

Term 3 Newsletter

Year 2, 2026

Welcome back to term 3, and an especially warm welcome to all our new Greenhithe parents, caregivers, and children. Our inquiry focuses this term are mainly from the social sciences curriculum, but we are also continuing with the arts curriculum by learning about the elements of music through The Beat Station music programme.



Curriculum

Social Sciences

We have two social sciences curriculum focuses this term. During the first five weeks the children will be learning about the different types of places people live, from small rural communities with few services to towns and large cities like Auckland. They are also exploring how people live and work along the coast—looking at activities like fishing, boating, and tourism—and how the changing coastline itself (like beaches and sand dunes) shapes how these communities grow. To support this topic, we will be visiting the Maritime Museum during week 4 to learn about how Auckland has grown from a small port town to a large city.

Our second topic during weeks six to nine is the Stone Age. The children will be learning about "prehistory"—the time before people wrote down their history—and how we use time markers like BC/AD to map out the past. They are exploring how the first humans evolved in Africa about 300,000 years ago and gradually travelled across the globe on foot using basic tools and fire. Since these ancient people left no written records, students are discovering how archaeologists act like detectives, using physical clues like tools, cave art, fossils, and ancient villages (like Skara Brae) to piece together how Stone Age people actually lived.

To finish the term, we will be having a cultural week during week 10. The Year 2s will be focusing on South America, and we are planning activities around food, music, and art during this week. We will need a supply of paper towel roll inner tubes for our activities, so it would be appreciated if you could send these in during the term if you are able to. More details will be shared with you later in the term.

The cost of our trip to the Maritime Museum and The Beat Station programme 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.



Support at Home

Please continue practising Heart words for reading and spelling at home. We will continue to test spelling Heart words in the middle and end of the term and send home new lists as the children progress. As the majority of our spelling is based on the weekly phonics sounds the children are learning, there are only three lists of spelling words. Once they have finished these three lists, they will continue learning different spelling patterns in class, but no further lists are available to send home.

We will have details of how you can support your child with learning addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts at our parent/teacher interviews during week 2. If you have not already signed up for these please contact your class teacher to arrange a time.

General Housekeeping

Tissues/Illness

A reminder to keep your child at home if they are unwell. It would also be appreciated if you could send in a box of tissues if you haven't already to your child's teacher, as we often end up with a lot of children needing these as they come to the end of colds.

Uniform

Please ensure that all pieces of clothing are clearly named, including sweatshirts and raincoats. A reminder that all pants, skirts, skorts, and long-sleeved polos are plain navy only.

Communication

For all communication that needs action during school hours, please contact the office, for example, if you need to collect your child early. Notices will be sent to you via email, or your child will bring home a hard copy. Any medications that your child needs during the school day should be returned to the office on the first day of school. If your child is taking any new medications, please let their class teacher or the office know.

Drop-off and Pick-Up

Thank you for dropping off your children before the 8.45 bell and for your quick goodbyes. This has ensured that the children are settled and ready for learning when the 8.55 bell goes.