

# Newsletter

Week 7, Term 4, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Kia ora koutou,

We were very lucky last Wednesday after going ahead with the **Athletic sports**, as the wet weather seemed to arrive everywhere but the Geraldine Domain. Once again we saw our children putting everything into each activity, in front of a big turnout of supportive families. Yesterday we sent a small team of students who met the qualifying standards to the South Canterbury Athletics event - well done to these children who represented Woodbury School with pride.



## **TERM 4 CLASS SWIMMING LESSONS** (information repeated from last week)

During Weeks 7 and 8 of this term, all students will take part in swimming lessons with trained instructors. This comes at quite a significant cost, so this year we are asking parents to contribute \$10 per child (which will be invoiced).

All lessons take place between 12.30 - 2.30PM, to avoid interruptions to the classroom programme. Children will only be away for their set swimming time, so will still be carrying out other schoolwork during the afternoons (although there is a bit of juggling by teachers around this!). Togs, towel, and goggles are required each day. Girls hair needs to be tied up, a swimming cap is great if children have them

These lessons are based on water safety and survival skills, rather than specific stroke technique (although there is an element of this).

**Year 1-3** - These lessons will be delivered by Clare Connolly, at our school pool. Swimming will be 25th - 28th November, and 2nd - 5th December (Clare is unavailable on the Fridays).

**Year 4-6** - These lessons are all held at the Geraldine pool, where we transport the children via our school bus.

## **Y1-3 GERALDINE TRIP - WED, 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

Starting on Wednesday 11th December new carpet will be installed in the Year 1-3 classrooms. Quite an inconvenient time at the end of the year, but we have no choice of dates as the Ministry of Education has contractors carrying out this work.

As their classrooms will be out of action, on Wednesday 11th December the Year 1-3 students will head off to Geraldine for a fun day out. This will involve leaving school at 9.00am and heading to the Geraldine Pool. We finish here around 10.30am, then head to the library until 12.00pm. After this we will head to the domain for lunch, then for a river / forest walk.

[Please complete this quick google form](#) if you are able to help us with transport and/or supervision on the day.

On Thursday 12th December, Huatekerere B and Huatekerekere P will be based over at the Woodbury Domain Hall for the day, while the installers finish putting in the carpet.

## **CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Every year we enter a float in the Geraldine Christmas Parade. We are thankful once again to Denys from All In One Contracting for driving and providing the transport, and also to Gail for decorating the truck.

All children are welcome aboard the float, wearing either their blue Woodbury Shirt (with optional Christmas decorations, such as a Santa hat) or something along the lines of the "Kiwi Christmas" theme.

Children can get dropped off around 6.15pm at Hislop Street, we usually get a spot opposite the domain entrance. The parade starts at 6.30pm, and at the end of the parade all children are to be collected back in Hislop Street.



## TOUCH RUGBY

Geraldine High School started a Year 5/6 touch rugby competition this term, which has proven really popular amongst our older children. A massive thank you to the parents who have helped to manage the teams each Monday afternoon. Hopefully this competition continues, it is not only an excellent sport for fitness and co-ordination, but also great for children socialising and developing their team-work.



## 2025 - STARTING DATES AND SCHOOL CAMPS

The first day of the 2025 school year will be Monday the 3rd of February. Thursday 6th February is the Waitangi Day Holiday, and there will be no school on Friday 7th, creating a long weekend for families. The last day of the school year will be Wednesday 17th December.

The Year 4-6 camp to Living Springs will be in Week 2, from the 12th - 14th February (families will already have received information around this)

There will be a note coming home shortly regarding the Year 1-3 camp, which includes an overnight stay at school for Year 2-3 students (on Thursday 13th February).

## 2025 CLASSES AND TRANSITION VISITS

In Week 9 we will send out the final newsletter of the year, which will explain more about the class structures and staffing for 2025. The reports will also go out that week, and accompanying this will be information about which class your child is in and links to stationery orders.

Today, children spent some time in the class they will be in for 2025, to help familiarise themselves with the classroom and the teacher. We will do this again before the end of the year, this is a great way to support children in making this change.

Some classes next year will be mixed. Mrs Patrick will have a Year 3 classroom, with 6 Year 2 students (those Year 2 students who have been at school the longest, we have notified these parents of this).

We are in the process of sorting the Tarahaoa Classrooms (Year 4-5). Due to numbers, one class will be Year 4/5, and one will be Year 5/6. The Year 5's will be split evenly across these classes. Note that this is not "streamed" or based on ability of the Year 5's. We have split children to be away from siblings, then organising socially so these children have friends from their current year, in their classroom.

