

29/04/22

Dear Parents,

I hope your children have enjoyed their break and are ready for a new term. In this newsletter I will lay out the main changes for the return to school at orange level. We are looking forward to a more normalised school experience for you and your child. This includes finally welcoming parents back on site, although please note, if you are wanting to enter the classroom at permitted times or come to the office, you will require a mask.

### **ANZAC Parade**



I would like to thank our school leaders who represented us at the ANZAC day parade. It is important, as a school, we pay our respects for the past and present sacrifices our servicemen and women have made.

### **Uniform**

With the winter months ahead of us your child is required to wear a school fleece, not their own jumpers or hoodies, if they choose to wear one. This is part of our uniform and will be enforced at school. With classrooms being ventilated, as required, this will mean windows at least will remain open, so the fleece may be a good idea!

While we are entering the winter months, a hat may still be worn, again this needs to be a school hat, not their own. Finally on uniform, please remember the children must wear suitable shoes for school. The use of jandals or heellies is not permitted as they can cause risk to children when completing some of our day to day school activities.

### **Orange Level Changes at Greenhithe School**

We have carefully considered the advice provided by the Ministry of Education following the shift to the Orange setting and are looking forward to doing things more normally here at Greenhithe School. We have maintained a cautious approach to keep our staff and the students safe, this has been a very successful strategy, with low positive case numbers and ensuring we were always able to staff our classrooms. We are grateful for the way families have supported the measures we've had in place, especially with the use of masks and keeping children off school if they are showing symptoms.

We have used the Ministry of Education supplied CO2 monitor to check ventilation levels around the school and will continue to do so. As winter approaches, we will continue to ensure that classrooms are well-ventilated. Please ensure your child brings a school fleece with them from term two.

Please read the following information carefully, in order to be ready for Term 2.

- Parents may come back onto site from 8.30am-8.45 am. At this point the settling bell will ring and parents are asked to leave, so the children and staff can get ready for the learning ahead.
- Parents may come onsite from 2.45pm to collect their children. Please wait on the turfed areas for years three to six. If you are onsite please ensure you wait away from the classroom, as this will be a distraction to the class.
- **If you are going into a classroom or into the office, a mask is required.**
- Parents and visitors may come on site during the day to visit the office. Anyone entering the office must wear a mask. If a parent wishes to collect a child early for an appointment or to drop off an item they must come to the office, and not go to the classroom. The child will be sent to the office or the item will be delivered to your child.
- **Mask wearing indoors remains strongly recommended**, for students and staff, where practicable for teaching and learning. This is a personal choice and we will support any child with the decision made by their family. We continue to have a supply of masks for the children who forget theirs.
- Some in-school activities may require mask use, if your child is taking part in one of these you will be informed. One example is Kapa Haka, when, due to the waiata and haka, they are required to wear a mask to take part.
- All children will return to have morning tea and lunch breaks together. The teachers will talk to the children about expected behaviour and areas for play.
- Lunchtime, sports and cultural activities will resume throughout term two
- Itinerant music lessons and after school activities will continue in term two.
- Ezilunch will start again.
- Whole school assemblies will not restart at this point.
- Learning materials or resources will not be provided for those families choosing to keep their children away from school. Some learning will continue to be provided for those either isolating or as a positive case, if requested.
- We will continue to send a year group letter home for positive cases, although this will be reviewed during the term. It is vitally important that if you have a child who is a positive case, that you let us know.
- We will continue to ask you to keep your child at home if they display covid symptoms. We will call if your children presents with these during the day.

We will continue to review our health and safety guidelines, based on the latest health advice and will communicate any changes to you. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Senior Leadership team.

Ngā mihi

Stephen Grady  
Principal