



# GeraldinePrimary

Phone: (03) 693 8208

Email: [office@geraldine.school.nz](mailto:office@geraldine.school.nz) Web: [www.geraldineprimary.school.nz](http://www.geraldineprimary.school.nz)

## Newsletter

Week 9, Term 4  
Friday 11 December 2015

### From our Principal....

This is the final newsletter for the school year. It has been rewarding to see the work that the staff, students and school community do together to make our school the great place that it is. A school's positive culture doesn't occur by accident. Rather, it is the way that we all work together for the betterment of each other. This happens in many forms for adults and students alike and I commend everyone who has contributed in some way to make our school 'culture' happen over the past year.

Our **Final Assembly** will be held next Tuesday, 15 December at 1pm. This is the last time that we will come together as a school to farewell our Year 6 students. All students are expected to be present at this assembly as it is a normal school day and I encourage parents and family members to join us as well.

Many thanks to all the parents who replied to the **Health Programme Consultation**. We received 27 replies. The replies suggested that the key Health Education needs of our children are: road and bike safety, food and nutrition, water safety, cyber safety, hygiene, physical exercise, mental health, stranger danger and keeping themselves safe in different environments.

Responses regarding the strengths of the Health programme were varied with the main strength being the range and variety of age-appropriate topics offered. We received a range of ways that the Health programme could be improved. The main theme coming through was the school sharing details about the content of Keeping Ourselves Safe and Puberty programmes.

Out of the 27 replies received 24 parents fully supported the programme.

We are very grateful for the number of replies and the overall depth of comments received. Many thanks to those who took the time to be part of this consultation.

Our three **basketball teams** played their last games on Tuesday night. It was wonderful to see their level of commitment and determination as they played and also the level of support from parents and whanau from the sideline.

All teams won their games:

Geraldine Shooters 28-20 vs Bluestone

Geraldine Slammers 26-6 vs Waimataitai

Geraldine Lasses 24-12 vs Grantlea Downs (the Lasses won their grade)

Special thanks to Mark and Debbie Oliver and Megan Hopa who coached the teams over the season and for the time that they have given these teams.

On behalf of the school I would like to acknowledge the work that the **Home and School committee** have done over the past year. Their contributions to our school are very significant and it is perhaps timely that we outline exactly what their commitment has been over the year.

Swimming lessons	\$5,000
Classroom games	\$2,400
Y6 Camp	\$1,000
Construction items and puppet theatre Junior Syndicate	\$1,000
Paving and planter boxes	\$ 500
John Cowan – parenting speaker	\$1,300
Library furnishings and blinds	\$5,000
Reading books – Junior Syndicate	\$1,000
Reading books – Middle Syndicate	\$1,000
Reading books – Senior Syndicate	\$5,000
Maths text books	\$2,077
Materials for maths	\$ 471
Basketballs	\$ 150
Meeting room furniture	\$1,600
Camera	\$ 399
Y6 pool party	\$ 250

-----  
**\$27,647**

These donations equate to approximately \$85 per student.

**Teacher and room details** for the start of 2016 are listed later in this newsletter. We will again be starting the year with 14 classes, with additional new entrant classes starting as numbers permit during the year.

I would like to thank the **Staff** for all their contributions and effort throughout the year. Together, they have worked tirelessly to assist students with their learning

and support each other. I know they will be looking forward to a well-earned break over the holidays.

Our **Board of Trustees** also deserve special thanks for the professional way they govern the school and make key decisions for our strategic direction. They all give significant time to the school, a lot of which is behind the scenes. I thank them for the support they have given both myself and the staff this year.

Please check the school calendar for key end of year events and the school terms for next year.

Finally, a heads up regarding a couple of events early in term 1. We will be having a **powhiri** for our new staff, students and families on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 at 9am in the school hall. All new and existing families are welcome to attend the powhiri. New staff, students and parents will be lead into the hall and seated at the front.

Our **Start of Year Family BBQ** on Thursday 4 February at 5pm. The school pool will be open, as will the PE shed for games equipment. Put this date in your diaries for next year!

On behalf of the staff and school community, I wish our **Year 6 leavers** all the very best for the next chapter in their education. Thank you and well done for the effort you have put in over your time at GPS. They are a fantastic year group who have achieved so much together. I wish all members of our school community a safe, enjoyable and relaxing festive season and look forward to seeing you all again in 2016.

