



## **Middle Syndicate Newsletter Term 1, 2023**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Greenhithe School for 2023! We look forward to a year of learning together, where our children can learn and grow to become capable, confident and balanced learners who embrace new experiences and opportunities. A warm welcome to all of our new Greenhithe parents, caregivers and children, welcome to our community.

### **The Middle Team is as follows:**

Nicola Lupton	Year 4	Room 16
Melissa Erceg/ Adele Chichester	Year 4	Room 17
Natasha Alexander	Year 4	Room 18 (Year 4 Team Leader)
Jackie Fitzgerald	Year 3	Room 25
Charlene Boyd	Year 3	Room 26 (Year 3 Team Leader)
Katie Barnston Wells	Year 3	Room 13

Links to teachers' email addresses can be found on our school website.

## **Curriculum**

### **Writing**

We begin the year writing about ourselves, others and our community integrated with our inquiry concept of 'Where we are in Place and Time'. The students will write for the purpose of presenting their ideas and expressing who they are in different groups of people. Sometimes one piece of writing will take many days to produce once they have been re-crafted, edited and published.

### **Reading**

The Middle School reading programme begins in Week 3, with the expectation of 20 minutes daily reading at home. The teachers read daily with groups of children. In Year 3, some students will bring his/her book home to reread with you, other students should have a book or other written material (comics, research-based) to read at home. In Year 4, the students will choose reading material from the library, a journal story, a book that they have read in class or a book from home. It is still important to make time to listen to and encourage your child, by asking questions that prompt him/her to think about the text. Please allow your child to spend some time on 'Reading Eggs and Reading Eggspress', the online reading programme.

### **Inquiry**

Our inquiry concept of 'Where we are in Place and Time' is underpinned by considering ourselves from others perspectives, where we have high expectations of who we are and how we express ourselves, discovering our beliefs and values, feelings and ideas. Throughout the term, we will also be taking a closer look at our Greenhithe community and how it has changed over time.

## Maths

Regular practice of the following will help to consolidate learning done at school;

- simple basic facts to 20 including addition and subtraction
- double numbers (8+8=16, 18-9=9)
- skip counting forwards and backwards in 2's, 5's, and 10's
- learning 2, 5, 10 times tables (and their related division facts), and then 3 and 4 times tables, continuing with other times tables and their related division facts if your child has mastered these.

Please help and encourage your child to spend 5-10 minutes daily on these. Having instant recall of basic facts helps students to solve number problems more efficiently. We will be focusing on problem-solving where students will have the opportunity to work collaboratively.

Children can also practice their maths skills at home using the online 'Mathletics' programme. They may be set activities from their classroom teacher to complete or they can use the 'Live Mathletics' option to practice their basic facts.

## Uniform

Please ensure that all pieces of clothing are clearly named. Make sure your child's name is in each uniform item, including sweatshirts and raincoats. **School hats are a required part of the school uniform in Term 1 and Term 4.** Please make sure your child has his/her school hat each day, and that it is clearly named. It is also a good idea to put sunblock on your child before school. We also ask each child to bring in a box of tissues to share with the class.

## Fitness and P.E.

Every day students take part in 10-15 minutes of fitness followed by a water and fruit break. P.E. sessions this term will focus on swimming. See the class teacher to find out which days your child will be swimming. There will be a swim sport day for years 4-6 in week 5 with more information to come. The year 3's will have their own swim display and you will get further information on this. Please ensure that your child has a towel, togs, and goggles if they wish, in a named swim bag on the days that they have swimming lessons.

## Communication

For all communication that needs action during school hours please contact the office, for example if you need to collect your child early. Reminders will be sent out on Seesaw but all other notices will be via email or you will be sent a hard copy.

## Important Dates:

Monday 6 February - Waitangi Day  
Thursday 23 February - Cyber Safety and Mitey parent meeting  
Tuesday 28 February - Year 4-6 Swimming Sports  
Thursday 6 April - Last day of term

Middle Syndicate Teachers