



# Geraldine Primary

*Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve*

*Whāia e koe te iti Kahurangi*

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## Newsletter

**Week 8, Term 4  
7 December 2021**

**From the Principal...**

*Kia ora Whānau.*

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

The end of the school year is just over a week away. The last part of the term has certainly come around quickly. With the variance in term length, an 8 ½ week term has been one where we have needed to work through the same requirements, with one less week to get these done in! I know the students and staff will be ready for a good summer break soon.

As we head into the festive season, I've been reflecting on the challenges and successes that 2021 has brought and the progress and achievements we have made as a school. I've been thinking about the way we work together to make GPS the best it can be, to uphold our school values and work towards 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 and thank you everyone!

I'd like to congratulate our departing Year 6 students for what they have achieved this year. 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 Year 6 Festival of Fun showed what can be achieved when there is cooperation and teamwork. Next week we will have an amended Leavers' Assembly for them to mark their final day as students at Geraldine Primary. I

hope that they take time to reflect on their journey at GPS and take strength from what they have achieved over their time here.

Your child's report will come home on Thursday 9 December. A note will accompany the report, which will outline what room your child will be in for 2022, along with school-wide class organisation. Considerable time is spent forming and finalising class lists and we consider a variety of factors when determining the composition of each class. Students will meet their new teacher this Friday morning.

We have recently appointed Nerissa Murphy to teach in Room 7 (Year 1 / 2) for 2022. Nerissa comes to us having recently completed her studies at the University of Canterbury. We look forward to welcoming her to GPS at the start of Term 1, 2022.

I would like to acknowledge the work that Mrs Pauline Ramsay has done in Room 7 over the last three terms. Pauline stepped in at short notice and has taken the class through to the end of the year, which we are very grateful for. This had provided the Room 7 children with the necessary consistency over the year. Thank you, Pauline! Special thanks also to Mrs Debbie Scott and Mrs Siobhan Hayward who have taken on a Year 0 / 1 class mid-year due to another Year 0 class starting. I know we will see these three ladies around GPS again in 2022.

I'd also like to acknowledge and thank one of our School Board members who is standing down at the end of this term. Frances Coles was elected to the Board in 2016 and has served as a Trustee for 5 ½ years. Being a member of a School Board is a commitment in time and also providing governance support for the work of the school. Frances has held finance and property portfolios over this time, the latter of which has seen four key projects at our school. I have appreciated her advice, reasoning and the support that she has provided for our school. I wish Frances and her family all the best for 2022 and beyond.

Students who travel to school on buses will experience a change in morning pick up times for their home stop from the start of 2022. Buses will be collecting students approximately 15 minutes later in the morning. This will apply to both GPS and GHS bus students. Afternoon schedules will remain unchanged.

Normally over the summer period we would make our pool available for school community use during the holidays and after the end of the school day. Due to the health and safety requirements relating to the Covid-19 Protection Framework (traffic light system), we, like many other schools, have decided not to make the pool available for community use this summer. This is in line with recent advice from the Ministry of Education. While it is a shame to not make full use of this valuable resource, we are fortunate to have a very good community pool that will be open over the summer. Our pool will be open for

in-school use until the end of the term and for Year 1 - 3 lessons as usual in term 1 next year.

I wish everyone a positive end to the school year and a well-earned break over the summer.

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

Andrew Leverton  
Principal | Tumuaki

### School notices:

#### Gotcha Draw 11 November

Congratulations to Grace, R3; Skylah, R13; Lance, R2; Logan, R12; Liam, R8 and Addison, R5, who all won a prize from the recent Gotcha draw.

#### PB4L Certificates

Well done to the following students who received a certificate:

R1	Liam	R2	Annie	R3	Jacob	R5	Sophia
R6	Ariella	R7	Lottie	R8	'Reed	R9	Roman
R10	Indi	R11	Sequoia	R12	Sofia	R13	Skylah
R15	Gunnar						

#### School Vision Desire to Learn, Aspire to achieve Certificates

R1	Taylah	R2	James	R3	Ahlia	R5	Ben
R6	Addie	R7	Mia	R8	Krystal	R9	Mila
R10	Braxton	R11	Caitlin	R12	Reuben	R13	Jack
R15	Lydia						

Olivia had the Southern Primary School's tennis tournament in Dunedin recently.

