

Term 3 Newsletter

Year 0/1 2026

Welcome back to Term 3. If you are new to the school, we extend a special welcome to you and your family. We also would like to welcome to our team Hope McKenzie-Ellwood, who will be teaching in Room 4.

The Year 0/1 team for 2026 is as follows:

Bonita Mowat	Room 5	Year 1	bonitam@greenhithe.school.nz
Claire Coulam	Room 6	Year 1	clairec@greenhithe.school.nz
Jackie Fitzgerald	Room 2	Year 1	jackief@greenhithe.school.nz
Leah Taylor	Room 1	Year 0	leaht@greenhithe.school.nz
Hope McKenzie-Ellwood	Room 4	Year 0	hopeme@greenhithe.school.nz

Curriculum

Inquiry



For Social Sciences, our inquiry focus is geography and global history. We will learn about maps and globes; and discover where New Zealand sits in the world. We'll also find out what makes our local landscape so special, exploring everything from simple compass points to local Māori pūrākau (stories).

Alongside our geography adventures, we are focusing on the Arts. The children will be expressing themselves through music, which will beautifully tie into our trip to the Museum for Ngā Mahi a Rēhia. Through this hands-on experience, they will explore Māori performing arts, incorporating beautiful waiata (songs), taonga pūoro (traditional instruments), and poi.

To keep the rhythm going, we are also using The Beat Station this term. This is a music programme specifically designed for New Zealand schools that brings the joy of music, rhythm, and beat into our classroom.

The cost of these activities is being covered by your child's activity fee. If you haven't paid this, either in part or in full, we would appreciate you doing this through Kindo as soon as you can. Thank you.

In the last week of term 3, Greenhithe School will be celebrating a Cultural Week. While our Year 0/1 team is excited to dive into the rich traditions and stories of Japanese culture, we also want to celebrate all the other cultures in our classrooms. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers, please consider being a guest speaker to share what makes your own culture special through photos, traditional dress, or artifacts. If you are interested in taking part, please contact your child's class teacher. On the last Friday of the term we will finish with a 'Parade of Nations' cultural dress-up day. More details will follow.

Teacher-Led Meetings

Will take place in Week 2 on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th July. We hope to see you there.

Maths



For maths we are following a scope and sequence that is aligned with The New Zealand Curriculum, accompanied by the hands-on activities and the Oxford Maths programme. By the end of Year 1, students are expected to be confident in the following areas:

- Numbers & Counting: read and say numbers before and after up to 100 and solve simple addition and subtraction problems using physical blocks or counters.
- Patterns & Rules: finding, copying, and continuing repeating patterns using shapes, colours, or sounds.
- Measurement & Time: comparing lengths and weights directly (e.g., which is heavier or longer?), learning the days of the week, and beginning to tell time to the hour ("o'clock").
- Shapes & Space: identifying basic 2D shapes (circles, squares, and triangles) and 3D objects and using position words like under, next to, left, and right.
- Graphs & Data: sorting items into groups and answering simple questions using picture or tally charts (such as graphing the students' favourite fruit).

General Housekeeping/Reminders

Uniform/Change of Clothes

Uniform items can be purchased from NZ Uniforms in Albany and through their website. Hats must be worn in Terms 1 & 4 during break times and outdoor activities. However, we will still be encouraging students to wear them during sunny days in Term 3. We also ask that you keep a change of clothes in your child's bag, in case of toilet accidents. Please make sure all items are clearly named.

Communication

For all communication that needs action during school hours, please contact the office, such as if you need to collect your child early or they are going to be late to school.

Teachers share classroom reminders on Seesaw, and school reminders are on Facebook. All other notices will be via email, including the fortnightly school newsletter. Sometimes a notice will be sent home as a hard copy (in their book bag).

Home Learning



Once your child has mastered the first eight sounds in Stage 1 of the Little Learners Love Literacy programme, they will begin bringing home books each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will also have 'heart words' and 'speed words' to practice with you. You'll find additional details and guidance inside their home learning book when this is sent home.

Settling/Parent Bell

We want to ensure every student has a calm, confident start to their morning. You can help your child settle in by arriving between 8:30am and 8:45am. At 8:45am the 'parent bell' will ring. This is the signal for parents to leave so your child can have 10 minutes to settle before the school day begins. If you arrive between 8:45am and 8:55am, we ask that you say your goodbyes at the school gates. If you arrive after the 8:55am bell, please head to the office to sign your child in. To help build confidence, your child will then walk to their classroom independently. We encourage all students to take charge of their morning by unpacking their own bags and looking after their belongings.

Ngā mihi nui,

The Year 0/1 team - Bonita Mowat, Jackie Fitzgerald, Claire Coulam, Leah Taylor and Hope McKenzie-Ellwood.