Until next year,

Andrew Leverton  
*Principal / Tumuaiki*

## **Classroom News**

### **Room 4**

The senior syndicate have been busy over the last few weeks constructing our living gifts. We were lucky enough to visit the High School to look at the amazing vegetable gardens. We all saw what is possible for our gardens at school. We helped plant the yams for next year. In the last week we have had some Dads at school helping us construct our containers. The rest of the school was



very patient with all the hammering, sawing and painting. Finally on Monday we were lucky enough to have Sarah Foley Smith and Helen help us with our planting.



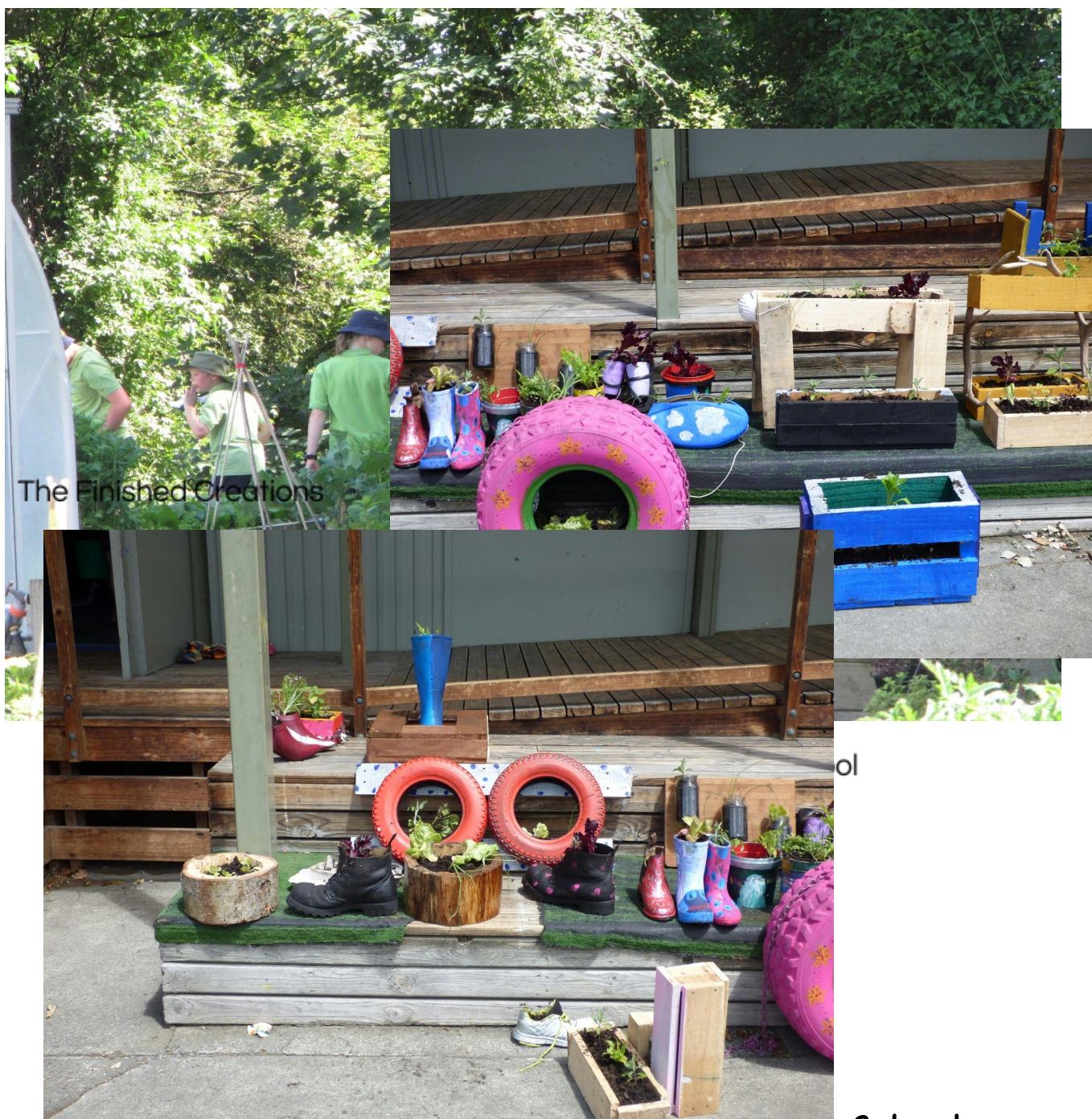
Planting yams at the High School..



