



# Geraldine Primary

*Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve*

*Whaia e koe te iti Kahurangi*

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## Newsletter

**Week 2, Term 3**  
**Thursday 30 July 2020**

**From the Principal...**

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

Welcome back to the start of Term 3! I hope that families have had a good mid-year break and that your children have started the term well.

Our calendar for Term 3 looks to be full, which means that there will be a variety of experiences for the students to engage in. Please refer to details later in the newsletter.

Yesterday we had a group of 38 Year 5 and 6 students who voluntarily took part in a **cross country** over at the Domain. While the key reason for this additional cross country was to select students to compete in the South Canterbury Schools' event in two weeks time, it was rewarding to see such a significant number of students who were keen to take part and do their best. Well done to all involved! We will have our full school cross country on 14 September and training will commence for this in the coming weeks.

We ended the term with quite a high level of **student sickness** and we have seen signs of this continuing so far this term, including students being sent to school unwell. They in turn report to the office soon after the start of the school day, only then having to be collected by parents. We do ask if your child is unwell, that they are kept home and that the absence is phoned in to school.

Over the holidays we have had **LED lighting** installed throughout the school where it wasn't previously installed. We are certainly noticing much brighter environments, which took some getting used to last week! Rooms 3 - 5 weren't

part of this project as these rooms, including their lighting, will be the next major property upgrade, with planning already underway for this. We expect that this work will commence in Term 1, 2021.

**Geraldine High School** will be holding an **information afternoon** on Thursday 13 August at 3.15pm. Parents of Year 6 students are invited to attend this and they are most welcome to bring their Year 6 student along. This will be held at the Geraldine Primary School hall. This will be a chance to learn more about transition to GHS and the programmes that they offer.

In a newsletter at the end of last term I noted in the calendar that **school will be closed on Thursday 20 August** for a day of staff development. We will be working with literacy expert Liz Kane to develop our understanding around phonics. School will be open as usual the following day - Friday 21 August.

A newsletter was emailed to parents recently about the **Keeping Ourselves Safe programme** that will be run at school in conjunction with the Police Education Officer this term. This is also on the school website with details of the nature of the sessions at Years 1 - 3 and Years 4 - 6. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any queries about the KOS programme.

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

Andrew Leverton  
Principal | Tumuaki

## **BOT Profile**

**JUSTIN O'BRIEN – Chairperson (Property)**

*Favourite quote – “It is what it is.”*

Justin and his wife Meg, have a long association with Geraldine Primary, with both of their teenage daughters Rachel and Tara having attended, and son Finn is currently in Year 6. Justin joined the Board in 2016, has been Chairperson since the beginning of 2019, and says he enjoys working with a group of good, dedicated people.

Justin (who grew up in Ashburton) works at Rangitata Dairies as a Systems Analyst, a role he describes as “helping to manage and co-ordinate all the things farmers need to do these days other than the actual farming”.



He loves the setting and strong community vibe of Geraldine, particularly for families. “The town is small, yet there are still plenty of activities and opportunities. It’s easy to get around and close enough to other centres.”

Justin is proud of a number of BOT accomplishments during his tenure – seeing property projects through from concept to completion; the positive relationships built between trustees, school management and staff; and supporting staff initiatives and suggestions for resources when able, then seeing the various benefits to pupils and staff follow on.

In his spare time, Justin enjoys reading historical novels “The 1000-page ones which double as door stoppers” and looking after his family home and garden “There’s always something to do.”

Overseas travel features strongly on Justin’s bucket list – both to experience the history of Eastern Europe, and to visit Ireland, particularly County Clare, where his great-grandfather on the O’Brien side originated.

As for musical and cinematic tastes – Justin’s could be described as classic - with Neil Young, Pink Floyd and The Godfather trilogy featuring amongst his favourites.

## **School News**

### **New Students**

A special welcome to Travis, R11; Kate, R2 and to Rosealy, Oliver, Elise, Dahlia and Roman who have all started in R6 this term. We hope you enjoy your time at Geraldine Primary.

### **Y5 & 6 Cross Country**



## Changes to Subway orders

Prices have now changed as of this term. Ham, roast beef, turkey strips all \$5.90 for a six inch and \$8.90 for a footlong. Veggie 6 inch is \$5.00, a footlong is \$8.00

Additional items that can be ordered:

Fruit squirts \$2.70

Pump \$2.90

Cookie \$ 1.30

Orders can now be done online instead of using an envelope at school. We will still continue to have children taking envelope orders in the morning for those that choose to continue this system.



Go to [Subway.co.nz](https://www.subway.co.nz) to order online, school lunch programme, log in (or register an email address and make a password), choose Geraldine Primary School and pay with a credit card.

**Please note** that online orders need to be done before 9am on the Wednesday.

## Calendar

Please check each newsletter for further updates.

### Term 3

#### Week 3

Thursday 13 August

GHS Information afternoon 3.15pm GPS hall  
(all Y6 students and their parents invited)

Friday 7 August

Y4 & 5 trip to Tekapo  
pp Tuesday 11 August

#### Week 4

Wednesday 12 August

SC Cross Country, Waihi School

#### Week 5

Thursday 20 August

Staff Development Day - school closed

#### Week 6

Wednesday 26 August

Board of Trustees meeting, 6pm, staffroom  
Daffodil Day Dress up - dress in yellow and  
give a gold coin donation to the Cancer  
Society

Friday 28 August

#### Week 7

Wednesday 2 September

Y 5 & 6 ski trip - Roundhill  
pp Wednesday 9 September

#### Week 8

Tuesday 8 September

Mohio group trip to Christchurch

#### Week 9

Monday 14 September

GPS cross country  
pp Thursday 17 September

#### Week 10

Wednesday 23 September

Board of Trustees meeting, 6pm, staffroom

Friday 25 September

Term 3 ends

### **Term 4**

Monday 12 October – Tuesday 15 December

Staff Development Day Tuesday 27 October

## **Home & School**

Home and School: Our meeting on Monday night was well attended including 6 new faces. Lovely to meet you all! We are in the process of looking at fundraisers we can do before the end of the school year. We would love to have some more new members on the committee so please get in touch if you think it's something that would interest you.

**Help Please:** We are currently seeking a couple more volunteers to assist with our sausage sizzle on a Friday, as we have lost several helpers as their children have left GPS at the end of 2019. 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.

**Sausage Sizzle:** Sausages are available for our children every Friday lunchtime at a cost of \$2 each. Orders are taken on Friday mornings prior to school starting 0820 – 0850. 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 can be handed in to the School Office.

**Freesia Bulbs** We are selling packs of 20 freesia bulbs for \$5.00 each. Delta River (blue) and Maya (yellow). Order forms and a colour photo are



available from the office or the website. Please send orders and money to the office. First in first serve.

We will be selling Lily bulbs in packets of 4 in the next few weeks.

**Home and School meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 7pm, Online.** If you would like to take part in our next meeting please forward your email to [joliemockford@gmail.com](mailto:joliemockford@gmail.com). All welcome, we would love to see some (virtual) new faces!