



Newsletter - Thursday 3rd February 2022

Nau mai, haere mai

We have enjoyed a very positive start to our new school year, despite the ongoing challenges that come with Covid. I have been made to feel incredibly welcome by all staff, students and families over the last few days and I am really grateful for that. The Pōwhiri with staff and Pāpāwai Marae on Monday was very special to me and my whānau. We look forward to being able to include our whole school community in events again.

I want to acknowledge the efforts of students and staff with the new mask requirements. This has gone very smoothly and students have shown great resilience once again in the face of change. Classes who are wearing masks are ensuring that mask breaks are included throughout the day.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES AND STAFF

Welcome to all our new families. We had 19 students start with us on Tuesday and all are settling in and getting to know their classmates and teachers.

I welcome also our new staff:

Mrs Mandy Smyth in Room 4, Mrs Jenn Mudgway in Room 6, Miss Courtney Mei (Miss Courtney) in Room 8, Mr Miu Phillips (Matua Phillips) in Room 10, Ms Jody Hart in Room 13 and Mr Brodie Wilson in Room 13.



Mrs Paula Weston - Principal

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

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

KEEPING UP TO DATE

Communication and keeping everyone up to date is important to us and we try our best, however, it is a partnership between school and our community. It is important that everyone reads it and checks it.

To help you stay in touch here is a reminder of our major communication systems in our school.

- **Our School App**

- Our School App is a critical part of our communication system at school. You can download it for free (name: Kiwi Schools Connect) on your phone from the App Store or scan this QR code.
- All quick updates/alerts, (cancellations, postponements, important last-minute updates etc!) and access to the school calendar, website, newsletters etc are here.



- **Our School Newsletter** (Fortnightly on Thursday)

- **Our Greytown-Primary School Facebook page**

- **Emails and Phone** - Please ensure the school office has your correct email address and phone number.

Other communication systems in our school.

- **Our School Website** <https://www.greytown.school.nz>

- **Classroom correspondence**

- Seesaw/Google Classroom - Your classroom teacher will send out information about how to access these.
- Class notices for trips etc.

ABSENCES

If your child/ren are going to be away for any reason or are going to be late to school can you please advise the office eg: pop in, ring, email office@greytown.school.nz, use the absence button on the school app or website.

COMMUNICATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Any urgent communication with your child during school hours must go through the School office as teachers may not necessarily check their emails while teaching.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have changed any of your contact details or emergency contacts over the holidays can you please let the school office know as soon as possible eg: email office@greytown.school.nz, ring or pop in. This means if there are any sicknesses, emergencies or reasons we need to contact you we can do that quickly.

SAFETY REMINDERS

We have more construction happening around our school and with that comes an increase in traffic(especially on Reading Street). It is timely to remind everyone...

Crossing the road safely:

Please take the time to reinforce these points with kids both at the school crossing and down the main street crossings:

- Use the crossing if you are within the area of the white diamonds.
- **Stop** at the crossing. Never assume cars and trucks can stop in time!
- Look both ways several times.
- If you see a car or truck, wait until they stop before you go.
- Hop off your bike or scooter and walk across.
- Keep looking side to side as you cross.

Helmets:

We need to not only encourage our children to wear helmets but reinforce it/model it as it may save your child's life one day when you least expect it.

- **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 when riding it.**

HATS

A reminder that all students need to have a school hat this term. This should be worn throughout the day when they are outside. There is also sunblock in classes available to students.

HYGIENE REMINDERS

Please help us to keep reinforcing and teaching our children the importance of keeping themselves safe through good hygiene practices.

The skills of

- how to wash your hands correctly and frequently.
- coughing into your elbow area
- disposal of tissues after blowing your nose
- not sharing your food or drink bottles
- 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.

PARENT HELP - POLICE VETTING AND VACCINATION PASSES

With school camps being held in term 1 we will be putting out the call for parents to help. As we often get a lot of interest in helping at camp, we ask that you contact Megan in the office to arrange to complete a Police Vetting form as soon as possible. You will be required to provide a copy of your vaccination pass together with 2 forms of identification.

Dates For Your Diary

February

7th

Waitangi Day (observed)

21st

BOT meeting

March

7th/8th

Year 7 EOTC - Camp

9th /11th

Year 8 EOTC - Camp

16th/17th

1/2 day on both these days for Learning conferences with school finishing at 12.30pm

School Contact 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

Greytown Tennis Club has coaching available on Wednesdays starting next Wednesday the 9th for 8 weeks- times and levels are:

- 3:30 – 4:15pm; 8-10 years learner
- 4:15-5pm; 8-10 years intermediate learner
- 5- 5:45pm; 10-12 years intermediate
- 5:45-7pm; advanced

Coaching is provided by young coach's under the guidance of Jacob Emery (<https://clubspark.kiwi/WairarapaTennis/News/6cc13b43-0d0e-40e9-902c-a8b18edd a695>), and spaces are limited.

Please register and book via the club website;
<https://clubspark.kiwi/GreytownTennisClub>.

All adults and children over 12 years old coming to the Tennis Club, including to collect children must be vaccinated.

	<p>AFTER - SCHOOL ART WITH LINDA KIRKLAND</p> <p>Once again Linda's fun and educational art classes will be held at Greytown School this term. The classes will take place on Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 3.00pm – 4.30pm. Wednesday afternoon classes start on 23rd Feb and Friday afternoon classes start on the 25th Feb. If you are interested in finding out more, please email or txt Linda for more information.</p> <p>EMAIL: lmkgreytown@gmail.com</p> <p>MOBILE: 0211406056</p>
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