



Y4/5 Newsletter Term 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Tena Koutou Katoa! Welcome back!

If you are new to our school, we warmly welcome you and your family. At Greenhithe School, students are encouraged to grow into capable, balanced, and confident learners who embrace new experiences and opportunities.

The Year 4/5 Team is as follows:

Katie Barnston Wells	Room 13
Amy Kimi-Makata	Room 14
Kathryn Leader	Room 17
Zara Fletcher	Room 18
Whaea Keeley/Keeley Robertson	Room 19
Jenny Bate (Team Leader)	Room 20

- Links to teachers' email addresses can be found on our school website.

Curriculum

Inquiry

Throughout the year, we will cover various topics from the Science, Social Studies, New Zealand Histories, Health, Arts, and Technology curriculum areas. During Term 1, we will explore 'Where we are in place and time,' with a focus on how people arrived in New Zealand. This will include a visit to the museum. We will also look into how Auckland (Tāmaki Makaurau) has changed over time. Alongside this, we will learn about the Treaty of Waitangi and cultural diversity.

Reading

Students will continue to develop their reading comprehension skills, such as inferencing, locating key information, and thinking critically. Our focus will be on integrating reading with our inquiry, encouraging students to analyse texts and make meaningful connections between their prior knowledge and the new ideas they discover.

Spelling

In year 4/5 students will be doing The Code as part of our structured literacy approach. These lessons are 20 minutes daily, including daily review.

Writing

Students will produce a variety of texts based on their learning across the curriculum. We have clear expectations and literacy goals that students will work towards. They will also have opportunities for independent writing sessions, where they can explore topics that interest them.

Maths

Students will begin the term with a series of statistical investigations. They will learn how to pose questions, determine the data they need to collect, and how to present it. Alongside this, we will focus on learning basic facts and times tables

Fitness and P.E.

Every day, students participate in 10-15 minutes of fitness, followed by a water and fruit break. P.E. sessions this term will focus on water safety. Your classroom teacher will inform you of the days your child will be swimming. Please ensure that your child has a towel, togs, and goggles if they wish, in a named swim bag on the appropriate swimming day.

Expectations

We expect students to read a book from school or a book of their own choice at home for 20 minutes, four times a week. Students can also practice their math skills at home using the online 'Mathletics' programme. They may be assigned activities by their classroom teacher or can use the 'Live Mathletics' option to practice their basic facts.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Our Y4/5 students are being invited to bring in their own device for classroom learning. We would like the students to use their own device to deepen learning and to make learning more personalised and student-centered. This opportunity is an invitation, not an expectation, and we are not insisting that students purchase or bring a device. We are giving you the choice. Students will continue to complete regular book work alongside digital platforms.

If mobile phones (or any other device that is used for texting or calling) are brought to school they will be collected and sent to the office before school. They will be returned to students just before 3 pm.

Uniform

Please ensure that all clothing, including sweatshirts and raincoats, is clearly labeled with your child's name. **School hats are a required part of the uniform in Terms 1 and 4**, so please make sure your child has one each day and that it is named. It is also a good idea to apply sunblock to your child before school. We kindly ask each child to bring a box of tissues to share with the class.

Communication

For any communication that requires action during school hours, such as if you need to collect your child early, please contact the office at 09 413 9838. Other reminders will be sent via email or provided as a hard copy.

Please ensure that the office has your current contact details to ensure you do not miss any important information. Any medications 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 inform their class teacher or the office

Important Dates:

Thursday 6 February - Waitangi Day

Friday 28 February - Whanau Afternoon 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm

Thursday 6 March - Museum Trip - Rms 13, 14 & 20

Friday 7 March - Museum Trip - Rms 17, 18 & 19

Tuesday 25 February - Years 4-6 Swimming Sports

Ngā mihi nui,
Year 4/5 Teachers