Our finished living gifts were safely sent home on Monday and we hope all the recipients enjoy them. Many thanks to all the parents who have kindly helped us over the last few weeks.







School

## Notices

### Teacher Staffing for 2016

#### Senior Syndicate

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Year</u>
Mr Murray Davidson (Deputy Principal/Syndicate Leader)	5	6
Mrs Ange Dudson – Moko (Release)	5	6
Mrs Bronwyn Waldron	4	6
Mrs Chelley Leov	3	5
Miss Rosie Ulrich	2	5

## **Middle Syndicate**

<b><u>Teacher</u></b>	<b><u>Room</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
Mrs Jo Drake (Senior Teacher/Syndicate Leader)	1	4
Mrs Sarah Wilson (Release)	1	4
Mrs Cathy Taiaroa	10	4
Mrs Kirsty Smith	11	3
Miss Paige Chellew	12	2/3
Miss Sarah McCone	13	2
Miss Elizabeth Murray	17	3

## **Junior Syndicate**

<b><u>Teacher</u></b>	<b><u>Room</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
Mrs Siobhan Haywood (Assistant Principal/Syndicate Leader)	8	1/2
Mrs Pauline Ramsay (Release)	8	1/2
Miss Erin Barclay	7	1
Mrs Rochelle Fisher	6	1
Mrs Carol Tait (Reading Rec Release)	6	
Miss Andrea Bathgate	9	0

Mrs Ingrid Hanrahan and one other teacher to be appointed will start New Entrant classes during the year in Rooms 15 / 16

**Learning Support Teachers** – Debbie Scott (R14) & Mandy Norton

## **Congratulations:**

### **Gotcha Draw**

The following children received prizes in the Gotcha Draw:

Riley Dudson-Moko - R12, Ella Waldoron – R1, Cayden Halsey - R12, Dougal Grant – R12, Talia Duckmanton – R16, Sophie Wells – R15

The following children received Certificates at Assembly recently:

### **PB4L Certificates**

R1 Matai Sheed	R2 Georgina Rowley
R3 Gracie Snow	R4 Olivia Auld
R5 Brodie England	R6 Riley Nicholls
R7 Siobhan Stack	R8 Mate Toshach
R9 Chloe Halsey	R10 Clint Gordon
R11 Charlie Openshaw-Knight	R12 Porter Karton
R13 Kendra Patmore	R14 Ashlee Roberts
R15 Eli Reardon	R16 Sophia MacDonald
R17 Gracie Waters	

### **Principal's Awards:**

R1 Georgia Coles	R2 Angus Flannery
------------------	-------------------

R3 Emily Coleman  
R5 Sam Wilson  
R7 Heath Wheeler  
R9 Ethan Wilson  
R11 Bill Quigley  
R13 Bryn Hanrahan  
R15 Wilbur Talbot  
R17 Ella Chapman

R4 Molly-Kate Morrison  
R6 Eligh Worner  
R8 Joshua Billett  
R10 Leilani Short  
R12 Cayden Howell  
R14 Ben O'Kane  
R16 Addy Lawrence

## Kapa Haka

Thanks for supporting the GPS Kapa Haka float this year and a big thanks to Aoraki Earthworks for the truck. Another great turn out filled with fun. Those who performed at the Village Green were outstanding considering the merry crowd. We're proud that our group can entertain and adapt to different events. True professionals!

If you haven't already please return any kapa haka uniforms before the end of term.



Thank you kapa haka kids, whanau and fans at school and in our community for your enthusiasm, commitment and support. Meri Kirihimete, Merry Christmas  
Whaea Bianca.

## End of Holiday Office Hours

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 10am to 2pm

## Class Lists published

Friday 29 January 2016 at 5pm. These lists will be placed:



On the hall (court side windows), and on the library windows.

## **Y6 end of Year BBQ**

The end of year BBQ for our Year 6 will be at the Geraldine Pool. The children will be at the pool from 12.30 – 2.30pm. Sausage lunch and ice blocks will be provided by the Home & School.

