



01/02/23

Dear parents,

Well, that wasn't the start to 2023 we expected. While our school hasn't suffered from flooding or leaks, I know we have staff and community members who have been affected by this extreme weather event, please reach out to me if we can support you or your family.

On Monday this week, the Secretary for Education took the decision to direct schools and other education providers in Auckland to close for on-site instruction (learning) because of the weather emergency and the need to reduce traffic on roads. We had no discretion as an individual school regarding this decision.

This initial direction was until the 7th of February, which is the last day by which schools must start their term under education regulations. The Secretary for Education, Iona Holsted, undertook to review the direction to close on a daily basis, to minimise disruption to schools that can open.

After review today, the Secretary has lifted the Direction to close.

Today I have met with the Board to make some decisions around our reopening at Greenhithe School.

The school will reopen on Friday 3rd February with children starting their new classes. Your child should come in school uniform (no jandals) with a school hat, and sunscreen applied. If they have purchased their stationery, please bring that along as well. The gates will open at 8.30am as usual, please do not enter the site before this time.

This means unfortunately at this stage we have lost the meet the teacher interviews. However, we will explore whether we can set up a different opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher at a later date.

Tomorrow we will be ensuring the site is safe and tidy, ready for the start of school. While it appears we didn't have any major flooding or leaks, there is debris in and around the walkways and we need to do safety checks on playgrounds and trees to ensure the site is ready for your children.

We are looking forward to getting 2023 underway.

Ngā mihi

Stephen Grady
Principal
Greenhithe School