



# Geraldine Primary

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

Phone: (03) 693 8208

Email: [office@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:office@geraldine.school.nz)

Web: [www.geraldine.school.nz](http://www.geraldine.school.nz)

## Newsletter

**Week 8, Term 2**  
**Thursday 20 June 2019**

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

The winter chill has certainly set in, with a particularly cold lunchtime the other day, which saw students going inside before the normal time. My car temperature gauge even hit minus 4 degrees on the way to school on Wednesday!

This is a good time to confirm expectations around aspects of our **school uniform**. Firstly thermals, which are worn under the polo shirts. These must be plain navy - not stripes or spots. The same applies if tights are worn. Jackets can be worn to and from school and in the playground over the school polar fleece / merino half zip. Please note that jackets are not a replacement for the fleece or merino half zip. Brightly coloured socks, jeans, riding boots, sports club uniforms / gear and general muffi are not part of the school uniform.

Congratulations to students who recently represented the school two South Canterbury events. In the Schools' **Cross Country** we had some great placings - Lenny finishing first in the Year 5 boys' race and Tahlea was the first Year 6 girl across the line. The Year 5 girls team came 3rd and the Year 6 girls team came 1st. Also we had two **EPro8** teams taking part in this technology / teamwork challenge. The GPS Magic (JJ, Zoe, Jessica S, Summer) came 1st and the GPS Rockets (Emma, Hayley, Jorja, Bryn) came 7th out of 12 teams. The Magic have qualified for the semi finals next term.

Best wishes to our three **Jump Jam** teams next Thursday, as they compete in the South Canterbury competition. There have been numerous practices over the course of the term, with staff guiding the teams. We wish them all well. There will be a dress rehearsal on Monday at 1.15pm in the hall.

Prior to the last General Election, the incoming Government signalled a \$150 payment to all schools that didn't charge **donations to parents**. We have recently learnt that this now applies to decile 1 - 7 schools only. GPS is a decile 8 school so we do not qualify for this. As such, our activity fee and voluntary donation structure will continue. The activity fees are set at \$20 a year per student (\$5 a term for those arriving during the year). This pays for visiting performers that come to school. The donation is set at \$60 per child (\$15 per

term). This pays for a variety of curriculum and other resources, the cost of which isn't met by our operations grant. The \$80 a year breaks down to \$20 a term, or \$2 a week per child.

Other activity fees such as trips, camps, skiing etc are additional to the above and are invoiced separately. It is encouraged and appreciated when the activity fees and donations are paid, as this allows us to continue to offer additional experiences for our children. To make things more manageable, some parents prefer to pay a small amount each week - please see the office if you would like to do this.

Some classes have been visited by **headlice** recently. If a staff member spots eggs or live lice in a child's hair, we will phone the parent / caregiver to come and collect their child, remove the eggs and live lice and treat the hair before the child can be returned to school. This will also mean ongoing brushing and checking, which requires time and effort. If eggs or headlice are spotted, each child in the class will bring home a letter to inform parents that they are present in the class.

Teachers are in the middle of **report writing** at the moment. This is a significant task, but enables parents to get a picture of the achievement of their child at mid year. These will come home on Thursday 4 July.

In the holidays our next **property** project will commence. As previously noted, this will see Room 10 being upgraded and a new adjoining classroom being built next to Room 10, which will replace the now-removed Room 13. Room 10 will be funded by the Ministry of Education, with the newly-built Board of Trustees-owned room being Board and community funded. The Board are still in the process of raising funds for this new room and are gratefully accepting donations of all denominations. A Givealittle page has been set up - search for Geraldine Primary School on [www.givealittle.co.nz](http://www.givealittle.co.nz) and a funding flyer has been included with this newsletter. All donations of \$250 and over will be acknowledged, with the donor's permission, on a board attached to the new classroom. These rooms will be the 7th and 8th classrooms that have been upgraded over the last three years - a significant achievement for our school. Rooms 6 - 9 were upgraded in 2016 and Rooms 1 and 2 in term 1 this year.

This project will turn the area around Room 10, 11 and 12 into somewhat of a construction zone through Term 3 and most of Term 4. Room 10 will soon be relocating to the school library. The building site will be fenced off for the duration of the work. When the build is completed, hopefully before the end of the year, Room 10 will be able to go back to their refurbished room and Room 17 will occupy the new classroom. In between the two rooms will be a shared wet / sink area and next to that a breakout space.

This Friday we will be spending time together in our **Whanau Groups** making tukutuku panels. These will be done in Whanau Group colours and then displayed in the hall. This activity will be a good opportunity for students of all ages to work together and for the older students to be positive role models to our younger students.

There will be a **New Entrant parent information afternoon** on Tuesday 25 June. If you have, or know of any parents with children starting school between now and the end of the year, this will be an ideal way to learn more about the transition process.

Our **end of term assembly** takes place on Friday 5 July at 1.30pm. This will be hosted by Tāwhirimātea Syndicate (Year 3-4). Parents and whanau are most welcome to attend this.

I will be away at the NZ Principals' Federation Conference from Tuesday - Friday in the last week of term.

