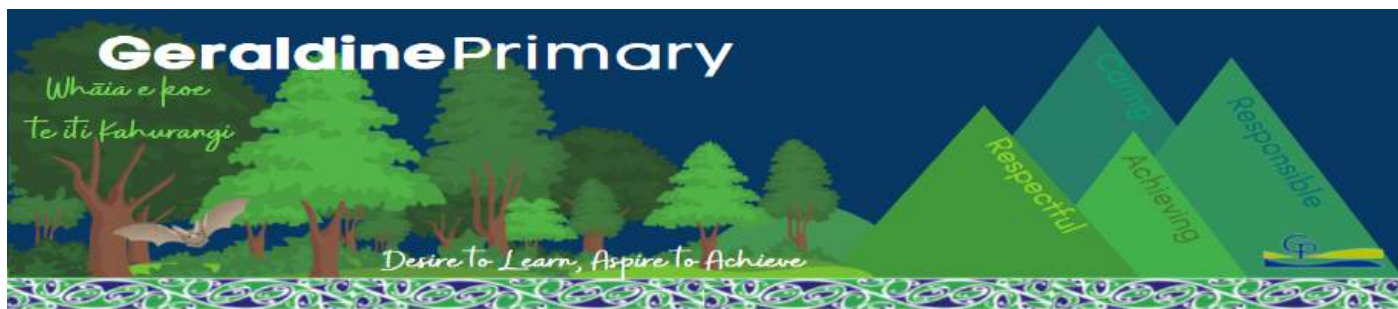




NEWSLETTER/PĀNUI

Friday 16 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 29 April - 27 June Term 3 14 July - 19 September Term 4 6 October - 12 December
<u>Important Dates:</u> 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.

On Friday 2nd May all our students took part in a collaborative, creative and fun whānau activity. This was led by our whānau leaders and supported by teachers. Each student had to paint their own wooden disc in their house colour and in a design that was important to them. They also had the opportunity to play lots of games. These two activities were great for team building, getting to know one another and having fun. The result is beautiful and can be seen in the school hall.

Recently we changed the way our tamariki sit during our Friday kotahitanga time. Historically, they have sat in their class rows, but we wanted to create a more collective state and a tuakana teina environment. What we now have is students sitting in their whānau group. This was positively received last Friday, so we are looking forward to continuing this trend.

Over the last two weeks classes have been busy learning the new maths and English curriculum, as well as experiencing lots of cool events that are related to their topic of communication and to challenge their thinking and ability. Year 1 - 3 had a visit from the Timaru Dog Handling. Our Tāwhirimātea (middle) syndicate have been taking part in the high ropes course at the High School and, they had a visit from Te Aitarakihi. The Tāne Mahuta (junior) syndicate went to the South Canterbury Museum. The whole school watched a Playhouse production. Two teams of Year 5 and 6 students, Hudson Bradford, Fletcher Coleman, Methuja Marasinghe, Charlotte Nolan, Bethany Reardon, Violet Talbot, Zac Wilson and Hosana Woods came 1st equal in the interschools Epro8 challenge at Bluestone. Both now go to Ashburton to compete in the semi-finals.

Presently our lunchtimes are busy with offering students' different opportunities. During Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes our PALS leaders set up games for different syndicates. On Friday we have jump jam and our playground champions are outside every play time to help students resolve problems and work together.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime of next week we have our school production auditions. 62 children have signed up to audition. I am so looking forward to seeing what they can do. Below is a brief synopsis of the plot.

'In the world of Lumora, two villages live in separation - one bathed in sunlight, the other cloaked in moonlight. The Luminals and the Shadowlings have always stayed apart, warned that the other side cannot be trusted. But everything begins to change when Lia, a curious Luminal child, sets out to discover the truth. Along with her cheerful friend Pip, she meets Solly, a thoughtful Shadowling, and his cautious friend Knox. At the glowing river that divides their worlds, the children form a secret bond.

Their adventure leads them into magical forests, playful Star Sprites, and a hidden village where light and dark live together in harmony - the Dawn Tribe. Danger lurks in the shadows. The Evil Whisperer, a mysterious figure who spreads fear and lies, is determined to stop them and keep both sides apart. When Knox is taken by the Whisperer, the children must work together to save him - and show their world that unity is stranger than fear.'

A huge congratulations to Felicity Marsden who was recognised at the Tennis South Canterbury 2024–2025 prize-giving. Felicity received several awards:

- 8 & Under Mixed Champion in the South Canterbury Closed Champs
- Part of the winning Hilton-Geraldine B-grade team for the Term 1 competition
- A medal for representing South Canterbury in three or more fixtures

Well done, Felicity

At the end of this term, you will be receiving a written report explaining your child's current progress and achievement. As a kura we are working hard to teach and embed the new maths and English curriculum. It is evident that the expectations or outcomes at the end of each unit are higher than they were last year. Our teachers are working hard to teach these new concepts, as a whole class, so that all students are exposed and are working at the correct year level. Teachers differentiate tasks accordingly to enable students to consolidate this new knowledge and skills and extend when necessary. However, because of these curriculum developments you might see a change in your child's progress or achievement compared to previous years. Please see the statement from the Ministry of Education below.

