



Geraldine Primary

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

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Newsletter

Week 6, Term 1
3 March 2023

From the Principal...

Kia ora Whānau,

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

Our Year 6 classes returned from four days away at their annual camp at Lindisfarne today. No doubt they will be coming home tired, but having had a fun-filled week, with a variety of amazing activities experienced. Yesterday Year 11 students from Geraldine High School's Primary Industries Academy came out to camp to run our students through their paces with a range of experiences - mostly in the rain! It was great to see a number of ex GPS students involved in the PIA class. These students would have been Year 6's when the current Year 6's were Year 1's! Many thanks to you all.





Our Year 5 classes will be heading to Raincliff next Thursday. We are fortunate to have two wonderful venues close to school that we can use for camps. Many thanks to the teachers, parents and whānau involved in both of these camps. I know a lot of work goes into planning for them and we appreciate the support that our parents and whānau provide to enable them to go ahead and be successful.

Yesterday afternoon primary schools were informed by their union, the NZ Education Institute, that teachers and principals who are members of this union will be involved in strike action next Thursday, 16 March. For our school, all teachers will be on strike, so therefore we will be closed for instruction on this day. The Year 5 camp will continue as planned, and this will be fully staffed by the Year 5 teachers.

Members of the public may wonder why teachers across the country, including secondary and kindergarten, are striking next Thursday. Unions and the Ministry of Education have not been able to reach a consensus on the new

Collective Agreement for these sectors. For many teachers and principals, it's not so much an issue about pay, but other wider-ranging concerns within education. These include class sizes, where the teacher to student ratio hasn't changed since the early 1990s and the ongoing disparity between primary and secondary sectors in terms of teacher staffing and the number of responsibility allowances for schools of the same size. The key reasons for the strike are to heighten awareness of these ongoing issues in education that have been apparent for a number of years. It's important to note that the decision to strike is a nationwide one, and not one that is decided upon at an individual school level.

I know that the staff team at Geraldine Primary are very passionate about the work they do and the children within our school. Together, the whole staff team works hard to make our school the best that it possibly can be, for our children and school community.

The Board has been keeping you all up to date with developments while a new Principal is being appointed. This process has meant that some staff will be taking on additional responsibilities for Term 2. Mrs Cathy Taiaroa will be the Acting Team Leader for Tawhirimātea (Year 3 and 4) next term. She will be released one day a week by Mrs Debbie Scott. Many thanks to Cathy and Debbie for taking on these roles.

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

Andrew Leverton
Principal | Tumuaki

School Notices

Digital Safety and Wellbeing

On Monday 27 March Digital Waitaha (<https://www.digitalwaitaha.org.nz>) will be offering one hour workshops in the hall for parents and whānau on digital safety and wellbeing (see flyer later in this newsletter for more information on what will be covered). Each session is identical, with one being held at 1.30pm and another at 6.00pm. All students at school will be involved in in-class sessions, these sessions will naturally link in with our own digital citizenship expectations. Staff will be at school during the evening session to look after children, so that their parents can attend. All schools in the wider Geraldine area are having a focus on digital safety this year, through Digital Waitaha.

3 Way Conferences

We will be holding 3 Way Conferences on 29 and 30 March from 3pm to 7pm. At the 3WCs, parents / whanau, children and teachers meet to discuss how the child is going at school and learning goals. Children are expected to

attend as they are an important part of the learning discussion! A 3WC time can be booked through www.schoolinterviews.co.nz . Use our school code – v8gw5. If you experience any difficulties with the booking process, please contact the school office.

Mufti Day for Cyclone Gabrielle

A huge THANK YOU to everyone for your support of our Mufti Day last week. Together we raised \$611.00 for the Cyclone appeal.

School Pool - Reminder

The school pool will close for Pool Key Holders on Sunday 19 March 2023.

PB4L Certificates

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

R3	Luken	R4	Esther	R6	Shalom-Hope
R7	Liam	R8	Jonty	R9	Bowie
R10	Reed	R11	Anaia		

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

R3	Piper	R4	Kase	R7	Samuel	R8	Isabel
R9	Arlo	R10	Ivy	R11	Mac		

Congratulations to the following children who won a prize in the Gotcha draw: Shelby, R2; Jordan, R6; Josiah, R13; Skyla, R10; Eoghan, R7; Jaxon, R8.

