

Senior School Newsletter Term 1 2023

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 students will learn how to be capable, balanced and confident learners who embrace new experiences and opportunities. We would also like to welcome to the Year 5 Team Joanna Snowdon Rm15 and to the Year 6 Team Claudia Sheppard Rm 23.

If you want to find the newsletters 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 15 Joanna Snowdon	Year 5
Room 19 Kristie Jacobs	Year 5
Room 20 Jenny Bate	Year 5 (Year 5 Team Leader)
Room 21 Zara Fletcher	Year 6 (Year 6 Team Leader)
Room 22 Amy McDowell-Pakieto	Year 6
Room 23 Claudia Sheppard	Year 6
Room 24 Emma Pierce	Year 6

Teachers' email addresses can be found on our school website.

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.

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 individual needs. They will be expected to analyse what they read and make links between their prior knowledge and the new information learnt.

Writing

Students will produce a variety of texts based on what they are learning about throughout the curriculum. We have clear expectations and literacy learning goals that the students will work towards. Students will have opportunities for independent writing sessions and during this time they can write about matters that interest them.

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 maths learning for this term will be based around 'position and orientation', time 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-centered. 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. If mobile phones (or any other device that is used for texting or calling) are brought to school they will be collected and sent to the office before school. They will be returned to students just before 3pm.

Save the date for Year 5 trip to the Millenium

The dates are March 21st or 22nd. Students will be participating in a variety of activities such as kayaking, water safety, rock climbing, problem solving and team building challenges. Information about this will be sent out later in the term.

Save the date for our Y6 Camp!

Our Y6 camp will be held later in the year. The dates are November 8, 9 & 10. We will start sending out information later in the term about the new location and cost for camp.

General Housekeeping

Communication

For all communication that needs action during school hours please contact the office, for example if you need to collect your child early. We will send out all important information via email or send home a hard copy. We will share student learning and photos on Seesaw.

Uniform

Please ensure that all pieces of clothing are clearly named. School hats are a required part of the school uniform in Term 1 and Term 4. Please make sure your child has his/her named school hat each day. If students do not have a hat they will be asked to sit in the shade outside. It is also a good idea to put sunblock on your child before school.

Scooters

There is to be no scootering 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.

Date to remember

Tuesday 21st February - Cyber safety and 'Mitey' [Mitey](#) parent meeting 6- 7:30pm

Friday 24th February- Cultural Whanau morning 9am-11am

Tuesday 28 February - Year 4-6 Swimming Sports

Thursday 6 April - Last day of term

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

Senior Syndicate