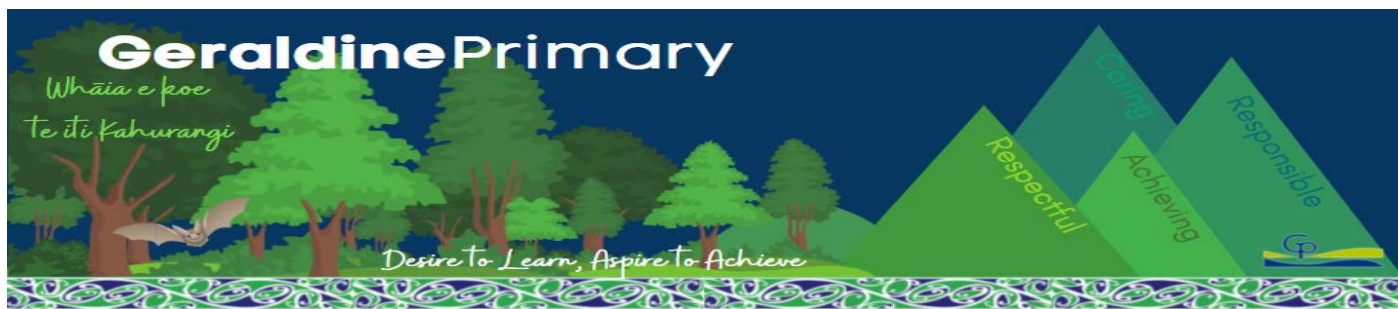




NEWSLETTER/PĀNUI

Friday 15th November 2024

<u>Contact information:</u> Stuart Wilcox – Principal principal@geraldine.school.nz Office – Ph 03 693 8208 office@geraldine.school.nz Website: https://www.geraldineprimary.school.nz/	<u>Term Dates:</u> Term 1 31 January - 12 April Term 2 29 April - 5 July Term 3 22 July - 27 September Term 4 14 October - 16 December
<u>Important Dates:</u> Friday 29th November – School Breakfast BBQ Friday 6th December – Geraldine Christmas Parade Tuesday 10th December – Year 6 pool party Thursday 12th December – Principal's Assembly for Certificates and Awards Friday 13th December – Prizegiving and Carols on the Domain Monday 16th December – Last day of school for students	

Principal's Kōrero

Kia ora koutou whānau and welcome to our Pānui.

It is incredible to think that we are already on week 5 of Term 4. Where does the time go? In 5 weeks our Year 6 tamariki will be leaving us and transitioning to their High School, and the remainder of the school will be moving up a year level.

For all schools this time of year is exceptionally busy. We are working towards finishing the school year, as well as planning staffing, curriculum, assessment and strategic planning for 2025. I feel so encouraged and proud of how Geraldine Primary School's kaiako do this with determined energy and positivity, it is certainly a challenging time of the school calendar.

In the past week, we have made a number of new appointments to our Geraldine School whānau for 2025. Mrs Hanrahan will be covering Mrs Strowger's maternity leave and Annalise Robertson will be employed as Year 3 teacher. Both are already very known to the school, but we are excited to have them as full-time staff members. Sadly, Mrs Mizzi will be leaving Geraldine Primary at the end of the year. We will miss her positive and professional vibes in the office area. We welcome Lynette Mentink to the office in 2025.

Presently, we are creating classes for next year and I would like to say thank you for the input some of you have supplied. This year we have seen our role grow and this is allowing the school to receive more staffing from the MOE. Our aim is always to keep our classes to a manageable size. Therefore, we are going to start the school year with two parallel New Entrants classes. We believe that this change will give those students a great foundation and positive start to their school life. We will be sending letters out to our new parents, Preschool, Kindergarten and Montessori to help explain the process.

Please be aware that due to our combinations of year groups in some classes this year, your son/daughter maybe with the same teacher for next year. Please have a look at our structure for 2025.

