the wet ground conditions and the forecast for more rain before Sunday. This is always a possibility with this event, and we would like to thank the farmers who had offered their land for this event.

Special Thanks: to Michelle Howell who has recently stepped down from coordinating the sausage sizzle roster. This is a role that Michelle has competently organised for the last seven years. An outstanding contribution to our school, thank you Michelle. Michelle has handed over the reins to Emma Burnside – thank you for stepping up for this role Emma.

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. 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.

Community Notices

Holidays @ Kids Alive: April holiday programme will run from Monday 16th April to Friday 20th. Art-O-Rama is the theme for these holidays with activities ranging from creating pictures from water pistols, paint and balls in a paddling pool, decorating your own plaster of paris hands. There will also be bouncy castle, team games, Lollies or the Box and heaps of fun. To find out more of what is happening each day and to register go to www.kidsalive.co.nz or kidsalive.aimyplus.com or phone Lorraine on 0274038126.

Bridge Lessons - starting 30 April, 7- 9pm. 10 week course. Two venues, two choices. Geraldine - Mondays (Ph Helen, 0274659763), Temuka - Tuesdays (Ph Robyn, 03 615 9081). Stimulating & challenging card game for 10yrs+.

GERALDINE KIDS SING!

The Geraldine Academy has a Kids Choir on Tuesday afternoons at 3:30pm. We are looking for keen singers, rappers, beat-boxers and drummers! We are supported by the community and this is a low-cost activity for kids all ages. If you are interested, please contact Adele on 0210 236 9674 or Trisha on 0277367822.

KEEN FOR AN ADVENTURE THESE HOLIDAYS!!

Peel Forest Outdoors Pursuits Centre are running specials between the 18th-22nd April for local school children/and or their parents. Activities range from tramping up Mt Peel, an Orari river adventure day, rock/abseiling, funyak kayaking and rafting on the Rakaia.

Contact us here at: 03 6963832, 027 2626049 (Julie Grant – Operations) or email us at info@peelforestoutdoors.org.nz if you are keen to join us for a registration form

Funsticks Hockey in Geraldine for 5-8 year olds.

Beginners hockey, skills training and games.

Friday afternoons in Term 2 at the Geraldine High School turf.

For more information please contact Hils McCullough nofrillshils@gmail.com

The Todd Mudie Group are holding a school holiday rugby programme for boys and girls.

Alpine Energy Stadium

8 - 10yrs Thursday 26th April 9:30-12:30pm

11-13yrs Friday 27th April 9:30-12:30pm

\$15/day



Mother Earth FutureFerns

NNZ Year 1-2 Program

Starting Wednesday 2nd May

3.15pm – 3.45pm

(Every Wednesday for the duration of Term 2)

Registration on the same day

PLAYERS MUST BE REGISTERED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY

Registration forms also available by emailing geraldinenetball@gmail.com

\$25 per child

Netball Courts, Geraldine Domain

Leander Patterson Home – 03 693 9625

Cell – 027 465 6240

GERALDINE NETBALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



DATE: 20 APRIL 2018

TIME: 10am-1pm

YEARS: 3-8



**LOCATION: Geraldine Reserve,
Netball Centre**

Registration <http://www.sporty.co.nz/netballmainland>

For more info: (303) 236 5687 | Visit us: www.yoursitename.com

PosterMyWall.com

THE
**AMAZING
RACE**
GERALDINE

12pm Saturday 28 April 2018

Grab your family, friends and neighbours
and join in this awesome community event

Entry fee: \$20 per car*

ROAD LEGAL VEHICLE/DRIVER

12pm: Sausage Sizzle

ST ANDREW'S CARPARK, 10 COX STREET

4.30pm-ish: Prizegiving

HOSTED BY ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

*REGISTRATION IS NON-REFUNDABLE AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY 24 APRIL

PRE-REGISTER YOUR TEAM NOW

AMAZINGRACEGERALDINE@GMAIL.COM OR FACEBOOK: AMAZING RACE GERALDINE