Greetings,

My goodness – it’s the end of week 6, and only 3 weeks to go until holidays! Mrs Robert’s class and I have begun work on a school magazine, and we were amazed at the number of interesting events that have occurred throughout the year. Hopefully we will have enough time and space to report on them all.

We had a lovely assembly this morning, when each class shared some work they have been doing using our learning skills toolkit. These skills are essential for us to keep learning throughout our lives, and they’re skills that I see around me, being used in our community. The skills we have identified here at GPS are:

- being gutsy – the willingness to take risks, to be courageous
- being curious – questioning, wondering, inquiring
- being creative – using our imagination, daydreaming, tinkering
- being able to get-along – the ability to work in a team, be open minded, listening and communicating
- having a go-for-it attitude – a willingness to solve problems, be persistent, being confident and independent

Think about ways you could use the same language at home, reminding your children when they use these skills, and praising them for great learning!

Swimming Pool News

From the beginning of week 8, we will be looking to take classes to the pool during school time. All students are able to bring their bathers when the forecast temperature is above 35° at Lameroo, or alternatively, you could send in some bathers and leave them in your child’s locker. Please note all classes do require extra supervision for swimming lessons, so if you might be able to help, please contact your child’s class teacher.

Drinking water

The students have complained that the drinking fountain water has been tasting unpleasant, and the teachers agree with them! The water to the drinking fountain is fed from the underground rain water tank, which unfortunately is low at the moment, which could account for the unpleasant taste. I have sought advice, and the water is tested regularly to ensure that it is safe to drink. However, it is understandable that the students are reluctant to drink it, so could you please ensure that your child brings a full drink bottle with them each day, if they are unwilling to drink from the fountain.
SAPSASA

Congratulations to Tyson Stewart (tennis) and Joe Howard (cricket) for competing in Adelaide recently in the SAPSASA competition. Both boys played extremely well and represented our school with pride.

Well done boys

Parent opinion survey

By now you would have all received a website link, or a hard copy of a parent opinion survey for our school. Thankyou to those who have already responded. Your feedback is used to determine improvements and the future direction of the school, so please take some time to fill it in. The closing date is the 28th November.

Principal Performance Appraisal

As I draw to the close of my first year as Principal, it would be really helpful for me to hear your opinions as to how well I have done my job! This kind of feedback, while sometimes confronting, is really useful in knowing what areas I need to work on and improve. Attached to this newsletter is an appraisal form. Please take some time to fill it in and return it to the front office, to give me some invaluable feedback.

Regards,

Ruth

CPSW CORNER

Andrew McDonough and the Three Wise Camels are coming to Geranium! December 11th is the day!!

To celebrate the launch of the latest Lost Sheep Christmas books, author and illustrator Andrew McDonough and The Three Wise Camels are traveling around the country and will be stopping at Geranium. Andrew will be story telling, showing how the Three Wise Camels went from an idea to a book. We’ll be drawing camels and having bags of fun. Don’t wag school on Dec 11th

What’s the Buzz?

Last week we talked about worries and were able to talk about the things that worry us (worry bugs) and ways of dealing with worry. This week has turned out a bit “pear-shaped” for me and so we didn’t end up doing “What’s the Buzz”. Our topic for the week was Disappointment and I think there have been a few disappointed children because we didn’t have “What’s the Buzz?”. I guess this is a good example of disappointment and expectations. Sometimes life doesn’t happen the way we expect! We will pick it up next week!

Something to think about:

“Friends love through all kinds of weather,
And families stick together in all kinds of trouble.”

Proverbs 17: 17 The Message

Keeping all families and staff of Geranium Primary School in my prayers,

Margaret Smith
Christian Pastoral Support worker

JUNIOR PRIMARY UPDATE

Junior Primary Shop Day

As a part of our unit on Money, next week students will be running a ‘Shop Day’. Students have been working on pricing items and are in the process of cooking and making some baked goods and craft items.

All money raised will go towards our class purchasing as many items as possible for boys and girls aged 5-8, like us! Students will choose what to buy with the money we raise from catalogues and wrap them up to send away. We will be donating to the ‘Smith Family Toy Appeal’ and the ‘Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal (apart of Salvation Army).

Although this is not a compulsory event, support to our shop day would be extremely appreciated, every cent counts! ☺

Lorelle Barton
R-2 Classroom Teacher
PRIMARY CLASS UPDATE

This term has continued to be packed full of many interesting and fun learning experiences for our class. Last week in History we did some investigation into the history and traditions behind Remembrance Day and many of the students were keen to share stories of the involvement of family members in armed services and various conflicts. It was very pleasing to see them demonstrating their learning and understanding by being involved in and showing suitable respect at the local Remembrance Day service.

The last two weeks have also seen two German language focus days with Frau Lauterbach, concentrating on food. If the children ever travel to Europe in the future they should be quite capable of ordering a meal in a restaurant and going shopping in Germany!

For our School Pride session last week my group checked and watered their native plantings at the front of the school, and then got very creative in making some rustic Christmas decorations from large gum-nuts. These are currently on display in our classroom; with the plan being to mount them on some wreaths and put these up to decorate the entrance to the school.

