

1/11/2021

Dear Parents,

The term has commenced and the lockdown continues. It is really important we keep a learning routine active during Term 4. I understand that home learning can be tough from a parent's perspective while working from home, but the sense of routine and the continued engagement in the home learning programme is important. Our teachers are continuing to try to engage the children in meaningful and fun learning experiences. We are very appreciative of your efforts in ensuring your child makes their online meetings and participates in the learning activities.

Unfortunately the extended lockdown is having an effect on our usual events and the further we go, the more events we will lose. We had to make the call to cancel the 2021 Production, which was a tough one to make, but there was no chance of us being back in time to prepare and run a production. Our usual athletics day at Wainoni Park for years 4-6 has also been cancelled. As we continue through the term, we will keep you updated with either new dates, adjusted events or cancellations.

We are hopeful about getting back sometime this term, although the Minister set an indicative date of the 15th November, as yet there is no plan from the Ministry of Education around how this would look, what health and safety provisions we would have to have in place or whether it would be a full or a staggered opening. Once this work has been completed, and we get clarity on how Greenhithe School can open safely for our children and community, I will let you know.

GOOD NEWS!!!! After many years of battling with the Ministry and some amazing fundraising efforts by our wonderful PTA our shade sails finally went up late last week. While some extra Ministry funding covered some of the work, the project wouldn't have gotten off of the ground without the fundraising efforts of the PTA. The PTA have fully funded the area outside of rooms 17/18, which includes a beautiful new turfed area, shade and the bench seating. This will be a great area for our children to use at break times and a great outdoor learning space for teachers to use with their classes. Other areas we managed to shade are the senior playground and sandpit. While we want to continue and over time get one or two more areas shaded. This is a major success for our children and I know they will enjoy these areas.



Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini, which means success is not the work of one but the work of many, a whakatauki that certainly encapsulates the efforts to get the shade for our children!

Ngā mihi nui,
Stephen Grady