



Newsletter - Thursday 28th May 2020



SCHOOLS BACK ONSITE!!!

It is great to have our children back on site learning. Our school grounds were not the same without them. It is a joy to see our kids happy to be back with their friends, a few parents smiling as they headed out the gates for some “alone time”, children sharing what they did over lock down Levels 3 and 4, enjoying the challenge of Whole School Zoom Assemblies etc. We are however looking forward to Level 1 where all our inter school events etc can get back up and running like normal.

Over these two weeks the focus for us has been settling our kids back in and supporting their Hauora or Wellbeing. For most of our children this has been very easy, however for others it has been a little challenging, especially if they were working at home using hard-packs with less interaction with others or doing limited amounts of “formal learning”.

It may take these children a little longer to get back into their daily school life routines, just like many parents returning back to work. Please continue to support your child over the next few weeks. Please also reassure them that they do not need to be afraid of COVID-19 as the message of regular daily hygiene and everyone working together means... “We’ve got this dude!” (See the Facebook video from the return to school for a reminder).



Thank you to Kylie from Laughing Owl Photography for our photos of our first day back to school after Alert Levels 3 and 4.

“DREAMS COME IN A SIZE TOO BIG, SO THAT YOU CAN GROW IN TO THEM!”

WAY TO GO PARENTS!!!

On behalf of all our staff we want to express our sincerest thanks, appreciation and admiration to all our parents and families. You have been incredible throughout the whole COVID-19 process to date. From the early stages of reading all the long (yet important) information from Miss O'Connor and the Board...to long weeks of supporting your child and our staff in remote learning....to returning them back into our care and having to either wait at the school gate or sign in for the "upteenth dozenth time" in order to come on-site. We truly take our hats off to you and hope that you are equally taking some time to look after yourselves!



BACK INTO ACTION

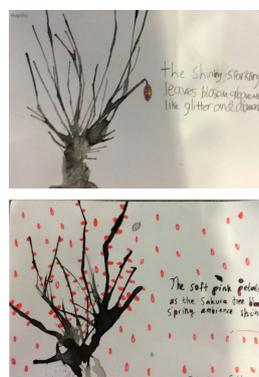
It has been fantastic to see all the kids back. Here are a few examples of the learning that is taking place in our school.



Room 15 has been learning about and making windmills.



Evelyn and Maria in Room 11 have designed their own 3D model of a space rocket including all the technical equipment needed for survival!



Room 16 has done some stunning poetry and art!



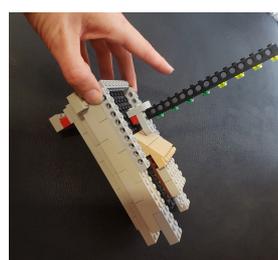
School Band was excited about getting back together for their first "jam session".



Several classes have completed beautiful art as part of their SPACE learning.



Our Juniors have been learning how to ride bikes with the support of our senior kids.



Carlo and Albert are learning about the Titanic and are starting to make their own 3D lego model.



Mathematicians around the school are busy problem-solving

S.H.A.R.P day and Foodbank

Last Friday we had a wonderful day dressing up in our favourite S.H.A.R.P colours and reminding ourselves about these important behaviour values. Kids and teachers were all dressed up and had super huge smiles on their faces.



Due to your generosity we donated over 400 items to the Foodbank to help families in our community during this time. If you know a family who is in need of extra support from the Foodbank you can let Rachel Burt or myself know (we will keep this completely confidential) or contact Pastor Harry at St Luke's church. This service is there to help!

RAFFLE WINNERS!

Woohoo - this is exciting news. Over \$100 was raised towards our school bike track in a raffle drawn this week for a signed bike Helmet by Silver Medalist Sarah Walker. The lucky winners were Charlotte, Ava and Harry



SAFETY REMINDERS

During COVID-19 there were few trucks or cars on the road and cyclists were able to bike with more freedom and people could cross the road easily. Unfortunately with increased traffic around this may have created a few bad habits we need to reverse. It is timely to remind you that kids see and copy your example...so...

Crossing the road safely:

If you want to cross the road within the white diamonds either side of a crossing painted on the road before and after school...please don't and instead use the crossing.

We are noticing a lot of parents who are boldly crossing the road very close to the crossing without using it (or dodging around buses), especially when the Road Patrol team is out or buses are at their busiest at the end of the day. Please be a good role model.

Just like us please take the time to reinforce:

- Stop at the crossing.
- Look both ways several times.
- Hop off your bike or scooter and walk across.
- If you see a car or truck wait until they stop before you go.
- Keep looking side to side as you cross.
- Use the crossing if you are close to one.

Helmets:

We need to not only encourage our children to wear helmets, but reinforce it may save your child's life one day when you least expect it. We hope that our children will always have helmets on when riding, unfortunately this is sometimes not the case.

- **The rule is simple for us though....riders of bikes either in our school uniform, at school events or on our grounds must have a helmet on at all times.**

Ngā mihi maioha Miss Patrice O'Connor

Dates For Your Diary

24th June	Year 7 EOTC
25th June	Year 8 EOTC
3rd July	Term 2 ends
20th July	Term 3 ends

Hygiene Reminder

It is a timely reminder with COVID-19 and moving to winter with the usual flu, colds and general bugs that we teach our children the importance of keeping themselves safe through good hygiene practices.

The skills of

- how to wash their hands correctly and frequently.
- coughing into their elbow area
- disposal of tissues after blowing your nose
- not sharing your food or drink bottle
- Tying up shoulder length or longer hair (for limiting nits)

Washing hands tips we teach are:

1. Wash your hands before you eat and after you go to the toilet.
2. Get your hands wet and soapy.
3. Rub, rub, rub, rub your soapy hands together long enough to sing "Happy Birthday" or another favourite short song in your head twice. ...
4. Rinse.
5. Shake and dry. Shake your hands a few times, then dry them with a clean towel or hand dryer.

All children **must stay home** if they are genuinely sick with any flu like symptoms.

If your child is sick with the flu or another contagious condition (eg: Chicken Pox, School Sores etc) can you please notify the school office. This means we can monitor the health of the entire school and if needed pass information on to other parents or in the case of a large group showing similar symptoms we can contact local medical authorities to assist us with next steps.

As with all health issues please be assured that we are in regular contact with our

District Nurse, local medical providers, Ministry of Education and/or the Ministry of Health and follow their guidelines and recommendations to keep everyone as safe as we can.

School Information

Phone	06 304 9007
Email	office@greytown.school.nz principal@greytown.school.nz
Website	https://www.greytown.school.nz
Bank Acc	03 0609 0124353 00

Thank You

Thank you to parents who have set up a direct debit (particularly for Year 7 & 8's to cover the costs of EOTC, Tech, laptop payments etc). This is a great way to spread the charges. This term the EOTC trip for Year 7 & 8 is biking the Remutaka Incline. If you need any information about costs please contact the office.

Soccer

Last call for registrations for Junior Football (soccer). Please urgently collect and return a form to the school office.

Or contact Rachel Gawith - 027 829 5130 or rgawith@xtra.co.nz.

First potential game date is 13th June depending on Covid levels.

Kia Kaha Hockey Club - Primary Hockey

We are still waiting on confirmation from Hockey Wairarapa regarding the 2020 Primary hockey season.



You will still need to register if you wish to play, to ensure we have your contact details to update you about the season start date. So far we have received 30+ registrations from players and can still receive more, we have more registration forms at the Greytown School office.

Please contact the club if you have any questions, email us kiakahahockey@mail.com