## **2016 Stationery lists**

A booklet containing the stationery lists for all year levels is being sent home with this newsletter.

## **Mufti Day**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Mufti day recently. Over \$400 was donated to the Geraldine Childrens Social Worker Trust who employ Deana (GPS) and Anne (GHS).

## **Disco - Friday 11 December**

Juniors; Rooms 15, 16, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, & 13	6 – 7.14pm
Seniors; Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, & 17	7.15 – 8.45pm

This Disco will be supervised, but parents need to drop their children off and pick them up again at the end of the sessions. For safety and organisational reasons could all the junior children please be picked up from the school playground side of the hall. (Not through the main entrance because the seniors will be starting to arrive). **Please note this disco is for Geraldine Primary School children only.**

Many thanks to the Home & School for providing money to purchase food, drink and also prizes and decorations.

## **Swimming Pool**

The **school pool** is now open

Our pool is heated and the temperature sits at about 26°C. Children need to bring their togs each day. Children must bring a note for their teacher if they are not to swim. All swimmers are to practise the hygiene rule for the pool, an example being if your child has had diarrhoea there is a two week exclusion before they can swim again. Please name all clothes.

## **Pool keys**

If you wish to purchase a pool key these cost \$55 and will be available from the school office on signing the usage contract.

## **Library Books/Journals/Readers**

There is a box under the table in the office for any books to be returned.

## **Dental Clinic**



The Geraldine Primary School Dental Clinic is now open on Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during term time. To make an appointment at any time please phone 0800 846 983.

### **Hall Chair Donations**

If you would like to show your appreciation as your child leaves the school and moves on to High School a good way to do this is to donate a chair for the hall. This is a \$69.00 donation and will be acknowledged on a plaque in the hall.

### **Cricket**

Logan Sowden, Scott Robertson and George Powell have all been selected in the Year 5/6 tournament team. This is a great achievement considering two of them are year 5's and it was an extremely talented pool of players to choose from.

They have played a game against Canterbury which they won by 1 wicket, chasing an imposing 245 runs. They lost the following week to Mid Canterbury by 5 wickets. They play a strong Otago team this weekend.

Logan is in the team as a middle order batter and has contributed positively with his ability to score quick runs.

Scott has been opening the batting, displaying determination and stubbornness and is proving difficult to get out.

George has been opening the bowling and has claimed some important wickets. His best been 4 for 23 off 7 overs against North Otago.

I will keep you up to date with the results and boys progress.

Hayden Powell, Coach

### **Lost**

Red Avengers Drink bottled named Anthony. If found, please hand in to school office.

## **School Calendar – Term 4**

### Week 10

Tuesday 15 December	Carols on the Village Green	11.15 am
	Picnic lunch at school grounds	12.15 pm
	Final Assembly	1pm
	Last day for buses	
	Last day for students	
Wednesday 16 December	School Year ends 12pm. Children may come to school in mufti to help clean up if they wish.	

They need to be collected at 12 noon by parents.

## **2016 Term Dates**

Teacher Only Day – Thursday 28 January

### **Term 1**

Monday 1 February – Friday 15 April 11 weeks

Includes:

Waitangi Day – Mon 8 February (school closed)

Good Friday – Fri 25 March (school closed)

Easter Monday – Mon 28 March (school closed)

Easter Tuesday – Tues 29 March (school closed)

### **Term 2**

Monday 2 May – Friday 8 July 10 weeks

Includes:

Teacher Development Day – Fri 3 June (school closed)

Queen's Birthday – Mon 6 June (school closed)

### **Term 3**

Monday 25 July – Friday 23 September 9 weeks

### **Term 4**

Monday 10 October – Thursday 15 December 10 weeks

Includes:

Labour Day – Mon 24 October (school closed)

## **Home & School**

### **Kaboodle Swim Bags**

Now that swimming has started, make sure your children are organised with a colourful and durable swimming bag. Kaboodle swimming bags fit the bill and can be viewed online at [kaboodlebags.co.nz](http://kaboodlebags.co.nz). When you place an order, click in the fundraising section and nominate our school and we will receive 10% of all orders.

### **Sausages**

Sausages will be available on the last Friday of term. This valuable service which

is appreciated by both parents and children is reliant on the input from Michelle Howell to coordinate the team of volunteers and purchasing the ingredients. Not to mention the text reminders! Thank you Michelle, your time and commitment is much appreciated.

