

Middle Syndicate Newsletter

Term 3 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 3. We thoroughly enjoyed sharing our Matariki open day with you last term and we have planned some exciting new investigations for the Middle School students this term. We would like to welcome Gabrielle Marris who will continue to work in Room 13 for two days a week.

Curriculum

Writing

The Middle School writing program focuses on teaching students to write a series of sentences on one topic such as a personal experience, an area of personal interest or a response to a new experience or new knowledge. Where possible we try to link our writing to inquiry topics for full immersion in our learning.

Inquiry

Our Inquiry for 2020 is "How the world works". We will explore the physical and material world, of nature and human-made phenomena, of the world of science and technology. We have planned a visit to The Old Lolly Shop in Takapuna where children will be observing, describing and comparing the changes that occur when materials are mixed, heated or cooled. We will observe the process of how lollipops are made the old fashioned way, all mixed and pulled by hand. Each child will receive a long piece of lollipop mixture to mould into their own creation (and of course eat). A letter will be sent out later about this.

Maths

Please encourage your child to use [Mathletics](#) and other educational websites such as [Hit the Button](#) because continued regular practice of the following will help to consolidate learning done at school:

- simple basic facts to 20 including addition and subtraction
- double numbers (8+8, 9+9)
- skip counting in 2's, 5's, 10's, 3s and 4s.
- learning 2, 5, 10 x tables (and their related division facts), and then 3 and 4 x tables.

Help and encourage your child to spend 5-10 minutes daily on these. Having instant recall of basic facts helps students to solve number problems more efficiently.

Uniform

Please ensure that all pieces of clothing are clearly named. Make sure your child's name is in each uniform item, including sweatshirts and raincoats. Greenhithe School raincoats can be

purchased through the school office. If possible, provide a spare change of clothes for your child to wear at lunchtime, as the fields can get very muddy during the winter months.

Fitness and PE

Every day students take part in 10-15 minutes of fitness followed by a water and fruit break. P.E. sessions this term will focus on small ball skills such as catching, throwing and striking.

Important Dates:

- Week 4 Monday 10th August - Reports Out
- Week 4 Monday 10th August - Portrait Photos
- Wednesday 12th August - Parent Meetings, 3:30 - 7:30pm
- Thursday 13th August - Parent Meetings, 3:30 - 5:30pm
- Week 5 Thursday 20th August - Rippa Tournament # 3
- Week 6 Tuesday 25th August - Rippa Saver Day
- Week 8 Tuesday 8th September - Year 3's trip to the Lolly Shop
- Thursday 10th September - Year 4's trip to the Lolly Shop
- Week 8 Friday 11th September - Disco
- Week 10 Friday 25th September - End of Term

Middle Syndicate Teachers