



# Geraldine Primary

*Desire to Learn, Aspire to Achieve*  
*Whāia e koe te iti kahurangi*

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## Newsletter

**Week 7, Term 4**  
**2 December 2022**

### From the Principal...

*Kia ora Whānau,*

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

The end of the school year is now just under two weeks away. The end of Term 4 always seems to come in a bit of a rush, with a lot of events taking place, as well as end of year deadlines to meet. Please refer to the calendar later in this newsletter for the key dates over the next two weeks.

Many thanks to everyone who came to our recent Open Morning. It was great to see parents and family members sitting in with their children to see learning in action across the school. The staff and I certainly appreciated the support that this received and the positive comments from parents. Over time, approaches to teaching and learning do evolve as well as being somewhat cyclical and our staff do a wonderful job of keeping current,



knowing what works, but also being open to adapting practices to suit the needs of our ākonga (learners). It was rewarding to showcase the wonderful work that our staff and tamariki are doing in classrooms at Geraldine Primary.

Last Tuesday we had a group of 16 Year 5 and 6 students who represented GPS at the South Canterbury Schools Relay. Both teams competed very well, with the boys team coming first in their section. Congratulations to you all!



Student reports are currently being worked on and edited at present. These will come home on Thursday 8 December. These reports will inform parents about key aspects of achievement for their child(ren) and where they are in relation to NZ Curriculum expectations, as well as our school values and attendance levels. On Friday 9 December, students will visit their teacher for 2023 and spend part of the morning with them. This year's teacher will inform them what class they will visit that day and will be in for 2023. A note will come home on Friday with your child confirming 2023 classes.

We are currently seeing growing numbers of Covid cases, particularly amongst our students. A reminder that if your child is displaying Covid-like symptoms, they need to test and if positive, isolate for the normal for the seven-day period, returning to school on Day 8. The first day of symptoms is still Day 0. Family members need to test each morning for the first five days and if they test negative, students can come to school.

Over the holidays, Rooms 12 and 13 will receive an upgrade, and this work will most likely go into March next year. The scope of the work includes wall linings, whiteboard storage units, painting, and in Room 13, some new carpet. The exterior of the hall will also be painted over the break.

Our Breakfast BBQ this morning went ahead despite the rain, which, at 8am, didn't look too bad at all! Many thanks to our school whānau who were able to attend. It's also rewarding to see some of our ex students call in before school too. A big well done to our amazing Year 6 tamariki and their teachers for the work they put into their stalls. Many thanks to our Home and School group for their support, thank you to everyone who made yummy baking and thank you to the Geraldine Lions who cooked the sausages for us. It was a real GPS team effort and the money raised goes towards supporting our sponsored child, Mohosina in Bangladesh. Some of the leftover baking will be sold at the Farmers' Market this weekend.



We have two staff leaving GPS at the end of this year. Diana Corden will be taking up a new role as a RTLB (Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour), working across and supporting schools in South Canterbury. Diana has been with us for the past 18 months teaching in senior classes and we have all benefited from her involvement and dedication to our school.

Pauline Ramsay has been working at GPS in various full and part time capacities over the past 20 years. More recently, in 2021, she stepped into a full time role at short notice for a large part of the year and has been a regular part of Rooms 7 and 8. Many current and past students will remember Mrs Ramsay and her guitar and her genuine care for the many students who have been in her classes. Pauline has indicated that she will still be available for some relieving work in 2023, so we will no doubt see her around school next year.

Finally, I wish our Jump Jam crew all the best for their performance at the Christmas Parade this evening. Hopefully the weather stays relatively fine for them and the other participants!

*Haere ora, Haere pai - Go with wellness, Go with care.*

Andrew Leverton  
Principal / Tumuaki



## School Notices

### 2023 classes

#### Tāne Mahuta Syndicate - Years 0 - 2

Miss Andrea Bathgate	Room 6	Year 0 - 1
Mrs Rochelle Fisher	Room 9	Year 1
Miss Nerissa Murphy	Room 7	Year 1 - 2
Mrs Kirsty Smith / Mrs Siobhan Hayward	Room 8	Year 2

#### Tāwhirimātea Syndicate - Years 3 and 4

Mrs Claire Lovelock	Room 13 *	Year 3
Mrs Cathy Taiaroa	Room 10	Year 3 - 4
Mrs Jo Drake / Mrs Sarah Wilson	Room 11	Year 4

#### Tangaroa Syndicate - Years 5 and 6

Mrs Sarah Strowger	Room 3	Year 5
Miss Elizabeth Murray	Room 4	Year 5
Mrs Fiona Wilcox / Mrs Ingrid Hanrahan	Room 1	Year 6
Mrs Chelley Leov	Room 2	Year 6

#### Learning Support

Mrs Sarah Dunckley	Room 14
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\* while Room 13 is being renovated, the class will be based in Room 15

### Library Stocktake

Could you please return all Library books and have a look at home for any ones that are overdue or missing.

We don't like charging people for missing books but are finding we are having to as it costs us a great deal of money each year to replace them. Thank you for your understanding in this area. If you have any questions please contact Chelley Leov [chelleyl@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:chelleyl@geraldine.school.nz)

### PB4L Certificates

Well done to the following students who received a PB4L certificate at assembly last week:

R1 Adele	R2 Ollie	R3 Olivia	R5 Chania
R6 Poppy	R7 Dahlia	R8 Harry	R9 Roman
R10 Lillia	R11 Flynn	R12 Hazel	R13 Lachlan
R15 Thomas			

The following children received a Desire to Learn/Aspire to Achieve certificate:

R1 Lance	R2 Charlotte	R3 Sophie	R5 Ollie
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R6 Ava  
R10 Vincent  
R15 Billy

R7 Emily  
R11 Molly

R8 Will  
R12 Skyla

R9 Isabel  
R13 Bethany

### **Gotcha Prizes**

Congratulations to the following students who won a prize in the gotcha draw last week: Katy, R3; William J-S, R3; Krystal, R13; Ollie B, R1; Charlie, R9; Sophia, R2.

