Greetings,

Tomorrow our students will take part in the Walk Safely to School Day event, by walking around the town, practising proper road crossing procedure and talking about how we should behave when around roads. This will take place at approximately 8.45am, during our regular morning fitness time. Feel free to join us!

SCHOOL PRIDE
We are gearing up for our next school pride session, next Tuesday. If you are able to give us a hand, please let us know! We’d love some help with the vegie garden, the native garden and making recycled items from pallets.

ANZAC DAY RECOGNITION
A big thank you to the Pinnaroo RSL, who have donated a box of Anzac Biscuits for our students, in recognition of ANZAC Day. These will be handed out to the students at recess time tomorrow.

POLICE CHECKS
It is a requirement of DECD that all volunteers need to have undertaken a criminal history screening check, to ensure that we are doing all we can to protect our students. The volunteers to whom this would apply are those:

- attending any overnight camps/school sleep-overs or billeting programs
- working one to one with children or working in close proximity to children on a regular basis
- acting as a coach or manager of teams or groups of children and young people
- working in resource centres, offices, managing canteens etc
- accepting a position on governing/school councils, boards or committees that require them to be in close proximity to children or in the management of school funds.

To help out with School Pride does not require a police check, as there will be teachers supervising, however, I would encourage all those who think they might at some time want to help on a camp, help out with hot lunches etc to apply for one. The school covers the cost, all you need to do is fill out the form and provide some ID. The forms are available from either Sue Jacob or Hannah Lucas in the front office. This process can take some time, so the sooner the better!

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
Last week was National Volunteer Week, and I’d like to take this opportunity to publicly
acknowledge the wonderful contribution volunteers make to our school. Volunteers are an essential component in making GPS successful. They enhance and enrich learning opportunities for our students. Without their selfless generosity, our students would not enjoy the grounds, play areas, classrooms and learning support that they do. So to all our wonderful volunteers:

Thank you!

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock.
If you want to touch the present, touch a flower.
If you want to touch the future, touch a life.

Author Unknown

Regards,

Ruth

JUNIOR PRIMARY CLASS

Roll up! Roll up! The Circus is coming to town! Well, at least to the Junior Primary Class. This term our theme is Circus and we have really enjoyed reading our class novel Mr. Galliano’s Circus and delving into Circus themed writing activities, reading picture books relating to the Circus and even painting, making and crafting with our Kindy students in Shared Learning.

This term in Active After Schools, Heather Wait has been teaching the school a variety of Circus skills too and we absolutely love it. From juggling and balancing to skipping and hoop tricks, students have been showing a wide range of talent.

In other news, Community is the word in History this term and last week we went on a pretend journey on Highway 12 to map out our own communities. Students drew a picture of their home and along the journey we placed our pictures on the “map” when we reached that town. Students had a fantastic discussion about the different numbers of people and places that we have in our communities.

A big ‘well done’ to all the Junior Primary students for a fabulous start to Term 2.

Miss, Lorelle Barton

CPSW CORNER

It’s great to be back at Geranium Primary School after a time away. It’s been good just spending time out in the playground chatting with the children and catching up on “stuff”. I’m especially impressed with the way they play and interact together. It really is a great school to be at!

As you would be aware, I will be running a Social Skills Programme: What’s the Buzz? with all of the students at Geranium. The programme will be run over Term 2 & 3. The R-2 Class will have sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays and the Yr 3-6’s will have What’s the Buzz on Wednesdays. I will be sending notes home each week to let you know what we cover! If you have any questions or concerns about What’s the Buzz?, please don’t hesitate to contact me at school.

The CPSW church support group will be assisting me, in offering a Pancake Breakfast on June 5th. For more details, see the notice in this newsletter.

Today, I ran Connections; Coffee and Conversations in the library. The aim, is to give parents in this community an opportunity to meet in an informal way at school over delicious coffee and tea! If there is interest and need- I will continue to offer Connections.

As I reflect on things that are happening around us in this community and in the wider world, some things are difficult to understand. Stuff happens and we wonder “why?”. I was chatting with a good friend about the “whys” and she shared a saying that helped her:

“Faith doesn’t make things go away
But it makes things possible”

I keep all families and staff of Geranium Primary School in my prayers.

Margaret Smith

Christian Pastoral Support Worker

P.S. Thank you for returning the What’s the Buzz? surveys back so promptly
YEAR 3, 4, 5 & 6 CLASS UPDATE
In Design and Technology the students recently completed and tested their percussion instruments. Their task was to design, construct and decorate a unique musical instrument using only recycled materials from the craft store room. Some very creative designs emerged and all were analysed and assessed by both their designer and the other students. We completed this exercise with a group sing-along to a cacophony of percussion music, with songs chosen by the students including Bob the Builder.

Congratulations once again to our students who have been competing in SAPSASA tryouts as well as those who play sport on Saturdays. It is great to see them all being active and having a go. We wish Trent, Luke and Tom all the best for the Cross-Country Championships at Oakbank on June 5th. We will all be active this Friday morning as we celebrate Walk Safely to School Day with a town walk and some road-safety lessons.

