

Senior School Newsletter

Term 1 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Tena Koutou Katoa! Welcome back!

If you are new to our school, we extend a special welcome to you and your family. At Greenhithe School you will learn how to be a capable, balanced and confident learners who embrace new experiences and opportunities .

We would also like to welcome to the Year 5 Team Melissa Erceg/Adele Chichester Rm 17 and Charlotte Pollard-Brown Rm 18 and to the Year 6 Team Amy McDowell-Pakieto Rm 22 .

If you want to find the newsletter on our Greenhithe School website they are available at : <https://www.greenhithe.school.nz/newsletter/syndicate/>

The Senior School teaching team this year is as follows:

Room 17 Melissa Erceg/Adele Chichester	Year 5
Room 18 Charlotte Pollard-Brown	Year 5
Room 19 Kristie Jacobs	Year 5
Room 20 Jenny Bate	Year 5 (Year 5 Team Leader)
Room 22 Amy McDowell-Pakieto	Year 6
Room 23 Zara Fletcher	Year 6 (Year 6 Team Leader)
Room 24 Emma Pierce	Year 6

Inquiry

During Term 1 we will explore 'where we are in place and time' acknowledging the Treaty of Waitangi and cultural diversity. There will be a special focus of looking at places of significance in our local Greenhithe area. Students will be encouraged to take more responsibility for their learning, giving them skills to become lifelong learners. For example, they will learn to identify next steps in their own learning and share their understanding. Our Year 6 students will attend camp.

Reading

Students will be building on their reading comprehension skills; for example inferencing, finding information and critical thinking. The focus this term will be integrating reading with our inquiry. The students will attend differentiated sessions based on their instructional reading levels. They will be expected to analyse what they read and make links between their prior knowledge and the new information learnt.

Writing

Children are expected to be using their writing skills to produce a variety of texts. We have clear expectations and goals that the students will work towards. The students will also have timetabled independent writing sessions. This is an opportunity for students to make their own choices about writing.

Spelling

Students will be learning a range of strategies they can use when learning spelling words. They will also be participating in learning activities based around the knowledge of sounds and developing their vocabulary and grammar.

Mathematics

In the senior school, the focus is on using basic facts knowledge to solve problems across a range of mathematical areas. Our strand learning for this term will be based around 'position and orientation' and statistics.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Year 5 and 6 students are being invited to bring in their own computer for classroom learning. We would like the students' to use their own device to deepen learning and to make learning more personalised and student-centred. And as a result of this, students who do not have their own devices will have greater access to school owned chromebooks. This opportunity is an invitation, not an expectation, and we are not insisting that students purchase or bring a device. We are giving you the choice. Students will continue to complete regular book work alongside digital platforms.

Laptops, netbooks and Chromebooks will be allowed to be brought to school. Tablets, phones and iPads will not, because they are not able to run the Chrome browser extensions that we use to monitor student behaviour online. Devices will be kept in a locked cupboard during break times. If mobile phones are brought to school they need to be sent to the office, before school and will be kept in a safe place. They can be collected at 3pm.

For more information, and deals on Chromebooks, please visit: www.greenhithe.school.nz/byod.html

Water Safety (Swimming)

This will begin this week. All children will need to bring their named togs and towels in a separate bag on their swimming days. A note is required every time your child is unable to participate in swimming.

These are our syndicate's swimming days:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rm 22 Rm 23 Rm 24	Room 17 Room 20	Room 22 Room 18 Room 19	Room 23 Room 17 Room 20	Room 24 Room 19 Room 18

General Housekeeping

Activity Fee

There is a \$35 activity fee per term, per child, you can pay this directly to the office or it can also be paid through internet banking. This activity fee covers the cost of trips and other extracurricular activities. Please ensure that payments are kept up to date. 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).

Donations

Each year the Ministry of Education use decile ratings to help determine how much government funding a school will receive. Greenhithe School is a decile 10 school, which means that we receive the lowest funding possible from the government for our students' education. Therefore, it would be greatly appreciated if you would consider a donation of \$55.00 per term or \$220.00 per year. There are discounts for families of 3 children or more. Please see the office for more information, including a tax rebate through

the IRD if you pay before the 31st March. Your donations help to provide many programmes and staff throughout the school, learning assistants, sports coordinator, reading recovery teacher and programme, art resources, GATE and pool maintenance are but a few. They are all beneficial to our students but these resources will only continue at Greenhithe School if all our families pay their donation. School Bank Account Number: 12 3109 0011698 00 (Please put your child's name as a reference if paying direct into the school bank account).

Before School

Students are allowed into their classroom when the bell rings at 8:30am. Any students arriving before this time will need to wait at the school gates until they are opened. This will keep all the students safe and settled during the red alert level.

After School

Teachers will escort their class to leave via the bottom car park. Those students who have younger siblings are allowed to exit via the gate their siblings leave from. Parents need to email the class teacher about this.

Water bottles and Sunhats

Please ensure that your child brings a drink bottle of water to school daily. In Term 1 every child must have a clearly named school sun hat at school. If students do not have a hat they will be asked to sit in the shade outside.

Scooters

There is to be no scooting in the school. Students are to walk their scooters to the classroom when they arrive, and they need to place them behind the seat outside their room.

Tissues

We would appreciate it if every child donated a box of tissues for classroom use.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Senior Syndicate