Congratulations to all eight of our class-members who participated with great enthusiasm and success in the cricket lightning carnival at Lameroo last week. It was wonderful to hear from Miss Schulz of the sportsmanship you displayed and the support you showed towards your team-mates. Congratulations also to those who have been playing in the newly-formed basketball team, again showing great enthusiasm!

Kathryn Roberts
3-6 Classroom Teacher

‘ASTHMA ASSIST’ REGISTRATION FORMS

Forms are available in the front foyer for those who are interested in applying for Asthma Assist. This will allow you to receive health information in an effort to better manage your child’s asthma.

Glee Club Update

Our first rehearsal is done and dusted! Glee club members have begun learning a new pop song to add to our repertoire. I was blown away with the attendance numbers at rehearsal last week, with 18 students signing up from Reception to Year 4. They already sound wonderful!
Happy singing,

Lorelle Barton

LOST JEWELLERY

In the process of cleaning out cupboards, a piece of jewellery has been found. If you think it might be yours, please contact either Ruth or Sue Jacob.

SCHOOL PRIDE & REMEMBERENCE DAY PHOTOS
Mallee Minis

On Friday the 14th 8 students, Trent, Beau, Joe, Luke, Jasmine, Olivia, Tom and Matthew, made the trek to Lameroo to compete in the first Mallee Minis T20 Blast Cup. This was facilitated and run by Scott Houston from SACA helped by Amir, another SACA employee. We were also lucky to have Rick Darling, former Australian and South Australian cricketer there to give pointers and advice. As it was a Year 6 & 7 competition, we didn’t go in with high expectations, however, each student did an amazing job and we came away with 2 great wins and a 3rd placing. The highlight for me was seeing the skills, the fun had, but most importantly the amazing sportsmanship that was shown by every student. They should all be extremely proud of themselves. I would like to sincerely thank Michelle Hensel for driving and helping out on the day.

Cheers,
Emily Schulz
INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE’S MOBILE UNIT VISIT
The Outreach Caravan will be visiting:
MURRAY BRIDGE
Sturt Reserve Road,
Sturt Reserve
FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2014
10.00AM – 2.00PM
For more details a flyer is situated in the front foyer of the school.

KIDS CLUB
Final kids club for 2014
December 12th
(Last day of term)
Christmas Pool Party
• Please bring a gift for a needy child to be wrapped at Kids Club (Under $10).
• Non – perishable food items for Wesley uniting Care
• Bring bathers, towel & sunscreen for swim at the pool
• Cost $2.50 + $5.00 for a swim. (unless you have paid a yearly pool sub)
• We will have present wrapping and party food at the church and then finish at swimming pool at 4.30pm.
• Note early dismissal time
• Don’t forget a note in the diary.
More details from Marg Smith 85772216

SMALLING POOL NEWS
It is anticipated that the swimming pool will be open from the 6th December 2014 to the 29th March 2015.
This will depend on the availability of pool supervisors.

VACSWIM
Vacswim at the Geranium Pool will be held from
15th Dec – 19th Dec
Please contact Vacswim through their website for more details
www.vacswimsa.com.au
or 08 82002528

Geranium Primary School
2014-2015
Swimming Pool Fees
$75- per non-supervising family
$65- per supervising family
$55- per non-supervising single
$45- per supervising single
$5- per casual swim
NB: During Vacswim each child who is from a non-subscribing family will be invoiced by the school $30.00 to use the pool for the duration of the Vacswim programme. If they enter the pool after the lesson they should pay another $5 for the casual swim.
The Geranium Community Library is open 3 afternoons a week during school term. The opening hours are from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm. We have a large up-to-date selection of books available for borrowing.

We also subscribe to the following magazines: Choice, Better Homes and Gardens, Gardening Australia, Outback, House and Garden, Patchwork and Stitching and other craft magazines.

If you would like to borrow any of these please let the library know and we can arrange for these to be sent out to you.

The community library also has 2 computers and a colour printer/scanner with internet access for use to community members. These are available for use during library opening hours.

With the One Card library system in place throughout S.A. it is possible to acquire books and DVD’s from any library in S.A. These can be requested from your home computer and can be picked up from Geranium library when available. I am happy to show anyone how to do this. If you are unable to do this from home I will place the hold for you.

We also have a very tired and dated selection of DVD’s. These have now been cleaned and tested to make sure they run.

We would gratefully accept any donation of DVD’s that your children (or you) have outgrown or that you no longer require, as long as they still run.

Looking forward to seeing you in the library

Bonnie Pfeiffer
(library assistant)

“The greatest gift is the passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites, it gives you knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind. It is moral illumination” Elizabeth Hardwick
Geranium Primary School
End of Year BBQ

Tuesday 9th December 2014
6.30pm

Swimming Pool BBQ Area

All families are asked to bring a salad & sweet to share.

Meat provided for a gold coin donation

Pool will be available depending on the availability of Pool Supervisors

RSVP: Please reply via tear off slip by December 3rd for catering purposes

Return to Front Office by: Wednesday December 3rd

END OF YEAR BBQ

Family Name: ________________________________

Number of adults attending: __________________

Number of children attending: __________________