SANFL SEASON TICKETS
Geranium Primary School has been lucky enough to receive two SANFL season tickets for 2014. The tickets give you entry to SANFL Minor Round League Matches at all suburban ovals including Adelaide Oval. If you would like to borrow the tickets for a weekend please contact the school. The tickets must be returned after each match.

LIBRARY CORNER
The library has had the Saddle Club Friends Forever “Music” DVD returned with the wrong disc. The disc that was returned belongs to the Friends Forever case. Could you please check at home and return the correct disc to the library and collect your disc. The Geranium Community Library is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1pm until 5pm.

SPANISH EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteers to host families for International High School students from Spain. Students arrive in July 2014 for 11 weeks and can be placed anywhere in South Australia. You do not need to have children of your own to enjoy this experience. All students are carefully selected, will attend a local high school, have their own spending money and can bring your family to life! For more information contact Jenny on 8556 2208 or jeh1313@nigpond.net.au.

LIBRARY BAGS FOR SALE
Parents and Friends are making drawstring library bags. The bags are being sold for $5.00 per bag, and are made out of green and white fabric to match the school colours. The bags are kindly being made by Sonia Broadbent. There is an example of the bag at the front office for you to have a look at. If you would like to make an order please complete the tear off slip in this week’s newsletter.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA
The Parents and Friends Committee would like to thanks all community members who supported the Biggest Morning Tea at the Geranium Store on Thursday, May 15. Overall, $500.00 was raised. The money will be donated to the Cancer Council. A big thank you goes to Cathy for allowing the morning tea to take place at the shop. Another thank you goes to everyone who helped put the day together, especially Penny Temby, Fiona Woolfit and Tanja Morgan for coordinating the event. Thanks to everyone who donated food for the morning tea and the trading table, to the owners of the coffee machines for their use and to those who donated coffee pods, milk and anything else that helped the day be a great success.
School Dental Service
The South Australian School Dental Service is still operating in clinics across the state. Geranium Primary School students are able to access dental care through this service. Most families will have no out of pocket expenses when they access care through the School Dental Service. If you would like your child to visit a School Dentist contact the Murray Bridge North Clinic located at the Murray Bridge Primary School. For more information you can call SA Dental Service on 8222 8222 or visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au.

CLOTHING SWAP & COFFEE NIGHT
The Geranium and surroundings communities are invited to attend the Clothing Swap and Coffee Night.
When: Wednesday, June 25th at 7.30pm until 9.30pm
Where: Geranium Uniting Church
• $2 per clothing item –maximum of 4 items
• Gold coin donation for tea and coffee
• Local selection of garden cuttings
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE CPSW PROGRAMME AT GERANIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL
For more information contact:
Gay Glynn – 85762 024
Marg Smith – 8577 2216

MATHS MENTAL STRATEGY
Turnarounds is a strategy we use to make addition simpler and quicker. When we have two numbers to add together, we don’t always need to start with the first number. It is more efficient to start with the largest number, and count on from there. We can develop this skill for students by:
• using blocks or other items in two groups
• talking about larger and smaller numbers, and counting on
• finding real opportunities for addition and deliberately putting the small group first ie counting the fruit in the bowl, the cutlery in the drawer, the screwdrivers in the toolbox once they are confident, encourage them to add quickly, and even timing them – ONLY DO THIS IF ITS FUN!

PANCAKE MORNING
When: Thursday, June 5th
Time: 8.20am – 8.40am
Pancakes will be provided by the CPSW Programme and Support Group at no cost to the students. Students, kindy kids and staff will be able to have 2 pancakes each.
Parents and community members are welcome – gold coin donation.
Marg Smith, CPSW

BEDWetting
A DVD based program, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon, and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children. For more information and free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website: www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au or phone 1300 135 796 - 12pm to 6pm

LIBRARY BAGS
To purchase a Geranium Primary School library bag made by the Parents and Friends Committee complete the form below. The cost for one library bag is $5.00. Please return to the front office.
Family Name: _______________________________________
Number of library bags: _____________________________
Total cost: $ ___________________
Geranium Kindergarten is currently running a fundraiser selling Vegie Smugglers Cookbooks.

Vegie Smugglers is a series of fantastic cookbooks that have super yummy healthy and YES TASTY recipes for the whole family but especially for kids. There are two versions available and each costs $30:

- A hard copy cookbook Volume 1

OR

- The **E-Book digital pack** that is emailed to you once purchased through the Kindy, the digital version is Volume 2 so feel free to purchase both if you enjoy the first book. The E-Book has an added bonus of: The complete lunchbox planner, 10 Quickbakes plus 10 Sandwich spreads and Weekly meal plans

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**VEGIE SMUGGLERS COOKBOOK ORDER CONFIRMATION & PAYMENT SLIP**

Name __________________________________________________

I would like to order ___ Volume 1 Hard Copy Cookbook(s) for $30ea

I would like to order ___ Volume 2 E-Book Pack(s) Digital Download Cookbook(s) for $30ea

Email address for digital download (ALL CAPS please)

________________________________________________________

Please find enclosed $________

*If paying by cheque please make payable to Geranium Kindergarten*

**Please return** order confirmation and payment to Kindy/School by **Tuesday 27th May**