



Geraldine Primary

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

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Newsletter

Week 8, Term 4
4 December 2020

From the Principal...

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

The start of summer definitely means that we are into the last couple of weeks of the school year and what a year it has been! As we head into the festive season, I feel that it is important to take time to reflect on the challenges and successes that 2020 has brought and how far we have come as a school. We've coped remarkably well with the challenges of Covid-19 and the associated distance learning that schools were tasked with at short notice. This seems a long time ago now, but it is still a defining factor for us all. Being in New Zealand and in South Canterbury we possibly have fared better than other places around New Zealand and definitely better than other countries in this regard.

For us as a school, 2020 has been a year of progress, in the ongoing development of our school and the way we work together to make GPS the best we can be, to achieve our school vision of Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve. This can take on many forms - collectively as a school, for individuals who make progress in their learning, or for groups of students that do well in a particular area. This can only be achieved with the support of parents and whanau, together with our staff team. Well done everyone!

I'd like to congratulate our departing Year 6 students for what they have achieved this year. I've had the privilege of starting at GPS at a similar time to many of these students and it has been great to see how they have progressed and developed into the people that they are today. Again, it's been a team effort. Seeing their recent efforts with the Breakfast BBQ showed what can be achieved when there is cooperation and teamwork. They will soon walk across the stage at our Leavers' Assembly for the last time as GPS students. I hope that they take time to reflect on their journey at GPS and take strength from what they have achieved.

I'd like to acknowledge the many students who competed in the recent South Canterbury Schools Athletics and Swimming events. We received a high number of placings at these events. New records were set by the U9 boys 4 x 100m relay (athletics) and 9 year old 4 x 25m relay (swimming), the latter of whom beat the previous record set by GPS in 2016 by 4 seconds! Isaac B-L, Ethan W, Grace W, Addison C were in the record-breaking swim relay team and Hamish G, Luca K, Flynn S and Sam O'C were in the athletics relay team that

set a new record. Full results from these two South Canterbury events have been listed later in the newsletter, along with age group champions from our school athletic sports. Congratulations to everyone involved. It was somewhat of a relief to get our athletics in last Wednesday, with a couple of rotations occurring in the rain before we abandoned the last section!

We have two staff members leaving GPS at the end of this year. Debbie Scott, our Learning Support Coordinator, is departing after 17 years of service at GPS. 14 of these have been in her current role. She has worked tirelessly with students who require additional support, alongside their families. I have recently had the honour of speaking about Debbie at our end of year staff dinner and a South Canterbury teachers' function. Words like service, dedication, fairness, passion, wisdom and professionalism were used to describe Debbie and what she has achieved at GPS. On behalf of the GPS community, I wish Debbie all the best for her next chapter in teaching, wherever that may take her.

Anita Johnston, who has been part of our Teacher Aide team, has won a position at Waihi School, which will cover learning support, wellbeing and pastoral care roles. I know she will enjoy this new challenge. I thank Anita for the work that she has done with our learning support programmes over the past two years and wish her well for her future endeavours.

I'd also like to acknowledge Sara Jamieson, Katya Caird and Amy Wynn. Sara stepped into Room 13 after the Covid lockdown and has worked with the class since then Monday - Thursday. Katya and Amy have taught in Room 3 since last term while Chelley Leov has been having treatment. Thank you to these three teachers for providing the consistency that these classes needed and the support that they have given to GPS. I'm sure we will be seeing them back in some capacity in 2021!

We are hoping to commence our next classroom upgrade project in the holidays, or early in Term 1, 2021. This project will cover Room 3 and the surrounding work spaces.

Your child's report will come home on Thursday 10 December. A note will accompany the report, which will outline what room your child will be in for 2021, along with school-wide class organisation. Considerable time is spent drafting and finalising class lists and we consider a variety of factors when determining the composition of each class.

Also on 10 December we will have our Principal's Assembly where we acknowledge students who have been in leadership roles over the past year. Parents and whanau are most welcome to attend this assembly. Please refer to our calendar later in the newsletter for other key events between now and the end of term as well as term date information for 2021.