### **Stock Scheme**

The donated calves and lambs will have gone to sale this week. Thanks again to those families who have generously supported the school by donating a calf/lamb or two.

### **Ezy Covers**

If you are getting organised for next year, you may like to consider EZ Covers if you are not a convert already. These are re-usable book covers in a fun range of prints and patterns. They really are durable and oh-so-easy to slip onto books. When making a purchase, you can nominate our school and GPS will receive a percentage of every sale. There is a special offer at the moment, if you enter the code: EXYDEC15 at the checkout, you will receive a 15 cent discount on each cover and the school will receive 5 cents.

### **2015**

It has been another successful year for the Home and School committee which has funded initiatives and projects worth around \$28,000 this year. The range of purchases includes:

Camp cost subsidies

Junior Syndicate puppet theatre and construction items

Junior Syndicate landscaping

Guest speaker

Library furnishings and furniture upgrade

Additional reading resources for Junior, Middle and Senior Syndicate

Maths text books and support materials for numeracy programme

Basketballs for GPS basketball teams

Meeting room furniture

Camera and accessories

Swimming Lessons

Classroom Games

Year 6 End of School Picnic

The fundraising efforts of the Home and School would not be possible without the support of the School community, both individuals, families and businesses.

Thank you for your ongoing support to ultimately benefit the children of Geraldine Primary School.

Home and School would also like to acknowledge the input from Peg Wood who stands down from the committee at the end of this term. Peg has always given her time willingly and cheerfully and has helped at numerous events and initiatives, and has been the primary coordinator for the Stock Scheme. Thank



you Peg.

Home and School wish to recruit some more members for 2016. Supporting GPS on this committee is both rewarding and fun. Membership is not onerous and your time commitment is always voluntary. It is a great way to meet other school parents and to be involved with the school. Please consider being involved for 2016 – look out for more information in Term 1, or talk to Andrew Leverton, Sarah Wilson, or any of the committee members.

We wish the school community a happy and safe Christmas, New Year and holiday break.

## Community Notices

**Carols in the Park:** Bring a picnic and the whole family to enjoy musical entertainment, sing-a-longs, kids games as well as a lolly scramble by Santa, in the Geraldine Domain, on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 5-7 pm**. For information contact Lorraine on 693 9447.

**Holidays @ Kids Alive:** We will be running two holiday programmes: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 8.45 to 3.00 (there is care available till 5.30 each day). Come along for lots of fun games, bouncy castle, crafts and then our special Pool Party on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. The January programme will run from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January through to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January. For more details and registration forms visit [www.kidsalive.co.nz](http://www.kidsalive.co.nz) or phone Lorraine on 0274038126

### **Roller-skating Xmas School Holiday Sessions**

Tuesday and Thursdays – starting 29<sup>th</sup> December

2pm to 4pm

Cost – Entry Fee - \$2.50, Skate Hire \$3.50

Bring helmet and socks

### **Every Sunday**

Public Session – 2pm to 4pm

Learn to Skate Lessons – 2pm to 3pm

Cost – Entry Fee - \$2.50, Skate Hire \$3.50

Bring helmet and socks

### **Oceans Grief and Loss for children and young people**

Christmas time and holidays are often times of increased awareness about loss in young people's lives. Oceans is a peer support programme that offers a nine to ten

week peer support programme each school term for children and youth who have experienced loss in their life. The losses covered may come from the death of a close relative or friend, the separation of parents, or a separation of a parent due to imprisonment. The focus of this programme is providing a safe environment for participants to talk about their losses. We have seen many children go through the programme and have numerous success stories of how it helped them.

**Advent Calendars** St Andrews Church have left some advent calendars at the office for any one who wishes to have one. Please collect these before the final assembly on Tuesday.

## GERALDINE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE 2015

*at Geraldine Resource Centre*

---

Donations of gifts and food are now welcome  
to put under the Geraldine Community Tree -  
please wrap gifts and write the age & gender  
of who it would suit.

Thank you for helping to make Christmas a  
festive time for local families who are  
finding things tough this year.

Ph 693 7001 for any queries.

Cut off Date for gifts - Wednesday 16 December.

---

A joint project by Geraldine  
Lioness Club & Geraldine  
Community Resource Centre