Staffing structure 2025

Room	Kaiako	Year group
Junior School		
6	Andrea Bathgate	New Entrants
9	Debbie Scott	New Entrants
7	Jodi Gardner	Year 1/2
8	Rochelle Fisher	Year 1/2
3	Kirsty Smith	Year 2
Middle School		
10	Cathy Taiaroa	Year 4
11	Jo Drake /Sarah Wilson	Year 4
12	Annalise Robertson	Year 3
13	Claire Lovelock	Year 3
Senior School		
1	Fiona Wilcox	Year 6
2	Chelley Leov	Year 6
4	Ingrid Hanrahan	Year 5
5	Elizabeth Murray	Year 5

Next year Sarah Dunkley will be a fully released Senco for 4 days a week. This will allow our school to continue to have intervention groups, particularly around numeracy and structured literacy.

The school will be having a new class transition day on Wednesday 11th December from 10am – 10.45am and reports will be emailed to parents that evening.

There have been a few inquiries into our end of term this year and beginning of term next year. Schools are required to be open for a set number of days. Therefore, we will be having a final prize giving and carols on **Friday December 13th** and the last day of school for students will be **Monday 16th December**. School starts for all students on **Thursday 30th January 2025**.

Since our last newsletter our students have been involved in a cricket festival, which was held at the Domain. It was wonderful to see our tamariki playing games against Woodbury and Carew and Peel Forest, building connections and relationships is so important.

Athletics Day on Monday was a success, the weather came to the party, the whanau house colours evident in the flags and tops added colour and vibrancy to the Domain. Students were giving their best in many events such as sprinting, high jump, discus and long jump. The word of the day was 'encouragement', this was heard around the field - the cheers and groans as the high jump pole went up then down. The raking of the sand in readiness for the long jump and the call of 'on your marks, get set, go' also set the scene for a great day. Topped off by Kowhai winning the Yr 6 house relay.

As with any event this could not happen without the time and effort from our many helpers. Malcom Campbell and Jesse Pinn for setting up, Corey Wood and the Athletics Club for the guidance and equipment. We also thank GHS for the loan of very helpful and polite students. All day we were hearing comments about their helpfulness. The Home and School for keeping the athletes fed and teachers and students who spent the day ensuring all events ran smoothly. As a principal you don't always get time to coach and teach the children, so this day filled my cup! I have always enjoyed sprinting, and passing on my own skills and knowledge to the children was awesome.

We will look forward to GPS Athletics 2025.

This year the school created a Community Engagement Group. The group consists of 4 parents, Suzi Pethig, Adele McKenna, Courtney Newton and Sheree Stout. Our teacher rep is Kirsty Smith and we have two students, Matilda England and Piper Jordan-Thomas. The group looks for ways of bringing our whānau and community together and we meet twice a term to discuss possible events. On Thursday I was blown away by the amount of parent support for our Mix and Mingle event. It was wonderful to see so many parents and students staying behind to play games, eat kai, have a drink and chat. Thank you so much to our Community Engagement Group for all their organising and positive vibes.

Thanks once again for all your support.

Stu Wilcox

Athletics on Monday 	Athletics on Monday 	Mix and Mingle event yesterday 
Mix and Mingle event yesterday 	Cricket Festival last Friday 	At the Mens Shed 

School Notices

ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS

Please update us. We need to be able to contact parents/caregivers in case your child is unwell or injured.

SCHOOL HOURS

A reminder that school starts at 8.50am and finishes at 2.45pm. Please note that there is no teacher supervision for children who arrive at school before 8.20am or are at school after 2.45pm.

Library Stocktake

The Library will close on the 29th November for a stocktake.

Could all issued books please be returned by that date.

Unfortunately we will have to charge for any books that are lost or have been overdue for the last 2 terms.

We just can't sustain the loss and damage to books which is occurring.

Thank you for your understanding.

Reading Book Amnesty

If you have any school reading books at home please either return to the classroom or school office.

Replacing these books cost between \$10-15 a book and is a drain on our budget.

School Disco

Friday 22nd November

Years 0 -3 6.00 – 7.15pm

Years 4 -6 7.15 – 8.45pm

Parents will need to drop their children off and pick them up again at the end of the sessions. For safety and organisation reasons can children please be dropped off and picked up from the school playground side of the hall. Please note this disco is for Geraldine Primary School children only. The disco will be supervised by staff.

Thank you to the Home and School for providing us with the money to purchase food and drink.