Future Farmers Agri Kids

Congratulations to the teams who competed in the Future Farmers Agri Kids competition at the Temuka & Geraldine A & P show on Saturday.

The children worked in teams of three to participate in a number of different farming activities.

They all represented GPS with enthusiasm and had a great time.



Alex, Aliza and Chania placed first in the fencing module and Neve, Pippa and Molly placed first for their teamwork, enthusiasm and positive attitude. Well done girls!



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 .

Hazel Pirie

Hazel was fastest 8 year old in the Timaru x race last Thursday night. She had to run 2km and undertake 10 puzzling challenges including a memory game, skipping and a secret handshake while coaching her Mum to keep up all the way round.



Jessica Martin

Jessica completed the same tasks with her mum and was the 9 year age group champion, she said some of the tasks were challenging and others she found easier. Overall it was a fun evening



Myra Martin

Jessica's sister Myra completed the challenges with her dad and was the 11 year age group champion.



Coby Drake

Coby races solo speedway with his brother like the famous NZ world champ Ivan Mauger and has moved into the 125cc class this season. His hard work and persistence paid off with a 2nd place in the Canterbury Solo Champs.



He initially struggled with the bigger bike but finally got confident at the Burt Munro Challenge a few weeks earlier.

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.

Second hand uniforms can be purchased from the school office for a donation which will go to the Home and School

Term 1 Calendar

Week 7

Thursday 16 March

Y5 Camp – Raincliff

Teacher Strike – school closed

Friday 17 March

SC Triathlon

Week 8

Week 9

Monday 27 March

Digital Waitaha parent information session,
1.30 and 6pm (repeated sessions)

Wednesday 29 March

3 Way Conferences 3-7pm

Thursday 30 March

3 Way Conferences 3-7pm

Friday 31 March

SC Swimming

Week 10

Wednesday 5 April

Home and School Fun Run event (afternoon)

Board Meeting, 6pm

Thursday 6 April

Term 1 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

Wednesday 26 April - Friday 30 June

School closed:

Staff Development Day - Monday 24 April

Anzac Day - Tuesday 25 April

Staff Development Day - Tuesday 16 May

King's Birthday - Monday 5 June

Staff Development Day - Thursday 29 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 – Thursday 14 December

School closed:

Labour Day - Monday 23 October
Staff Development Day - Friday 17 November

Home & School

We have started for the year, and have some ideas on the go.

Dates to Remember:

A.G.M 13th March 7pm in the staff room. We would love to see some new faces. all welcome

Our first fundraiser has started, you hopefully have received an order form for Delicious Hot x Buns

Orders due Friday 17th March

Pickup Wednesday 5th April 8:15-845 and 2:30-3pm or by arrangement if you can't make these times. They will be fresh so need to be picked up asap

Wednesday 5th April (after lunch) we will be doing a fun obstacle course for the tamariki, keep your diary free

Trail Bike Ride. Sunday 16th April

This is a big fundraiser for us, if you can help on the day with the BBQ, please get in contact

Ethel and Bethel Bingo Saturday 1st July

We will be needing sponsors for our auction/ raffles, if you have something to offer please get in touch

More info to come

Don't forget to like our Home & School Facebook page to keep up to date with what's happening

Community Notices



Before School and After School Programmes

Kia ora Geraldine Primary Whanau. Are you finding yourself stuck for childcare before and/or After school? This is just a quick reminder that Kids Alive programs are available to those in our local area. Below is a brief explanation of our two programs currently running. Holiday programs are also available during the term breaks, we will update these closer to the time.

-The before School programme starts at 7.00 am and runs until school starts. This is for those Families that need childcare before school opens and includes Breakfast. Once school is open at 8.20, we open the doors to all Children attending Geraldine Primary school and offer breakfast and/or a Milo as part of the nationwide Kickstart breakfast club. 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 Geraldine Pavilion, where we play games, run around outside and have fun. Afternoon tea is provided to all attending.

For all of those that are interested in what we are all about, please feel free to contact us, come down and have a look around.

* 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 or contact Scotty Nelson on 027 2413226.

Thursday 16 March – Teacher Strike Day

Are you finding yourself stuck for Childcare on Thursday the 16th, due to school closure?

Kids Alive are planning to run a one-off special program on the day, running from 8 am till 5.30pm. This will be based in Geraldine.

There will also be an 8am - 3pm booking option available.

Children from all local schools are welcome. Bookings are a must.