### **Student Achievement Outside School**

We regularly hear about the achievements of our students in their out of school activities. We would like to be able to further recognise these achievements in our newsletters and / or on our school Facebook page. If your child or a GPS student you know of has done well in an out of school pursuit, please let us know! A written explanation of their achievement, along with a photo would be appreciated. Please send details to - [principal@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:principal@geraldine.school.nz) .

Congratulations to the following students who sat ballet exams in September, and have recently received their results, achieving either a Distinction or Distinction \* result, which is amazing and testament to their level of dedication.

Grade 4: Sophia Chapman

Grade 3: Chania Woods

Grade 2: Bethany Courage , Eva Pridham

Grade 1: Krystal Courage, Pippa Geary, Esther Valor, Hosanna Woods

Primary: Isabel Pridham



Ballet students, back row L to R: Bethany, Chania, Pippa, Eva, Sophia  
front row L to R: Krystal, Isabel, Hosanna  
absent: Esther

### **GPS Uniforms**

GPS uniforms can be purchased from the Warehouse, Timaru, or locally from High Street Stitch and Print, in Geraldine. Please click on the link below for more information:

<http://gps.hssp.co.nz/>

The green polo shirts can only be purchased from The Warehouse, Timaru.

### **Term 4 Calendar**

#### Week 8

Tuesday 6 December

SC Athletics (pp 8 December)

Wednesday 7 December

Junior games and picnic at the Domain  
School Board meeting, 6pm

### Week 9

Monday 12 December

Tuesday 13 December

Wednesday 14 December

Principal's Assembly, 9.15am

Y6 Pool Party

End of Year Assembly, 9.15am

Morning Tea for Y6 students and parents

Carols at the Domain, 11.15 am

Whānau Picnic at school, 12noon

Term 4 ends 2.45pm

## **Term dates 2023**

### **Term 1**

Monday 30 January - Thursday 6 April

School closed: Waitangi Day - Mon 6 February

During April term break: Good Friday - Friday 7 April  
Easter Monday - Monday 10 April  
Easter Tuesday - Tuesday 11 April

### **Term 2**

Monday 24 April - Friday 30 June

School closed: Teacher Only Day - Monday 24 April  
Anzac Day - Tuesday 25 April  
King's Birthday - Monday 5 June

During July term break: Matariki - Friday 14 July

### **Term 3**

Monday 17 July - Friday 22 September

During September term break:  
South Canterbury Anniversary - Monday 25  
September

### **Term 4**

Monday 9 October - Friday 15 December (Final day to be confirmed pending decisions around Ministry of Education Staff Development Days)

School closed: Labour Day - Monday 23 October  
Teacher Only Day - Friday 17 November

## Community Notices



**Don't miss the bus!**

Download Skool Loop

**Simple free download:**  
In Google Play & App Store  
search 'Skool Loop' &  
choose our school once installed.



## COMMUNITY dental service



**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand  
Waitaha Canterbury

- Community Dental clinics are closing from 20/12/22 to 30/01/23
- We have limited appointments available over the Holiday period 21/12/22 to 27/01/23.
- Please call **0800 846 983** or email: [commdental@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:commdental@cdhb.health.nz) to book an appointment. If you cannot attend your booked appointment, let us know so we can book another child.





## Before School and After School Programmes

Kia ora Geraldine Primary Whanau. Term 4 is now in full swing, this is just a quick reminder that Kids Alive is available if you need childcare before, after-school and/ or in the Christmas holidays.

The Before School Programme starts at 7.00 am till school starts, this is located in the school hall. The After School programme runs from 2.45 pm (we meet the children at school) till 5.30 pm at the Pavilion. Breakfast and afternoon tea is provided to all attending.

Our Christmas holiday program will be running from the 16<sup>th</sup> till the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December (Excluding weekends). We close over the Christmas break and will be starting up again on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January. Keep an eye on the website as bookings will be open soon.

For all of those that are interested in what we are all about, we will be having an open day in the coming weeks. More details to come shortly.

\* WINZ subsidies may be available to some families, just ask before you book, and we will support you as best we can. \*

For more information, please visit our website [www.kidsalive.co.nz](http://www.kidsalive.co.nz) or contact Scotty Nelson on 027 2413226.

## NZHL XRACE

**2023 XRACE** is the perfect experience to strengthen your child's self-esteem and empower them to be the best kids they can be. Best of all, you get to be their team mate, racing together side-by-side to the best finish-line ever: Our school gets a \$20 per family entry discount. Use this promo code at the checkout to claim your discount: **MONSTER**

**What is XRACE?** [www.xrace.co.nz](http://www.xrace.co.nz)

XRACE is a fun-filled family event – where mum or dad must team together with one of the kids and take on the XRACE course and 10 mystery challenges.

A team is one parent and one child aged between 6 and 14.

Teams can choose their own pace, flat out from the start or a fast walk – the choice is yours.

Challenges range from physical like tug-of-war to puzzling puzzles to artistic challenges like the paint challenge.

**TIMARU THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 6PM**

Buy tickets at [www.xrace.co.nz](http://www.xrace.co.nz)

Use this promotional code to get an additional \$20 off your family entry: **MONSTER**