If the children would like to purchase a glow stick, they need to bring \$2 on the morning of the disco to the table we will have set up outside Room 9. They will then get a stamp on their hand which they will show to a staff member when they come to the disco in the evening and they will receive their glow stick.



Breakfast BBQ

Hi Rooms 1 and 2 are having the Annual Breakfast Barbecue on the 29th of November 2024.

We will be raising money for our sponsored child Mohosina in Bangladesh and paying it forward for 2025 Year 6 students. It will start at 8:00am, but the year 6's will be getting there at 7:20am for then to set up. The year 6's will be scattered around the school, and they will be running the stalls. There will be baking, lots of treats as well as games designed by the children and guess the lollies in the jar.

We do need lots of help with baking for the stall. If you are able to help by donating some baking for us to sell, that would be very helpful. All baking can be donated to the school on November 28th or before school on the 29th.

Thank you so much
Pippa and Piper

Thank you to the Following advertisers who support Geraldine Primary School by advertising on our webpage.

- Barker's Foodstore & Eatery
- Woodleys Transport and Contracting Ltd
- Aorangi Vets
- SecuriSure Limited
- Geraldine Signs
- Hobbs and Banks
- Patterson Plumbing and Drain Laying
- Geraldine Pharmacy
- FreshChoice Geraldine
- Mackenzie Supply Services
- Dowells Office Products
- LJ Hooker Geraldine
- Drift Inn

Home and School News

It has been so great to be involved with some amazing activities recently with Pet Day and Athletics Day.

A very big thank you to the wonderful BBQ helpers that help make this happen.

🍪 COOKIE TIME FUNDRAISER 🍪

Last chance to get your orders in!!!!

REMINDER: your orders and payment need to come to the school office by Tuesday 19th November!

Thank you all in advance for your continued support!



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Our last committee meeting of the year is next Monday 18th November @ 7pm in the school staff room. Be great to see you there if you are interested in learning more about what we do and are planning for next year 😊

The Home & School Committee Team

Follow us on Facebook - find us at Geraldine Primary Home & School Committee.

Maize Maze is back!



GPS needs your help...

We are looking for a creative, fun maze design that we can easily transfer onto our paddock of maize crop.

One stipulation is that our maze must have a connection to GPS. This might be that GPS letters or our GPS logo is prominent, in other words can be seen and recognised.

The design will need to be completed by Friday 22nd November. This will give us enough time to select the winning design and get ourselves prepared to start to spray and cut.

Please use the dimensions and area below to help create your maze.

Good luck



Community Notices



GERALDINE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE 2024 at Geraldine Resource Centre

Donations of gifts are now welcome to be put
under the Geraldine Community tree
(please, no second hand items)

**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 – Friday 13 December



GERALDINE
FOOD BANK



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*In the heart of the community
with a heart for the community.*





Kids Alive is a local based Oscar program providing Before School, After School and Holiday Programme for Tamariki aged 5-13 years of age.

Our Before School care is based at the Geraldine Primary School in the hall and runs from 7-8.20am Monday to Friday term time. We provide breakfast, milo and games plus lots of fun until Tamariki goes off to class at 8.20am.

Our After School Program runs from 2.45pm till 5.30pm. We run a walking school bus from the Primary School and walk to the St John's building where we base our program. We do a variety of activities including various crafts, baking, indoor/outdoor games. As the facilities back onto the Domain we are fortunate to have the space for outdoor activities. Afternoon tea is provided (catering for different dietary requirements).

Holiday Program no day is the same. Different activities are organised throughout the program catering for all ages. Often we have a theme running to include crafts, offsite adventures, games etc. We run from 8 till 5.30 Monday to Friday during the term holidays and before Christmas and then through January until school resumes.

The Crispy Chicken Sushi of Geraldine will deliver orders for children to Geraldine Primary School on Thursdays. Please visit our shop to place orders and make payment.



\$8 KIDS MENU - PACK 1

1x Crispy Chicken Sandwich

2x Pieces of Sushi

1x Biscuit

\$8 KIDS MENU - PACK 2

4x Pieces of Sushi

1x Biscuit

\$8 KIDS MENU - PACK 3

1x Small Portion - Crispy Chicken On Rice

1x Piece of Sushi

1x Biscuit

***VEGETARIAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**