



NEWSLETTER/PĀNUI

Friday 2nd May 2025

<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 2 28 April - 27 June Term 3 14 July - 19 September Term 4 6 October - 12 December
<u>Important Dates:</u> Friday 16th May – Pink Shirt Day Monday 26th May – School Cross Country Friday 30th May – Staff Development Day - Maths Curriculum Monday 2nd June – King's Birthday Friday 20th June – Matariki Friday 27th June – End of Term 2	

Principal's Kōrero

Kia ora koutou whānau and welcome to our Pānui.

I trust everyone had a wonderful holiday and are feeling ready for term 2.

Term 2 has started with an element of curiosity and wonderment. A strange looking object landed on our school grounds Sunday afternoon, and it has been great to watch how the children interact with it and listen to their conversations. For the next two weeks the doors to the ePod will remain closed and the children are currently using the space to explore our writing topic, which is persuasion. I was lucky enough to be in room 2, when they were doing a 5-minute writing starter.

This is what Flynn Cummings wrote:

'Fire...Absolutely Fire.

Mr Wilcox does not know what he is handling! It's the mothership...

On May 12th the doors open, the world as we know it and today will never be the same - I am talking about Aliens!!

Who knows what it is capable of? Giant fireballs, teleportation, sucking up students (teachers' wishes).

Seriously though, as soon as those doors open, chaos, I say chaos!'

I will be able to tell you more about the ePod in the coming weeks.

At the start of term, we announced that Geraldine Primary will be working towards a whole school production in week 8 of term 3, *What Lies Between Light and Dark*.

Auditions for the main leads will take place in Week 4 of this term, with more information to be sent out via email soon. Lead roles are primarily for Year 5–6 students, with a few exciting parts for younger performers as well. With 9 lead roles and 17 minor speaking parts, 13 dancers, and syndicate songs and scenes, there are plenty of opportunities for all students to shine on stage.

As we head into the months of preparation, we'll be calling on our wonderful school community for help—whether it's gathering material, costume and prop creation, or assisting during show week.

Performance Dates:

- Wednesday 3rd September – Matinee & Evening Show
- Thursday 4th September – Evening Show

Geraldine Primary School is working towards our target figure of 80% of students to be regularly attending school. **At the end of term 1 we had 77% of students regularly attending school.** Please remember that regular attendance at school helps build and maintain a child's learning and positive daily habits and routines, as well as promoting their wellbeing by connecting them to their peers and learning new things. Thank you so much for supporting us by phoning, emailing or putting absence reasons on edge, this helps us to code the children correctly. Also thank you to whānau who email the school if they are planning to take a longer period off school. This communication is important for us.

Please remember that your first contact for any school challenges is your child's classroom teacher. If they can't resolve the issue, then the syndicate leader will be informed. The syndicate leader will often discuss these with the Deputy Principal, School Community Support Worker and Principal. Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation.

I would like to thank all whānau who responded to the Geraldine Primary google form school review. This has given the school lots of great information that can help us build a strong and purposeful strategic direction. We are always keen to know what other value we can bring to our kura and the legacy we would all like to leave. I am now busy working through your responses and formulating our next steps.

This week our tamariki have listened to a Strike Performance. This was full of lots of drumming and noise. We had two teachers battling against each other and some of our students got up to help play a piece too. Our Tangaroa syndicate has been busy taking part in ePro 8. Tane-Mahuta syndicate had a visit from Te Aitarakihi.

Our Playground Champions have started their peer support programme during morning tea and lunch times. This has been a great success, and the leaders are embracing their new role.

Our New Maths/Pāngarau Curriculum:

As most of you will be aware our government has developed a new curriculum for all New Zealand schools to teach from. Within this new curriculum is a new Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum which drives our Maths programmes here at Geraldine Primary. Our staff have so far spent numerous hours unpacking this exciting new document and we are enjoying seeing it in action in our classrooms.

As a kura we have chosen the Oxford Mathematics and Statistics programme to help us facilitate the delivery of the new Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum to our tamariki.

Some of you may have seen these resources and had the opportunity to speak to staff about them at our community evening event we held last term.

We have a Teacher Only Day coming up in Week 5 where our kaiako will spend the day upskilling and will continue to unpack the new Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum.

School cross country will be on Monday 26th May, with the postponement day of Wednesday 28th May. We will be sending more information out in due course. All classes have started training for this event, which consists of 1-3 laps around the outside of our school. Please practise at home too.

I am keen to hear from anyone who would like to join our school board. Our elections will be in September. Please come and see me if you are keen to know more.

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

Stu Wilcox

Our Tamariki being curious around the ePod



Mr and Mrs Robertson preparing for a drum battle



Students getting ready to entertain the school



Our playground champions discussing solutions with some students



A visit from Te Aitarakihi



Epro 8 heats in the hall



Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following tamariki who won the end of Term1 Gotcha Draw:
Mila R13, Lottie R2, Abhijot R4, Agata R4, Xavier R11, Adia R11

PB4L Certificates

No Draw this week.

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.

Home and School News

Follow us on Facebook

Did you know we have a Facebook page? Find us at Geraldine Primary Home & School Committee.

Community Notices

Learning Community Hub

Great opportunity for families from different cultural backgrounds to understand NZ's education system.

- 10x workshop sessions From 1st May to 3rd July
- Wednesday 6pm to 8pm
- Waimataitai School Hall
- Childcare and Interpretation services provided
- Light meal provided
- Contact Nils Macfarlane at
nils@multiculturalaoraki.co.nz



Thriving with neurodiversity: A strengths-based approach for parents

Webinar - Thursday 7:30pm, May 15th



Anna Mowat



Morwenna
Bates-Thornton



SELWYN PARENTING NETWORK

real parents

Bookings essential - limited places

<https://events.humanitix.com/neurodiversity>

AROWHENUA WHĀNAU SERVICES

SPECIAL VACCINATION DAYS THIS MAY!

— NAU MAI HAERE MAI —

We are hosting dedicated immunisation clinics to help keep our hapori protected this winter.

📍 94 King street Temuka

Wednesday 7 th May	9:00am - 4:30pm
Monday 12 th May	9:00am - 4:30pm
Thursday 15 th May	9:00am - 4:30pm
Monday 19 th May	9:00am - 4:30pm
Monday 26 th May	9:00am - 4:30pm

🛡️ Immunisations available

- ✓ Influenza
- ✓ Whooping Cough Pertussis
- ✓ HPV
- ✓ Tetanus

...and more – just ask when you come in!

We'll have extra kaimahi on these days to support you and your whānau. Whether it's your first time or you're just due for a top-up, we're here to awahi you through it.

- 📞 No booking needed – just walk in!
- ❤️ Friendly faces, expert care

Let's look after each other this winter – bring your whānau, bring your questions, and we'll take care of the rest.