Statement from the Ministry of Education to Support Schools with Reporting to Parents



As part of our focus on lifting student achievement we have introduced new, knowledge-rich and internationally-comparable curriculum this year for Maths in Years 0–8 and English in Years 0–6, and Te Reo Rangatira Years 0–6 and Pāngarau Years 0–8 wāhanga ako.

This means we are currently changing from the old to the new curriculum. We want to acknowledge that schools and kura will only have been using the new curricula from the start of 2025, which includes new teaching and assessment methods and content.

Because of this you could see a change in your child's progress or achievement compared to previous years which may be the result of changes in the curriculum expectations for your child's year level. If you have concerns or questions about your child's achievement, we strongly suggest you talk with your child's teacher or kaiako. They will also have used their own observations, classroom tasks and other tests to report on the progress your child is making.

Our New English/Ingarihi Curriculum

Geraldine Primary is excited to implement *Te Mātaiaho*, the new national curriculum for English (*Ingarihi*), which guides our approach to reading, writing, and oral language. Our strong foundation in Structured Literacy has us well placed to make this transition as a kura. This year, we've placed a schoolwide focus on writing, with our kaiako working together to explore the different genres and ensure our teaching is clear, engaging, and responsive to all learners. In Years 0–3 (Phase 1) students develop foundational skills in reading, writing, and oral language, using structured literacy approaches like explicit instruction, phonics and handwriting to build confidence and fluency. In Years 4–6 (Phase 2), students build on these skills by working with more complex texts and vocabulary, while developing fluency, spelling, and comprehension strategies. There's also greater emphasis on independent learning and applying new knowledge in meaningful ways. Throughout the school, our tamariki are becoming confident communicators and developing a

love for language and stories. Our kaiako continue to engage in professional development to ensure our teaching remains aligned with *Te Mātaiaho* and meets the needs of every learner.

On Thursday 22nd from 1pm - 5pm the school is undergoing a N4L managed network upgrade. This means that we will have no internet or phone access during this time. If you need to contact the school urgently during this time, you can call 027 368 2613 to speak to the office.

Please remember that we have a government specified teacher only day on Friday 30th May. Staff will be going through the new maths curriculum. Thanks in advance for your support.

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.

Please remember my door is always open.

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

Stu Wilcox

Learning the correct technique of sawing



Ensuring we get all measurements correct before we start



Our incredible EPro 8 teams



Working together to solve the problem



The high ropes course



Students from room 12 preparing to help each other to climb



Gotcha Draw

Congratulations to the following tamariki who won a Gotcha Draw:
Aren, R4; Ryder, R3; Johnnie, R5; Liam, R8; Aria, R8; Ben, R8

PB4L Certificates

		PB4L	Desire/Aspire to Achieve
Tāne Mahuta	Room 6: Room 7: Room 8: Room 9:	Riley HS Leo Ben Jett H	- Millie Kyra C -
Tāwhirimātea	Room 10: Room 11: Room 12: Room 13:	Megane Casper Osian W Harper K	Henry Adia Watson S Kenuth M
Tangaroa	Room 1: Room 2: Room 3: Room 4: Room 5:	Chloe O Maeve James B Klaus Mila S	William R Hudson Hezekiah V Ada Sophie J

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.

Uniform update from The Warehouse

GPS Polo shirts size: 4, 6, 8,& 12 are now in stock at the Warehouse.

Home and School News

Dancing With The Stars - Saturday 28th June 2025

That's right!!! We are bringing back DWTS, last held in 2021!

We are well underway with plans and preparation and have 6 amazing couples practicing their moves!



***** TICKETS ON SALE *****

THURSDAY 29th May | 8am - 9am | Geraldine Primary School Hall

Please do not contact the school office for tickets

\$65 per ticket (tables of 10 available) cash or bank transfer

Introducing the first of our incredible couples



Pie Time!

Geraldine Primary School is excited to be selling delicious frozen pies and savouries from Luv a Pie as part of our latest fundraising initiative just in time for Winter.

Please head to the below website to sign up for a fundraising page, so you can start selling and help us fundraise.

<https://geraldinehomeandschoolpies.raiseit.co.nz/>

We are raising funds to be used towards a range of important school needs, including reading resources, educational games, swimming lessons, school activities, and transport.

Once you have a page setup, share it with friends and family. Collection day will be 26th June.



Trail Ride Recap

Massive massive THANK YOU to the following people & businesses, without your support, our Adventure Trail rides Event just wouldn't happen!

Our land owners, thank you for giving us access to your properties:

Hamish & Sue Sheed | Kim Christie | Kris & Kath Orange | Barry Wells | Kevin Orielly. We appreciate this so very much!!!!

Thanks to our epic side by side support - Rebecca and Ricky Taylor from East Coast Powersports Ashburton & Lou and Jamie Ward.

Local Business Support:

- Geraldine Butchery - thank you for the endless support you give us! Plus the tasty meat.
- Temuka Transport 1967 - for the BBQ trailer and all the help you gave us to get the day to run smoothly
- Barker's of Geraldine for your continued support with all the delicious tasty condiments.

Finally - a HUGE shout out and HUGE thanks to the one and only Grenville Button from Adventure Trailrides Events, you are the one who makes this day happen and we are forever grateful!

Our AGM

We held our AGM on 29th April and thank you to all who attended. We have such a great team and a lot of laughs and fun and our motto is "it's for the children".

Keep Up To Date

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

Follow us on Facebook

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

Community Notices

