



# Geraldine Primary

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

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## Newsletter

Week 4, Term 2  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018

From our Principal

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

We have had a busy couple of weeks at school with a visiting performer, two teams at the South Canterbury Rippa Tournament, Year 6 kayaking, Pink Shirt Day in recognition of Anti Bullying Week, as well as lots of learning in class!

Tomorrow afternoon from 1.15pm we will hold our annual **cross country** at the Geraldine Domain, which families are most welcome to attend. This year the cross country will be an inter Whanau Group event and we are encouraging students to wear a T-shirt in their Whanau Group colour: Whero – red, Kakariki – green, Kahurangi – blue, Kowhai – yellow if they have one. This can be worn to school in the morning. Please note it is not a full mufti / dress up day. Each participant will get a point for the Whanau Group and those finishing in the top 10 for their age / year will also receive points depending on placings.

I have again included with this newsletter a draft copy of our recently developed **Learner Profile**. This first appeared in the newsletter in Week 2 of this term. The Profile includes a series of statements that capture the knowledge, skills and attributes that students should aim to develop over their time at GPS. We have purposefully set out not to create an exhaustive list of what children need to achieve, thus keeping it manageable. Instead we have taken a broader approach, which covers learning as well as social dispositions.

I would like to gain the thoughts of parents regarding the Learner Profile. Please email me – [principal@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:principal@geraldine.school.nz). You may like to comment about the strengths of the Profile or if anything has been omitted that could have been included. I look forward to hearing from you before the end of this month and will appreciate your input.

Many thanks to those families who have paid their **activity fee and voluntary school donation** so far. The activity fee has been set at \$20 and the donation at \$60 per child. If your child has entered GPS during the year, please contact the office regarding the

amount that should be paid. The activity fee is used to cover visiting performers and the donation is spent on curriculum resourcing throughout the school. We certainly appreciate the payments received and budget for these each year. At this stage there has been no further movement on additional Government funding of school donations, so for the time being the status quo will remain.

### **Education Issues**

Throughout New Zealand there is a growing teacher shortage and a crisis in attracting people into the teaching profession; the number of enrolments in initial teacher education dropped markedly in the past five years, while the student population is projected to grow significantly.

To address this, the primary teachers professional body (NZEI – New Zealand Educational Institute) is advocating for more time to teach and lead through more staffing in schools and better pay, alongside greater resourcing for students with complex needs. Parental support is imperative for us to succeed. It's time.

Meetings and negotiations will be happening soon. Our teaching staff will be attending a meeting co-ordinated by the NZEI on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. For us this will mean that classes will end for the day at 12.15pm, with buses departing shortly after this. Parents of bus children will need to be at the bus stop early on this day to collect their child off the bus. There will be no high school students on the buses at this time so we anticipate the runs being slightly quicker and parents should allow for this. If there is no parent to meet children at the bus stop they will be returned to school by the driver.

For children who do not go home on the bus, we are encouraging parents to collect them at 12.15pm or the children walk / bike home at this time if they would normally do so.

If the early departure is not going to be convenient for parents there will be several staff who will remain at school to supervise children.

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

*Ngā mihi nui,*  
Andrew Leverton  
Principal / Tumuaki

## Geraldine Primary School Learner Profile **DRAFT**

**Over their time at Geraldine Primary, our students will develop an ability to:**

- Display a desire to learn and aspire to achieve across all areas of learning
- Act with integrity and be a positive role model for others by demonstrating the school values
- Demonstrate resilience and a positive mindset to overcome challenges
- Make appropriate decisions, think for themselves and use their time effectively
- Have an appreciation of a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle and be able to recognise and form positive relationships
- Be curious and inquiring
- Understand how they learn best
- Communicate and collaborate with others
- Confidently, safely and effectively use digital technologies
- Be future-focused and globally aware
- Be involved in a variety of leadership and extra-curricular opportunities
- Develop a strong and positive sense of who they are, feeling confident and proud of themselves, their heritage and identity
- Have a knowledge of their own and other cultures and feel comfortable in various cultural settings, e.g. marae, powhiri, legends
- Confidently recite their mihi, have a good grasp of basic Te Reo and have the enthusiasm to continue with this when they leave Geraldine Primary
- Understand and be involved in tikanga such as poi making, weaving, rakau, food gathering
- Recognise the place of Te Ao Maori in the school, e.g. bilingual signage, spoken language, tikanga, waiata

## **Geraldine Primary School Cross Country**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

The children have been practicing for our school cross country during school time. They will get to go around the course so they know where to run on the day. Please make sure your child has appropriate footwear during this time.

Our cross country will be held at the Domain, starting at 1.15pm. If postponed then Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May, this will be on twitter and facebook.

All children take part in this activity unless they have a medical reason for not participating, in which case a letter needs to be written to the Principal or Deputy Principal. We see this activity as being the same as Reading or Maths and that all children should try to do their best.

The race programme will start with the juniors and go through to the senior classes.

Junior Syndicate classes are run by age group. Middle and Senior Syndicates are run by year group.

Children may leave after the event is over if their parent is there to take them. Please let the teacher know.