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

Andrew Leverton
Principal | Tumukaki

School notices:

School Athletics Champions

Under 8 Girls	Ashlee Bolt	Under 8 Boys	Flynn Slater
Under 9 Girls	Sophia Cisneros	Under 9 Boys	Luca Kimura
Under 10 Girls	Nirvana Ruddle	Under 10 Boys	James Fitzsimons
Under 11 Girls	Toia Sheed	Under 11 Boys	Ivan Orbase

South Canterbury Athletics Placings

Girls Under 9	70m Sprints	1 st Sophia Cisneros
	Long Jump	1 st = Ashley Bolt
	Relay	2 nd Geraldine Primary School
Boys Under 9	70m Sprints	1 st Luca Kimura 2 nd Sam O'Connor
	Baseball Throw	1 st Luca Kimura
	Relay	1 st Geraldine Primary School (New Record)
Girls Under 11	Long Jump	2 nd Evie Grant
Boys Under 11	100m Sprint	1 st Ivan Orbase
	High Jump	2 nd Ivan Orbase
Girls Junior	800m Run	1 st Toia Sheed
Boys Junior	800m Run	2 nd Sam O'Connor

South Canterbury Swimming Placings

Grace Worner	1 st 9yr Girls 50m Backstroke
	2 nd 9yr Girls 25m Freestyle
Addison Campbell	1 st 9yr Girls 50m Breaststroke
	2 nd 9yr Girls 50m Freestyle
Isaac Boorer-Lilley	1 st 9yr Boys 50m Backstroke
	1 st 9yr Boys 50m Freestyle
Ethan Wilson	3 rd 9yr Boys 50m Breaststroke
Sophia Rusbridge	2 nd 10yr Girls 50m Backstroke
	3 rd 10yr Girls 50m Freestyle
	2 nd Junior Girls Individual Medley
	3 rd Junior Girls 25m Butterfly
Zoe Slater	3 rd 10yr Girls 50m Breaststroke
	3 rd 10yr Girls 25m Freestyle
	3 rd 10yr Girls 25m Breaststroke
Oliver Wilcox	3 rd 10yr Boys 50m Breaststroke
Isaac Boorer	1 st 9yr Relay (New Record)
Ethan Wilson	
Addison Campbell	
Grace Worner	

Breakfast BBQ

Our Breakfast BBQ last Friday was again very successful and we managed to raise \$1,598.80 – another fantastic effort.

Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following students who received a prize in the recent Gotcha draw: Angelo Wharehinga-O'Keefe, R5; Flynn Foster, R8; Rua Roberston, R13; Luke Moore, R4; Harvey Watkins, R5; Archer Smyth, R10.

PB4L Certificates - Week 6 Term 4

R1	Matthew	R2	Flynn	R3	Adam	R4	Ashley	R5	Harry
R6	Lydia	R7	Taig	R8	Noah	R9	Krystal	R10	Kip
R11	Macaulay	R12	Aliza	R13	Alex	R14	Cam	R15	Reed

School Disco - Tuesday 8th December

Years 0-3 6.00 – 7.15pm

Years 4-6 7.15 – 8.45pm

The disco will be supervised by staff. Parents need to drop their children off and pick them up again at the end of the sessions. For safety and organisation reasons can children please be dropped off and picked up from the school playground side of the hall. Please note this disco is for Geraldine Primary School children only.

Thank you to the Home and School for providing us with the money to purchase food, drink, prizes and decorations.

If the children would like to purchase a glow stick, **they need to bring \$2 on the morning of the disco** to the table we will have set up outside Room 9. They will then get a stamp on their hand which they will show to a staff member when they come to the disco in the evening and they will receive their glow stick.

Sunhats

A reminder that during Terms 1 and 4 a navy sunhat must be worn when children are outside. If they forget their sunhat they will have to stay under the shade of the big tree at morning tea and lunch play.

School Pool Keys

Our swimming pool is up and running for the summer and it is wonderful to see and hear children getting so much enjoyment from it. Please make sure that all of your child's clothing and belongings are named.

Pool keys can be hired from the school office for \$60, plus a \$10 refundable bond on return of key.

Calendar - Term 4

Week 9

Tuesday 8 December

School Disco

Thursday 10 December

Principal's Assembly, 1.30pm

Friday 11 December

Y6 BBQ and Pool Party

Week 10

Tuesday 15 December

Final School Assembly, 9am

Christmas Songs on the Village Green, 11.15

Family Picnic at school

School year ends 2.45pm

No buses this afternoon

Calendar - 2021

Term 1

Mon 1 Feb - Fri 16 Apr

School closed: Waitangi Day observation - Mon 8 Feb
Good Friday - Fri 2 Apr
Easter Monday - Mon 5 Apr
Easter Tuesday - Tues 6 Apr

Term 2

Mon 3 May - Fri 9 July

School closed: Queen's Birthday Day - Mon 7 June

Term 3

Mon 26 July - Fri 1 Oct

School closed: South Canty Anniversary- Mon 27 Sept

Term 4

Mon 18 Oct - Tues 14 Dec

School closed: Labour Day - Mon 25 Oct
Teacher Only Day - Fri 12 Nov

Home & School

Wow, what a year 2020 has been! Despite some of our usual fundraisers not being held due to Covid we have still managed to have a successful year. Our goal to pay for swimming lessons, contribute to IT and other class resources has been met. A big thank you to all the families that have helped make our fundraising a success. We really appreciate you getting in behind our ideas!

