



Y4/5 Newsletter Term 1, 2024

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.

The Year 4/5 Team is as follows:

Joanna Snowden	Rm 15
Larissa Dugmore	Rm 16
Kathryn Leader	Rm 17
Zara Fletcher (Team Leader)	Rm 18
Kristie Jacobs	Rm 19
Jenny Bate	Rm 20

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

Curriculum

Inquiry

During Term 1, we will explore 'Where we are in place and time' with a focus on how people arrived in New Zealand. Especially how our own families arrived in New Zealand and why Greenhithe was chosen as a place to live. Alongside this, we will learn about the Treaty of Waitangi and cultural diversity. Students will be encouraged to take more responsibility for their learning, giving them the 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. They will be expected to analyse what they read and make links between their prior knowledge and the new information they have learned.

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.

Maths

We will begin the term with a series of statistical investigations. Students will learn how to pose questions, decide on the data they need to gather and how to present the data. Accompanied by that, we will focus on learning basic facts and times tables.

Expectations

We expect students to be either reading a book from class or a book of their own choice for 20 minutes, 4 times a week. Students 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 on 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 water safety. Your classroom teacher will let you know about the days that your child will be swimming. Please ensure that your child has a towel, togs, and goggles if they wish, in a named swim bag on the appropriate swimming day.

Communication

For all communication that needs action during school hours, please contact the office 09 413 9838, for example, if you need to collect your child early. Other reminders will be sent out via email or you will be sent a hard copy.

Important Dates:

Tuesday 6 February - Waitangi Day
Friday 16 February - Whanau Day
Tuesday 27 February - Years 4-6 Swimming Sports
Thursday 29 February - Years 4-6 Swimming Sports Saver Day
Friday 29 March - Good Friday
Monday 1 April - Easter Monday
Tuesday 2 April - Easter Tuesday
Friday 12 April - Last day of school

Ngā mihi nui,
Year 4/5 Teachers