Last term we had a visit from the **Education Review Office** (ERO). Their role is to provide external review and evaluation to schools, on a cyclical basis. Over the course of their visit they spoke with the leadership team and staff, the Board of Trustees and students, as well as spending time in classrooms. I found their time in our school very affirming, as well as providing us with useful guidance for the future. They have suggested that part of our future focus should be on further analysis of data to improve student achievement and more internal evaluation alongside what we currently do to identify where further improvements can be made.

As well as the above, when ERO conduct their visits, schools always hope their findings capture what works well within the school. ERO noted that *"through a sustained strategic focus, the school effectively promotes children's wellbeing. Children learn in a positive and supportive learning environment. The school is inclusive and welcoming. Children learn in settled and well-managed classrooms where they are able to focus on their learning. They know and show the school values.*

*Children benefit from a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities. Māori language and culture are valued in the school environment and events, and within the classroom. As a result, Māori children in the school feel proud in their identity as Māori. Older children are encouraged and supported to develop their leadership skills.*

*The principal and other senior leaders have implemented very effective school-wide systems. There is a systematic approach to introducing new initiatives and curriculum developments, such as digital technology, te ao Māori and wellbeing. There are well-considered systems to build consistent practices and understandings across the school.*

*Amongst the staff, there is a collaborative and collegial culture. Teachers are supported to take on leadership roles. Their skills and strengths are valued and used to lead different curriculum areas or other developments.*

*There is useful regular and evaluative review of each curriculum area informing ongoing improvement. Students', parents' and staff contribute to this. The school consulted widely when developing its desired learner profile. This profile explicitly recognises the voice of Māori whānau.*

*The school has effective governance practices. Trustees have relevant work skills and knowledge, and a sound understanding of effective governance."*

The full ERO report can be found on [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz) . Search for Geraldine Primary School.

As noted two newsletters ago, our **Deputy Principal Murray Davidson** has won a Principal's position at St. Andrews School, commencing next term. While he will be missed, this is a wonderful opportunity for Murray. He has made significant contributions to the life of GPS over the past 6 ½ years as both a class teacher and leader and will no doubt be an asset to his new school. We wish him all the best at his new school.

Fiona Wilcox will be the Acting Team Leader of the senior syndicate and Siobhan Hayward and Jo Drake will be allocated Murray's other leadership duties while the process of a permanent DP replacement is found. Sara Jamieson will teach in Room 5 on Fridays.

I wish all dance couples well for **Dancing with the Stars** on Saturday night. This will be the culmination of many practices, a lot of learning and significant time investment from them as well as dance tutors, hosts and our amazing Home and School group who are co-ordinating the evening. Many thanks to our generous sponsors also. Well done and thank you to everyone involved! Those lucky enough to secure tickets before they sold out will be looking forward to a great night out.

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

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton  
Principal | Tumanaki

## School Notices

### New Students

A special Welcome to: Emmerson Corn and Krystal Courage have started in R9 recently.

### Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following students who received a prize in the Gotcha draw at assembly last week: Chase, R10; Annie, R12; Bethany, R2; Jock, R1; Lani, R4; Keeley, R1.

### PB4L Certificates

Well done to the children who received PB4L Certificates at Assembly:

R1	Portia McRae	R2	Hamish Grant	R4	Smilla Burns
R5	Jessica Farmer	R6	Caio Alicino	R7	Molly Wrigley
R8	Flynn Slater	R9	Ashton Johnston	R10	Regan Nicholls
R11	Josie Herbert	R12	Paris McRae	R14	Mia Pierson
R15	Ihaka Huria-Leckie	R17	Ruby Ellis		

### Online Payments

For those who wish to pay school donations and activity fees online, our account number is: ANZ 01-0841-0024832-10

### Leaving after School from Wilson Street

We would ask that after school parents leaving the school grounds with their children on the Wilson Street side, please use the Pool gate entrance by Room 14. This is a request for safety to avoid confusion for children getting on the buses and also to ensure that **no one crosses the road between the buses.**

### Uniform Logo Embroidery

Lynn River, Talbot Street, Geraldine, have purchased The Little House Embroidery business and now embroider our GPS logo onto Merino Jerseys and Hats if you require this service, please phone 693 0000.

### Dental Care during the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will be providing dental care for children enrolled with our service during the upcoming school holidays. The clinics will offer treatment and relief of pain sessions by appointment only. To make an appointment please contact our Call

Centre which operates between the hours of 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday throughout the year.

The following Dental Clinics will be open during these school holidays:

- **Ashburton Clinic, 38 Elizabeth Street, Ashburton**
- **Timaru Clinic, Level 1, 18 Woollcombe Street, Timaru**

The clinics will offer appointments between 8.45am and 3.00pm for school-age and preschool children requiring treatment.

If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your dentist in the first instance.