### **Bible in Schools**

This has commenced again for 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](http://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.

### **New Students**

A special welcome to the following students who have all started at our school this term: Christopher, R5; Cameron, R17; Miles, R6; Nirvana and Madison, R11; Isabella, R3; Sophie, R1; and Caleb, R9.

### **Senior Syndicate Bike Safety**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, all children from the Senior Syndicate will be taking part in a practical workshop on bike safety run by NZ Police.

Please have your child's bike and helmet at school for the beginning of the day.

Please also check that their bikes and helmets are road worthy.

### **Te Reo**

**Mauri ora whanau,**

I am excited to continue our learning with Te Reo Maori. Following on from Te kupu o te wiki, the word of the week, we are going to put a phrase in the newsletter each term that you can use along with last years words. We want to encourage our tamariki and their families to learn new Maori words and phrases. Give it a go and drop it into conversation when you can! Your kids will love to hear you using Te Reo Maori and so will Whaea Ange!

Mauria te pono – Believe in yourself!

Our phrase for Term 2 is:

*Homai te give me the*



### **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.

### **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.

### **Dental Clinic**

The Geraldine Primary School Dental Clinic is Open from Tuesday 5 June, four days a week. Please phone 0800 846 983 to make an appointment.

### **School Calendar**

#### **Term 2**

#### **Week 4**

Friday 25 May School Cross Country, 1.15pm Domain

#### **Week 5**

Monday 28 May postponement Cross Country  
Wednesday 30 May EPRO8 Challenge, Ashburton

### **Week 6**

Monday 4 June Queens Birthday – School Closed  
Thursday 7 June Y1-4 Sneeze Safe programme

### **Week 7**

Monday 11 June Musical Asthma Show – whole school  
Monday 11 June Road Safety Programme Y0-3  
Tuesday 12 June Road Safety Programme Y0-3  
SC Cross Country for those selected  
Wednesday 13 June Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme starts

### **Week 8**

Monday 18 June –  
Wednesday 20 June Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme continues  
Wednesday 20 June SC Jump Jam competition, Theatre Royal  
BOT Meeting, 5.30pm

### **Week 9**

Monday 25 June –  
Wednesday 27 June Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme continues

### **Week 10**

Monday 2 July –  
Wednesday 4 July Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme continues  
Friday 6 July Open Assembly, 1.15pm  
Last Day of Term 2

### **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**

<b>Term 2</b>	30 April – 6 July	<b>Term 3</b>	23 July – 28 September
<b>Term 4</b>	15 October – 18 December		

### **Home & School**

**Fundraising Opportunity:** We have been fortunate to have been offered the chance to sell refreshments at the upcoming South Canterbury Car Club event on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June (Queen's Birthday) at the Pleasant Valley Hall, with takings to go to GPS. We will have BBQ burgers, drinks, sweets, etc. We are seeking assistance from our school community to benefit from this opportunity:

- Donations of uncut baking which we can sell, to be dropped off at the School Hall Kitchen on the Friday prior (1<sup>st</sup> June)
- Thank you to the volunteers who have put their hand up to assist on the day (approx. 10.30 am – 2.30 pm). One more helper would be awesome, so please contact Marissa Grant on 021 422 326 if you are able to help.

**Upcoming Fundraiser:** Keep an eye out for details of our Ladies Movie Night later this term.

**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 the hall veranda, 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**

Geraldine Squash Club Have a Go Day,

We invite the juniors to our club on Sunday 27 May,

Years 4 & 5 2-2.45pm

Year 6+ 2.45-3.45pm

Please text your name, year and school to Andrina on 027 376 6881 (just bring your non-marking shoes, and a give it a go attitude)

144 Talbot St, Geraldine. See you there.

# Digital Natives to Screenagers

Online Opportunities and Challenges

## FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

for parents/whānau and community members

**WHEN:** Monday 2 July 2018 7.00pm – 9.00 pm

**WHERE:** Room 1, Education Centre, Timaru Hospital  
Enter through Main Hospital Entrance

*Facilitated by Netsafe, this free presentation will discuss ways to support and enable our children and young people to navigate online opportunities, challenges and complexities.*

### This presentation will cover:

- Awareness of the needs/activities of younger children, preteens, and teens online
- What research is telling us about how young people experience digital technologies and online spaces
- How parents/whānau can support their children and help them develop skills, knowledge and values to manage risks, challenges and opportunities online
- The Harmful Digital Communications Act (2015): what parents and young people need to know
- Helpful support options for young people and families in cases of online challenge, risk or harm.

#### Facilitator: Anjie Webster



Anjie Webster is an Educator Advisor at Netsafe and has worked in schools for over 25 years. She has taught across all education sectors from ECE to Secondary, and held a variety of leadership roles. She recently completed her M.Ed. with a focus on children, young people and privacy, and what's needed to navigate and manage challenges and opportunities in online spaces.



**To register:** email your contact details and name of the workshop to [ally.pieromaldi@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:ally.pieromaldi@cdhb.health.nz) or phone Ally on 687 2606

**RSVP:** By **FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE**



South Canterbury  
District Health Board

