



Geraldine Primary

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

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Newsletter

Week 7, Term 1

Thursday 15th March 2018

From our Principal

The Year 6 camp which was held last week was again a very successful occasion with the students reaching personal milestones and enjoying themselves as they took part in a range of activities. Camps at the start of the year allow the students and staff to get to know each other a little better and to set up each class for a positive year ahead. Many thanks to all the staff involved, as well as the numerous parents who helped out through the week.

Next Monday and Tuesday will see our Year 5 classes heading away to Raincliff for an overnight camp. These students will be the first GPS Year 5's to attend a camp and we wish them all the very best for this experience.

In the last newsletter I mentioned the resignation of Jane Paton who has secured a position at Geraldine High School. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Louise Ward who will be working in the office from Monday to Wednesday and will have a specific role in school finances. Louise started this Monday and we welcome her to the GPS community.

A reminder that tomorrow (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.

In two weeks time we will be having the Easter break. A reminder that all schools are closed on Easter Tuesday, 3rd April. This year is a little bit different in that Easter falls during term time. Typically it would fall in the school holidays.

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: Camilo, Sofie, Sophie, Hamish and Trent who all started in R9 recently.

3WC - 3 Way Conferences

Bookings can now be made online for 3 Way Conferences, which will take place on Friday 23rd March. The website to book your child's 3WC is www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. Use the event code av23d to access our school portal. If you need assistance with this, please contact the school office and we will book an interview for you. Please note that bookings will close on Wednesday 21 March and it is important that bookings are made by this day. Teachers will be involved in 3WCs all day on Friday 23 March and normal classes won't be taking place. Children will come to school for their 3WC only. There will be no school buses running on this day..

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.

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.

Breakfast BBQ

Our annual **Breakfast BBQ** will be held before school on Friday 6 April from 8 – 9 am. It serves as a fundraiser for our sponsored child Htet Wai Yan Oo who lives in Myanmar. Our senior students always have a great time preparing for this event and it's a good way for our school community to come together, catch up and support a wide variety of stalls. Any old books, toys or baking you could donate would be appreciated. More details will follow.

Temuka Transport Future Farmers Competition

GPS 1: Rachel Roberts, Mackenzie Waldron and Ella Chapman came 2nd at the Temuka Transport Future Farmers competition at the Winchester/Geraldine A& P Show recently.





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.

Relay for Life



A really big thank you to all of our school community for the support given to Relay for

Life. Through the Muffin day, Quiz night and Saturday at the Relay we raised \$2,350, a great effort by everyone involved. A special thank you to Jo Drake and Rochelle Fisher who were on the committee and Chelley Leov for a great job on the microphone all day.

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 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 March 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)

Advance Notice – Staff Development Day

As previously mentioned on our school facebook and 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 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

Lions Multi Challenge Event: The Geraldine Lions have kindly offered GPS a fundraising opportunity whereby if we can provide adult supervision of the bouncy castle/toy area during the Multi Challenge event (9.30 am to 1:00 pm), the Lions will give GPS a donation for the service. We are committed to providing this service due to the ongoing and longstanding generosity of the Geraldine Lions toward GPS. We already have a couple of volunteers who can provide an hour or two of this service, so we are urgently seeking another few volunteers for this role. If you can help, please contact Jane Harmon, 027 637-6313.

ANZCO bobby calf scheme: A huge thank you to all farming families who nominated Geraldine Primary School as part of the 2017 ANZCO bobby calf scheme. This raised the significant amount of \$3,539.12 which will be used to support our children's learning.

Geraldine Primary Community Stock Scheme 2017: We have received the funds from this scheme (2017) whereby farming families donate calves or lambs that they raise and are then sold on behalf of GPS with all funds raised going to the school. Last year's scheme raised \$4,425.62. As with the ANZCO scheme, this money is a significant boost to the fundraising totals and we are very grateful for this generosity, in many cases, a long-standing relationship. We would like to thank most sincerely the following families: Wilson; Fisher; Bolt; O'Kane and Davies. Thanks also to Rod Sands for assistance with sorting and weighing the stock and to Four Peak Transport for free cartage to the sale.

Geraldine Primary Community Stock Scheme 2018: Due to the current uncertainty around the mycoplasma bovis outbreak, it is unclear whether we will proceed with the scheme this year. We will await developments and review closer to the time.

AGM 2018: This was on Monday 12 March. We were thrilled to welcome some new members and have also had indications from other parents that although they were not able to attend the AGM, will attend future meetings. If there are any other interested parents, please feel welcome to attend any of our meetings to gauge if you would be interested in joining our merry band.

Trail Bike Ride 2018: This will be our first major fundraiser for 2018 and 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 on the hall veranda 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

Geraldine KiwiSport Co-ordinator

Applications are open for the above position. This role is a part-time position of 16 hours per week co-ordinating and delivering sport for young people across the Geraldine community.

The project aims to improve children's sports skills and increase participation in school and club sport.

Job description and further information is available from:

Geraldine Combined Sports

Dan Cummings on 029 415 1880

Or email: linda.kenny@sportcanterbury.org.nz

Applications close 12noon on Friday 23 March 2018.

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+.

2018 we are introducing JAB U11 grade for girls only.

On the 28th of March we are hosting a

Have A Go Afternoon At Alpine Energy Stadium

From 4 – 5.30pm

We have trained coaches from Rugby Clubs joining us to help with coaching, ensuring a safe controlled environment.

Please spread the word and encourage your girls who have either played ripper and enjoyed it or want to have a go a playing Rugby to come along.

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