To book an appointment at one of our clinics please: **call 0800 846 983**  
**Or email [commdental@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:commdental@cdhb.health.nz)**

## Calendar

### Term 2

#### Week 8

Saturday 22 June

Dancing with the Stars (Home & School fundraiser) GPS hall

#### Week 9

Tuesday 25 June

New Entrant information afternoon, 1.30 pm

Wednesday 26 June

Board of Trustees meeting, 5.30pm

Thursday 27 June

SC Jump Jam (for selected students)

#### Week 10

Friday 5 July

Middle School celebration assembly, 1.30 pm  
Term 2 ends

### Term 3

#### Week 1

Monday 22 July

Term 3 commences 8.50am

#### Week 2

Monday 29 July

Home & School meeting, 7pm

Wednesday 31 July

Board of Trustees meeting 5.30pm

Friday 2 August

Y5 & 6 ice skating – Tekapo

#### Week 4

Tuesday 13 August

Y5 bushcraft

Wednesday 14 August

Y5 bushcraft postponement

Thursday 15 August

EPro8 challenge semi final

#### Week 5

Monday 19 August

GHS Open Day

### 2019 Term Dates

**Term 2** 29 April – 5 July

**Term 3** 22 July – 27 September

**Term 4** 14 October – 18 December

South Canterbury Anniversary Monday 23 September

Labour Day Monday 28 October

## Home & School

**Dancing with the Stars:** Our big fundraiser is happening this Saturday night and it's a sell out!! The Home and School and all the contestants have been working very hard behind the scenes to ensure this night is a huge success.

**Help needed:** We would really appreciate some helpers from 10am on Sunday to clean up after the event. If you have a spare hour or two on Sunday morning please come down to the school hall.

**Sausage Sizzle Info:** A reminder to our existing families that sausages now cost \$2 per sausage, our first price increase for many years. Existing sausage cards will be honoured. Sausages are available for our children every Friday lunchtime. Orders are taken on Friday mornings prior to school starting 0820 – 0850. Sausages cost \$2.00 each. Payment is by cash (correct amount please) or by purchasing a card for 10 sausages (\$20.00) from the Office. Gluten free sausages are available for purchase for \$2.00. 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:** Donations of second hand GPS uniform are to be handed in to the School Office.

**Next Meeting:** Mon 29 July, 7pm, School Staffroom, new members welcome.

## Community Notices

### Justice of the Peace Services - Geraldine

Each Saturday a Justice of the Peace (JP) will be on duty at a desk in the Geraldine Library/Service Centre, 78 Talbot Street, Geraldine. Hours 10am – 12pm. The location of this JP signing desk is in the Plunket Rooms within the Library, so offers a private area for consultation.

**Wanted** - 8 ply wood. Call/text 027 970 5531 or drop it into the GPS Office

**2019/20 Entertainment books \$70.00** from the Geraldine Primary School office.

### Funsticks Hockey in Geraldine - Term 3

Funsticks will be run at the Geraldine High School turf on Friday afternoons in term 3. Sessions are 45 mins long and include basic skills and game time. Loansticks available.

Enquires to Hils McCullough at [nofrillshils@gmail.com](mailto:nofrillshils@gmail.com)



The Geraldine Primary School Board of Trustees is raising funds to build a new Board-owned classroom at Geraldine Primary, replacing the existing Room 13. Because the classroom will be owned by the Board, Ministry of Education funding cannot be used for this project, and we need to raise approximately \$150,000 to supplement the funding we have put aside from our own reserves for the project.

Having an extra classroom allows the Board to keep class sizes smaller than the Ministry provision, ensuring Geraldine Primary School is able to provide students with quality educational opportunities in a fit for purpose environment. A high standard of schooling in Geraldine is vital to the town's potential to attract young families to the district, ensuring its continued growth and development for the benefit of all.

This new classroom would enable the school to suspend the use of the room at the rear of the school hall as a classroom, freeing up the space for additional opportunities such as music lessons from itinerant teachers, or targeted sessions for groups of students. It would also make it easier for a wider range of groups to access and use the school hall at all times of the day, without concerns around disturbing children's learning or the security of property.

The new classroom will be built in conjunction with a Ministry-funded upgrade to Room 10 in 2019. We are seeking donations now from the school whanau, local businesses and wider community, and hope your business will consider being part of this important new chapter in Geraldine Primary School's history.

Should they wish, donors will be recognized for the following levels:

Bronze: \$250 - \$499      Silver: \$500 - \$1,999      Gold: \$2,000 - \$4,999      Platinum: \$5,000+



Current Room 13



Concept drawing of new Room 13 connected to upgraded Room 10

Many thanks for considering a gift to our School,  
 Geraldine Primary School Board of Trustees

**Donations for a new classroom at Geraldine Primary School**

Donation amount:

- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1000
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Internet Banking:

Bank: ANZ  
 Account name: Geraldine Primary School Board of Trustees  
 Account number: 01-0841-0024832-46  
 Please use surname and Room 13 as a reference

*Any donation is gratefully received. Remember donations over \$5 are tax deductible.  
 Donations of \$250 and over will be publically recognized, should you wish.*

Name of donor : \_\_\_\_\_

- I wish my donation to be anonymous       I require a receipt

Please return to: Geraldine Primary School Board of Trustees, 73 Wilson Street, Geraldine 7930.  
 Phone: 03 693 8208      email: principal@geraldine.school.nz