

11th February 2021



NEWSLETTER

We encourage our wonderful children to use their PRIDE values in all aspects of school life. Our PRIDE values of **Perseverance, Respect, Initiative, Diligence** and **Excellence** are very important to us at school. The children are reminded about what these values look like in many contexts around our school both on the sports field and when learning in the classroom. At the start of the year the children discuss with their teachers how these can be shown.

Our senior leadership team gives PRIDE certificates when we catch children showing our values, these are then displayed in the office, before coming home with the children. It is certainly one of the highlights of my day to see these values being shown around our school. We will begin issuing the special certificates from this week, which are displayed in the office before we give them to the children to go home.

I have been really impressed how the children have settled back into their learning and again, want to thank our teachers for giving them such a great start to what we hope will be a settled 2021, where we can enjoy all our sports, cultural and creative activities this year.

Meet The Teacher- We will be holding our Meet The Teacher evening on **Wednesday 24th February**. There will be two identical sessions from **4pm-5pm and 5.30-6.30pm**. We will be selling sausages and juices during the break. This is an opportunity to hear from the team your child's class is part of, discover some of the learning opportunities your child will get and you will have the opportunity to ask any general questions about the classroom. The leadership team will be available by the BBQ, so come and say hello and ask any questions about our school. The office will also be open later, until 5.30pm, to allow donations and activity fees to be paid.

Donations- A massive thank you to those who have already been in to pay donations and activity contributions. These are so important to us and will allow our school to begin planning some developments for this year. Please remember these can be paid at either the office or online. If you are in a position to make a donation, we really do appreciate them, as it does allow us to provide opportunities across the school. The donation suggested is \$200 if paid in terms 1 and 2, or \$220 if after this time.

The donations in 2021 will be more important to the school than ever, as without international students, who not only provide a great cultural experience for our children, where our children learn about different cultures, but also provide a revenue stream for our school. This has allowed us to have additional resources, staffing (keeping class sizes lower) and additional learning assistants in classrooms to support the learning of all of our children.

Online Payment Details

School Bank Account Number: 12 3109 0011698 00

Please put your child's name as a reference if paying directly into the school bank account.

We really appreciate your support with the contribution of your donation and payment towards our school activities. We are very proud of our school, our facilities and the extras we can offer, thanks to those donations.

Summer Projects-The children may not have been at school over the summer, but many things went on! We had infrastructure projects, paid for by the Ministry of Education, to ensure our school is safe and future proofed. These include a new phone system, a new bell system, including an emergency safety alert system and the installation of CCTV cameras. As I reported last year, we had to repair and replace windows, repair outside furniture, clear up the pool and grounds from broken glass and several other instances of deliberate destructive behaviour. We hope the CCTV cameras will act as a deterrent and also allow us to take action against anyone found to be acting inappropriately on our school grounds or deliberately vandalising, taking funds away from your child, where we have to undertake extra maintenance. The year three playground was also re-turfed right at the end of term 4, which is now available for the children to enjoy.

This year we have other plans for improving and maintaining our lovely site. We are incredibly lucky with the facilities we have and we look forward to continuing to enhance these over the year. I will give you further details once we have our plans approved!

Ngā mihi

Stephen Grady
Principal/ Tumuaki
Greenhithe School

Parent Evening Opportunity offered by our Community of Learning (Kahui Ako), which is our local cluster of schools who collaborate for the benefit of all of our students. Greenhithe School is an active member of this cluster.

Student Led Well-Being Initiative

The Kāhui Ako is excited to offer a presentation opportunity

WHEN : Wednesday 17th February, 7.00pm-8.30pm

WHERE: Albany Primary School staffroom

WHO: Kathryn Berkett (Educational Psychologist) Director at Engage Training

Parents will be able to attend this presentation by Kathryn Berkett, focussing on the Neuroscience of Device Zombies, which roughly translated, involves the complex understanding of the impact device use has on the human brain, particularly for our young people. Numbers are limited—contact Sarah Fish, SENCO sfish@albany.school.nz if you would like to register.