

# Junior Syndicate Newsletter

## Term 4 2019

October 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We trust you enjoyed the holidays. We extend a special welcome to families who are new to Greenhithe School this term.

### Term 4 Curriculum



### Literacy

We sometimes get asked what to do if a child is reluctant to read when they get home.

*Encourage regular reading habits and participation in reading:*

- Let your child know that you enjoy reading with them. Make reading a special time where you talk about the text and ask questions.
- Be seen as a reader yourself.
- Encourage your child to use the library and read a wide range of stories.
- Reinforce the message that reading is fun!

*Praise your child's efforts in reading, especially if their confidence is low. Your child does not always have to be the reader, sometimes you could try:*

- Reading with your child (read the text together or take it in turns).
- Read to your child. (Your child could then read the book to you).
- Read the book to your child and make 'mistakes' for them to correct.
- Allow your child to read independently on occasions (aloud or silently).
- Ask your child to make up / retell / predict the story.



## Maths

This term we will be learning about money, temperature and probability. We will continue to focus on number knowledge and developing instant recall of basic facts. Knowing and recalling basic facts quickly and accurately, gives your child a great foundation for developing better mental maths strategies, which can boost their confidence and love of numbers. We will also build a range of addition, subtraction and multiplication strategies to help children to solve number problems.

### Problem Solving

Here are some of the benefits (from NZ maths website) why problem solving is effective:

- It bases students' mathematical development on their current knowledge;
- It is an interesting and enjoyable way to learn mathematics;
- It is a way to learn new mathematics with greater understanding;
- It produces positive attitudes towards mathematics;
- It makes the student a junior research mathematician;
- It teaches thinking, flexibility and creativity;
- It teaches general problem solving skills;
- It encourages cooperative skills;
- It is a useful way to practice mathematical skills learned by other means;
- It is similar in approach to the way that other subjects are taught in primary school.

### How Can Parents Help at home?

On the NZ maths website there is an informative video with ideas on how you can incorporate maths at home. Mathletics is also a great way to get children motivated.

<https://nzmaths.co.nz/introductory-video>

Continue to work on number knowledge with your child, ie. basic facts (including doubles), number recognition, forwards and backwards counting and skip counting to help support strategies being taught in class. Please feel free to see your classroom teacher for any further guidance in this area.

### Inquiry

This term our Inquiry learning has a social studies focus. We will be following the Rugby World Cup closely with our topic, 'Where in the World'.



### **The Arts**

This term the Year 1 syndicate will be teaching the arts (music, dance, drama) during an afternoon rotation. Each teacher has planned to teach an area of their specific strength and interest within the arts. Your child will work with a Year 1 teacher once a week and will enjoy an exciting range of activities.

The Year 2 syndicate will be focussing on Fibre and Fabric. We will be looking at a range of fibres, focusing on weaving and stitchery.

### **Physical Education**

Our major focus for Term 4 is athletics. We have planned a range of activities. The children will be developing skills in order to participate in long jump, shot put, javelin, discus and sprinting. It is essential that children wear a sunhat for athletics.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Monday 21st October	Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 28th October	Labour Day (Holiday)
Monday 4th November	Book Week
Friday 8th November	Book Character Parade
Monday 18th November	Y1 Junior Athletics day
Wednesday 20th November	Y2 Junior Athletics day
Friday 29th November	Christmas on the Green
Tuesday 3rd December	Year 1 Junior Syndicate picnic at Wainoni Park (tbc)
Wednesday 4th December	Year 2 Junior Syndicate picnic at Wainoni Park (tbc)
Friday 13th December	School Prize Giving - 11.30am End of year reports sent home Children meet their 2020 Teacher
Tuesday 17th December	Last day of term, school ends at 12pm

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,  
The Junior School Teachers

**P.S. We would like to remind you that sunhats ( are available from the School Office) must be worn during sports or play times in Term 4 (please make sure they are named).**