Bookings can be found on kidsalive.aimyplus.com

Please note that this day will only run if we get enough bookings. We will be confirming the program on Tuesday the 14th. Please book ASAP to secure a spot. If the day does not go ahead, then you will not be confirmed or charged.

About Me



Neysa has over 20 years of experience in IT and has extensively researched digital safety and wellbeing. She is passionate about empowering individuals to be safe responsible digital citizens. In addition to her work with Digital Waitaha, she is a CORE Education facilitator.

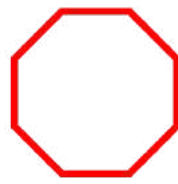
STOP, BLOCK & TALK®
is offered through

**DIGITAL
WAITAHA**

neysa@
digitalwaitaha.org.nz
digitalwaitaha.org.nz
021 072 5979

  Digital Waitaha

supported by



STOP



BLOCK



TALK

Digital Safety and Wellbeing Workshop for Parents and Whānau

Raising children in the digital age comes with additional challenges. How do we keep our children safe and well online? What do we need to be on the lookout for when using digital devices? What are the benefits and negatives of our children's interactions that we need to be paying attention to when they are online?

In this one-hour workshop, we discuss these challenges and learn strategies to build confidence in parenting in the digital age.

EXPECTED PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES

- Confidently talk about digital safety
- Be able to create easy yet strong passwords
- Become knowledgeable about popular apps and games and their benefits and dangers
- Understand how to guide tamariki to be safe and well online
- Understand the BEST techniques for parenting digital citizens
- Confidently use the STOP, BLOCK & TALK® digital safety strategy
- Know what a digital footprint is and how it will affect future opportunities for all children

Family members and whānau will receive a flyer with handy information.



Don't miss the bus!

Download Skool Loop →

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

SKOOL LOOP

**ADVENTURE
PLUS!**



Wanted!

Boys and Girls aged 5yrs - 7yrs

Geraldine Scout Group has room for more Keas. Sessions run on Wednesday nights from 5.30pm - 6.30pm.

Come down to the Scout Den, chat to our Leaders and see what we do or for more info email:

geraldinezscouts@gmail.com



**GERALDINE
NETBALL**

CENTRE INC, PO BOX 97, GERALDINE

JUNIOR NETBALL REGISTRATION

ANZ futureFERNs NNZ Year 3-6 Program

Register online at
sporty.co.nz/viewform/220330

Or come to the Netball Courts,
Geraldine Domain on Friday 17 March
between 3.00pm-3.45pm where we can
help with your online registration

Friday afternoons - 3.15pm

UNIFORMS HANDED OUT:
Friday 28 April

FIRST GAME: Friday 5 May

FEES DUE:

Friday 30 June 2021

Year 3&4 \$60.00

Year 5&6 \$65.00

YEAR 3&4 COORDINATOR:

Leander Patterson
027 465 6240

YEAR 5&6 COORDINATOR:

Jess Bowan
027 698 5391

geraldinenetball@gmail.com

sporty.co.nz/geraldinenc/home



Geraldine Netball Centre



**WE ARE GROWING!
COME AND SING WITH US!**



GERALDINE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

WE ARE A GROWING GROUP OF KIDS WHO LOVE TO SING!

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN YRS 2-6

TUESDAYS DURING TERM TIME, 3.15-4.00PM

GERALDINE ACADEMY FOYER

STARTING BACK 7 FEBRUARY 2023



**CONTACT CHARLOTTE TALBOT, CEE BEE TEATIME
TEL: 021 151 3301
EMAIL: CEBTALBOT@GMAIL.COM
FIND ME ON FACEBOOK OR SPOTIFY: CEE BEE TEATIME**

**COST DEPENDS ON NUMBERS
APPROX \$10-\$12 PER CHILD
PER WEEK
PAYMENT BY TERM
REQUIRED BY END OF WEEK 2**

HANGI FUNDRAISER

For Cyclone Gabrielle

\$20 per meal

When: 17th March 2023

Pick-up: 5.30-6pm
GHS Kennedy Park St Entrance

Orders: Sarah 0275963838
s.foley@geraldinehs.school.nz

Jordyn Te Rahui-Hobbs 0278941229
j.terahuihobbs@geraldinehs.school.nz

*Monetary donations gratefully received
03-1903-0812346-03 || Reference: Hangi*



Organised by: PIA with the help of GHS Māori whānau, Jimmy Paewhenua & Quentin Cooper

