



28/01/2021

Tēnā koutou

I hope you have had a relaxing and restful summer. The staff at school are excited to welcome your children back to school on Wednesday 3rd February. The school office is now closed until 8.30am on Wednesday 3rd February.

The teachers have worked very hard to set up classrooms and have undertaken professional development over the break to ensure your child gets an amazing experience at Greenhithe School, is able to achieve their potential and enjoy school life. We look forward to a year when we can return to our full sports programmes, put on our school production and enjoy all the many opportunities that will be on offer.

Your child's teacher will be working on ensuring new relationships are built within the class, expectations of learning are set and will be getting to know what makes your child tick. The teachers take into account the passions and interests of the children into the learning contexts, helping the engagement with exciting learning opportunities that the teachers have planned for 2021.

I would like to welcome the new families to our school. Please come and say hello at the gate! We look forward to having you as part of our school whanau and getting to know you and your children.

The school protocols for Covid Alert Level 1 remain in place. Our beginning and end of day routines for 2020 will stay the same, following the notable enhancement of the independence, resilience and the way the children settled into class and to their learning. Meeting the children in the morning was a highlight of the day for me, and also talking to the kids at the gate as they leave, catching up on their day with them. I have put reminders of our school processes below.

Current Routines at Greenhithe School

I know we can count on your support to ensure your child can come in and leave the school, developing the key values of independence and resilience, while remaining safe.

If your child is ill, showing cold type symptoms, please keep your child at home. If your child displays these symptoms at school, we will call you to collect your child. Hand washing and hygiene routines in classrooms will remain in place. It is important that you continue to use the Covid-19 tracer app if you come on site. Posters are located on the office door, hall door and on classroom windows, as well as the bottom gate. Additional posters and signage will also be available for you to sign in with.

Start of the day

- Gates will open at 8.30am. Before school care (martinvr@xtra.co.nz) is available for those children who will need to be here before 8.20am.
- Bottom Car Park. Any child arriving just before 8.30am must go to the pedestrian waiting area in the bottom car park. A member of the leadership team will be there from 8.20am. This area is off the road and safe for waiting.
- The routines for the bottom car park continue as they have done. This has been a major success. We hope you take advantage of the gains your child has made by letting them continue to come into the site by themselves. The car park and drop off will continue to be monitored by Maeke and myself to ensure the flow and calmness we have experienced continues.

- Other gates: The Isobel Rd, Greenhithe Rd crossing gate and gate by Year 3 playground will be opened at 8.30am. Other gates will remain closed. We hope you take advantage of the gains your child has made by letting them come into the site by themselves.
- If you do need to come into school to talk to the teacher between 8.30-8.45am, you are welcome. However, a bell will ring at 8.45am. This is our settling bell. At this point parents must leave the classroom and site, to allow the children some time in the rooms with their friends and teacher. No parents will be allowed in the classroom after 8.45am, if you need to speak to the teacher, please ensure you arrive at 8.30am. The teachers have found this undisturbed time before school with the children has helped enormously to build relationships, share information and develop the rapport that makes the learning easier.

During the Day

- For the safety and protection of your child, everyone who enters the site, which is the only access between 9am and 2.45pm, MUST sign in at the office. If you have lunch to drop off etc, please do not go to the classroom, but continue to drop anything to the office. Our lovely office staff will take any items to the classroom. If you are picking up early for an appointment, please come to the office first to sign them out, then we will call the child's class and get them sent to meet you.

After School

- Please do not enter the site prior to 2.45pm. Gates, other than Isobel Road, will remain locked until this time. Please arrange with your child which gate they are leaving through to meet you.
- If you do need to come on site, please do not wait directly outside the classrooms, especially the year 3 and 4 classrooms. The teachers have noticed a marked improvement in how much learning is occurring in the afternoons. If you are coming onto site, please wait away from the windows and doors.
- The bottom playground is closed until all children have been collected.
- We encourage you to allow your child to walk to meet you, allowing for a safer environment around the school and less cars around. If you are meeting your child from school, I encourage you to meet them in our pedestrian area in the bottom car park.

We are thoroughly looking forward to 2021 and the opportunities ahead for our school. I hope you have a lovely long weekend, and we will see you all on Wednesday!

Ngā mihi

Stephen Grady

Principal

Greenhithe School