More information will come out about this in the next newsletter.

## TERM DATES

Please find [here the Term 4](#) calendar link. Below is a bit more detail around the term ahead.

### Week 7 (25 - 29 November)

- Our school swimming with instructors starts on Monday 25th November, and goes for 2 weeks. The Year 1-3 have lessons in the school pool, the Year 4-6 students go to the Geraldine Pool after lunch every day.
- Tuesday 26th November is the South Canterbury Athletics event, for selected students.
- On Wednesday, those Year 6 students going to Geraldine High School head along for a "Taster Day", which is a fun day designed to allow students to mix with Year 6 students from other schools and familiarise themselves with the school, prior to going in 2025.

### Week 8 (2 - 6 December)

- Skills For Life Swimming continues, last day for Year 1-3 is Thursday and for Year 4-6 last day is Friday
- Friday 6th December is the Christmas Parade, children interested in the joining the Woodbury School Float meet on Hislop Street at 6.15pm.

### Week 9 (9 - 13 December)

- Monday 9th December is a Board of Trustees meeting
- Wednesday 11th December the Year 1-3 students are going on a trip to Geraldine for the day.
- Friday 13th December reports go home, and we have our school prizegiving at the Woodbury Domain hall at 1.00pm.

### Week 10 (16 December)

- Monday 16th December is the last day of school. School operates with normal hours, and buses will be running.

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We will be continuing on with Friday sausage sizzles this term. Please find the link attached to make orders, if you are ordering weekly, orders need to be in by the prior Wednesday. [Sausage Sizzle order form](#)

## **SUSHI LUNCH ORDERS**

Sushi has proved popular, with 30 or so orders each week. Our ordering system is proving efficient so we will continue with this option for the rest of the term, and into 2025. Each Monday a link will be sent out for orders.

## **Pool Keys**

The school pool is ready for summer. After School lessons start tomorrow. Keys are available for families to use, please contact the school office if you would like to buy a set for the summer. These are \$60 for the season.



## GERALDINE GYMNASTICS



Gym classes for ages 5-12 years, Monday afternoons in Term one at GHS gymnasium

Spaces are limited and we're looking for more volunteer coaches (training and support provided).

To register a gymnast please use the following link <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/312091>

To enquire about volunteering please email [geraldinegymnastics@gmail.com](mailto:geraldinegymnastics@gmail.com)

 **TOOT FOR  
TUCKER** 

**Tuesday 3rd Dec. from 6pm**

**SUPPORT THE FOOD BANKS**

*With the* **Geraldine Emergency Services**

Proudly supported by:  **GERALDINE SIGNS**

**GERALDINE**  
**Swimming**  
**CLUB**

### Swim Squad

Our squad swimming season commences in the Geraldine Pool when it opens in early November.

If you are interested in joining our club for fitness, skills or competitive swimming then please contact us at;

[secretarygasc@gmail.com](mailto:secretarygasc@gmail.com)

### Learn to Swim

We offer 'Learn To Swim' lessons in the Geraldine Pool for children 5 years and older in 2 Blocks -

Tuesday/Thursday afternoons in Term 4 and Term 1.

Very limited spaces available!

Contact [learn2swimgeraldine@gmail.com](mailto:learn2swimgeraldine@gmail.com)

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Also checkout our Facebook Page for updates about the 2024/2025 season!





# HIPPY

Home Interaction Programme for  
Parents and Youngsters

Empowering parents to support their 2-5 year  
old child for life long learning

- FREE for families and tamariki
- weekly workbooks with fun activities and storybooks
- available for families accessing 8 hours or less of ECE

Coordinator - Jenna Chapman  
Ph/text 027 283 1320  
Facebook @HIPPYTimaru





**FREE PARENTING HELPLINE** | [www.parenthelp.org.nz](http://www.parenthelp.org.nz)  
**ALL ISSUES ALL AGES** | **0800 568 856**

## FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING

<b>CONNECT</b>	<b>Give</b>	<b>TAKE NOTICE</b>	<b>KEEP LEARNING</b>	<b>BE ACTIVE</b>
TALK & LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED	Your time, your words, your presence	REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY	EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF	DO WHAT YOU CAN, ENJOY WHAT YOU DO, MOVE YOUR BODY

INTRODUCE THESE FIVE SIMPLE STRATEGIES INTO  
YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL FEEL THE BENEFITS.

 Mental Health Foundation  
māori tū, māori ake  
[www.mentalhealth.org.nz](http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz)

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