Fairlie Pies: well, this fundraiser was an enormous success! A massive thank you to Gretchen Gould who took the lead in organising this. She did a fantastic job. Thank you also to Ange our treasurer who spent many hours matching orders with payments. Shoutout also to Freshchoice Geraldine who supported this fundraiser by supplying all the paper bags. And lastly, thank you to all those GPS families that sold a combined **3500** pies!!

Breakfast BBQ: Thank you to the Lions for the massive BBQ and sausage cookers! 350 sausages handed out for FREE courtesy of the Home and School.

Tea Towels: Orders are coming through for the Whanau Group tea towels (\$12) & I Love Geraldine tote bags (\$15). You will be able to order these until 3pm, Tuesday 8 December. Place your order outside Rm 2 before or after school or email Lou Ochsner - lousteveo@gmail.com.

Online payment preferred to the **Geraldine Primary Home & School account: 01-0841-0034184-02 (note different to school account)**. Cash payments also taken through the school office. Payments must be received before the 8 December cut off. Collection from school before the end of the term.

Any queries please contact Lou Ochsner - lousteveo@gmail.com

Sausage Sizzle: Thank you to all those families that are using our new Kindo app to order your sausages on Friday. The Home and School appreciate the support and encourage all parents to give it a try! You can order for 1 week or multiple weeks to save you time and no more searching for coins on Friday morning. Just a reminder that orders through Kindo close at 8.30am on Friday mornings. **NOTE: We will no longer be taking cash sales in 2021 so we encourage all families to give Kindo a go!**

We would also appreciate more volunteers to assist with our sausage sizzle on Fridays. If we have sufficient volunteers, this only involves helping once per term. So if you are able to spare a little time on a Friday every few months, please contact our Sausage Sizzle Coordinator, Emma Burnside on 027 635-7012.

Second Hand Uniform: Donations of second hand GPS uniform can be handed in to the School Office.

The Home and School hopes all GPS families have a relaxing Summer holidays. Once again, thank you for all your support in 2020. We look forward to another successful year in 2021!

For any Home and School enquiries please email: gphomeandschool@gmail.com

GERALDINE CHRISTMAS PARADE



FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

6.30pm CHRISTMAS PARADE

Awesome floats ⚡ South Canterbury Pipe Band
Alpine Energy Timaru Brass Band ⚡ Father Christmas

STARTS CNR. HISLOP ST/TALBOT STREET, TRAVELS TALBOT AND PEEL STREETS THEN DOWN HISLOP STREET

7.15pm FAMILY FUN IN THE DOMAIN

FreshChoice Father Christmas Lolly Scramble
Float Prizegiving: Most Enterprising; Best Family Focus; Best Christmas Spirit

SANTA SAK WINNERS ANNOUNCED MONDAY 7 DECEMBER ON THE BREEZE AND IN GNEWS

GERALDINE.NZ CHRISTMAS PARADE GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY:



www.geraldine.nz

CHRISTMAS ON THE BAY

at the
CAROLINE BAY
SOUND SHELL

Featuring
Jackie Clarke
Frankie Stevens
Kaylee Bell

12th DEC 2020
Sat 6-8pm

SUPPORTING HEART KIDS SC

GOLD COIN
donation

TRUST  AORAKI

Fulton Hogan | **TOYOTA** | **SOUTH CANTERBURY TOYOTA** | **McDermid AUTO COLLECTIVE** | **Venture Timaru**
DISTRICT - ECONOMIC & TOURISM AGENCY

Alpine ENERGY | **AUDIO DYNAMITE** | **bnz** | **creative NZ**
COMMUNITIES

HEARTLAND | **industrial controls** | **MAY'S BAKERY** | **THE BREEZE**
TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL | **The Courier** | **tekapo springs** | **stuff**
The Timaru Herald

A Celtic Christmas Get-Together

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

SPOT PRIZES RAFFLE TICKETS
1 FOR \$2
3 FOR \$5

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020 AT 6 PM

CELTIC CLUB ROOMS
Craigie Avenue,
Parkside,
Timaru 7910

The South and Mid Canterbury Irish Society are hosting a FREE family get-together. An evening of Ceol, Craic, agus Bia.
Tickets **MUST** be pre purchased as our numbers are restricted
Please PM our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/scirishsociety>
or email us on scirishsociety@gmail.com to book your tickets



Anxiety and Trauma

Timaru Girls' High School - Timaru
Thurs 11 Feb 2021 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm
Tickets at eventfinda.co.nz

Aoraki Kids Endowment Fund



@nathandwallis



www.nathanwallis.com



@nathanwallisxfactordesign