She won her first two games. Lost the semi finals in a super tie break to Charlotte Fenn (fellow South Canterbury player). Olivia won the third and fourth playoff in a super tie break to get third.

Olivia is one for three players to now go through to the South Island Primary Schools tennis tournament in Timaru on 22 & 23 November in Timaru.



### **Sickness**

A reminder that if children are unwell, please keep them home until they are well again.

### **Buses 2021**

Buses will be running both in the morning and afternoon of 14<sup>th</sup> December as children will be at school all day.

### **Calendar - Term 4**

#### Week 8

Wednesday 8 December      BOT Meeting, 6pm staffroom – all welcome

#### Week 9

Monday 13 December      Y6 Pool Party  
Tuesday 14 December      End of year assembly for Year 6  
Term 4 ends 2.45pm

### **Term Dates 2022**

**Term 1**                      Wed 2 Feb - Thurs 14 Apr

School closed:      Waitangi Day obs - Mon 7 Feb

**Term 2**                      Mon 2 May - Fri 8 July

School closed:      Staff Development Day - Fri 3 June  
Queen's Birthday Day - Mon 6 June  
Matariki - Fri 24 June

**Term 3**                      Mon 25 July - Fri 30 Sept

School closed:      South Canterbury Anniversary - Mon 26  
Sept

**Term 4**                      Mon 17 Oct – Wed 14 Dec

School closed:      Labour Day - Mon 24 Oct

## Community Notices

To book go to [kidsalive.aimyplus.com](https://kidsalive.aimyplus.com) or contact Kids Alive on 0274038126 or email [lorraine@kidsalive.co.nz](mailto:lorraine@kidsalive.co.nz)

**Geraldine Domain Redevelopment 'Final Push' to \$100k:** Now is your chance to support this awesome community project to create a multi-purpose turf, playing field lights, cricket nets and more, for our young players and the whole community.. **Every little bit helps.** Donations receive a .33 c tax credit for every \$ given. Do it for Geraldine, go to <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/geraldine-domain-redevelopment> or for more info go to <https://geraldine.nz/domain/>

# Peel Forest Holiday Program

## January 2022



### FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

**River Adventure – Orari river (Students 8 years and above)**

**Cost: \$55**

We will spend the day at the Orari river swimming hole learning about water safety skills. This includes river crossing, features, strainer swimming, throw-bagging, swimming in the river and generally having fun on the water. Students will be geared up in 5mm wetsuits, along with helmets/lifejackets and splash jackets – but need to bring shoes that can get wet and a change of clothes. Always a fun action-packed day!!

**Minimum numbers:** 10 students, **Maximum:** 30 students

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

**Gearing up to “Go Bush” (Students 8 years and above)**

**Cost: \$40**

We will spend the day getting creative with bush equipment. Learn how to make a simple pack with a tarp, wood and string and use this to explore around Clarke Flat. Bring along a small empty tuna can and learn how to make your own cooker. Bring something to cook on your own cooker, e.g. pre-cooked sausages and bread, hot chocolate, marsh-mallows damper or you decide. We will supply some pots and pans if you bring your own eating utensils.

**Minimum numbers:** 10 students, **Maximum numbers:** 30 students

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**Lake Opuha Challenge day (Students 8 years and above)**

**Cost: \$80**

We will spend the day at Lake Opuha, where students will learn how to tie some knots and construct their own raft, have some fun kayaking on sit-on top or funyak kayaks and learn the art of throw bagging and raft flipping. Come prepared to get wet!!

**Minimum numbers:** 8 students, **Maximum numbers:** 24 students

**Transport** will be made available daily from Geraldine meeting at Kennedy park gate by Geraldine High school. The bus will leave at **8.30am** and arrive back at **4pm** daily. Transportation is included in the price.

**Contact us here at [info@peelforestoutdoors.org.nz](mailto:info@peelforestoutdoors.org.nz) if you have any questions.**

**Spaces are limited so book your spot.**