

# Junior Syndicate Newsletter

## Term 4 2020

October 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We trust you enjoyed the holidays. A special welcome to Mrs Brigid Ison our new entrant Teacher starting in Room 1 in week 3. 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 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

The Year 1's inquiry topic this term is worked around the Wool Shed visit. Our focus is why farms in New Zealand are significant to individuals and groups. We will be looking at how food and products get from the farm to the shops. We will also

incorporate some technology by looking at inputs and outputs. As part of our learning we will be visiting Kiwi Valley Farm in week 4.

The Year 2's inquiry topic this term is 'Living things'. We will be looking at where NZ animals/insects live and what they need to survive in their habitat. We are looking forward to our trip to the Auckland Zoo in week 2.

### **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 19th - 23rd October	Scholastic Book Fair/Book week
Thursday 22nd October	Y2 Zoo trip
Friday 23rd October	Book Character Parade 9.05am
Monday 26th October	Labour Day (Holiday)
Tuesday 27th October	Teacher Only Day
Wednesday 4th November	Y1 trip - Kiwi Valley Farm
Monday 23rd November	Y1 Junior Athletics day
Wednesday 25th November	Y2 Junior Athletics day
Friday 4th December	Christmas on the Green
Monday 7th December	Year 1 Junior Syndicate picnic at Wainoni Park (tbc)
Wednesday 9th December	Year 2 Junior Syndicate picnic at Wainoni Park (tbc)
Friday 11th December	School Prize Giving - 11.30am End of year reports sent home Children meet their 2021 Teacher
Tuesday 15th 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 (available from the School Office) must be worn during sports or play times in Term 4 (please make sure they are named).**