

Greenhills Primary School



Term 1, 31st January 2019

Greenhills is G.R.E.A.T.

Generosity, Respect, Enthusiasm, Acceptance, Teamwork

Term 1 - Week 1 2019

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the 2019 school year to all our families and a very warm welcome to the new families joining our Greenhills Community in 2019. We also officially welcome Lauren O'Connell (Year 5/6 Team), Samantha Marmo (Prep Team), Tracy Hall (Education Support Team) and welcome back Kristen Romano (Year 1/2 Team) and Lauren Richardson (Year 3/4 Team). They join a very talented and dedicated staff team whom are all very excited about our work and plans for 2019.



I hope you all had a terrific summer break and enjoyed lots of quality family time. My family towed our caravan up to Moruya Heads in NSW and spent two great weeks there. The weather was pretty good with only a couple of days where it rained. The highlight was spending days at Broulee Beach, even with a shark alarm and the odd blue bottle!

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ GREENHILLS 2019

Thursday 31 st January	Preps commence school (staggered start)
Friday 1 st February	Preps commence school (staggered start) 3pm Whole School Reflection (No Assembly)
Monday 4 th February	House Swimming Carnival (Years 3-6)
Thursday 7 th February	"Cheers n tears" Prep Morning tea
Friday 8 th February	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 2.50pm Assembly
Monday 11 th February	Curriculum Day (Pupil Free)
Friday 15 th February	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 3pm Whole School Reflection (No Assembly)
Monday 18 th February	District Swimming
Wednesday 20 th February	3.50pm – 6.50pm Meet The Teacher (Parent/Teacher Interviews)
Friday 22 nd February	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 2.50pm Assembly
Friday 1 st March	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 3pm Whole School Reflection (No Assembly)
Friday 8 th March	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 2.50pm Assembly
Tuesday 12 th March – Friday 15 th March	Year 6 Camp
Thursday 28 th March	Student Led Conferences (Students only attend school for the duration of their conference.)

Greenhills Primary School



Term 1, 31st January 2019

Greenhills is G.R.E.A.T.

Generosity, Respect, Enthusiasm, Acceptance, Teamwork

WHAT ARE YOU READING AT THE MOMENT?

The other great thing about the holidays for me is that I get to catch up with some reading. The books I could not put down were “The Burning Land” and “Death of Kings” which are the 5th and 6th in the “Last Kingdom” series written by Bernard Cornwell. These are a series of historical fiction set in England during the late 800’s, which is right in the middle of Viking time. The GREAT news is that there are still four more books to go!

I also read “You Win In The Lockeroom First” by Jon Gordon & Mike Smith. My biggest take away was how vital it is for teams and organisations to continue to build culture and connection. These are things that our school will also continue to work on throughout this year.

2019 HERE WE GO!

2019 will be a very exciting year for our school. We will continue to work proactively to further develop our home-school partnership as we strive to ensure that our students are provided with an environment and experiences that enables them to learn and grow into the best they can be. We have so much to be proud of as a school community and 2019 is another opportunity for us to take the next steps on our improvement journey.

CONNECTION, COLLABORATION, CLARITY, COMMUNICATION

The platform for our learning journey this year is based on these four key words. To help us launch this and then embed these as a theme, we are using a picture storybook “Tiger’s Roar” across the whole school. On Tuesday, each staff member received a copy, which will then be available in all of our classrooms as part of our “How Do We Learn Together” start-up Inquiry unit. The book is based on a group of animals using their own special talents, to work as a team to climb a tree together.

You will also have noticed a stunning new art work being completed along the outside wall of our staffroom. This is our 2019 Community Arts Project and is being based around our Tiger’s Roar theme. A big thank you to Andrea Williams who is co-ordinating the project with street artist Brendan Purser. All of our staff team have contributed to the work and over the next few weeks, our students will also be adding the finishing touches. What a GREAT way to focus on connecting, collaborating, clarifying and communicating as a team.



REFLECTION IS NO LONGER A NEGATIVE WORD @ GREENHILLS

This year we have fine-tuned our behaviour management procedure by replacing the consequence known as a “Reflection” with a “Restorative Process”. The reason behind this is that it is vital for 21st century students to be reflective about their learning. In education speak this is known as “metacognition” and it is also one of the evidenced based High Impact Teaching Strategies” being used effectively in DET schools.

In fact, because reflective thinking is so important, we are making time for our whole school to focus on this by moving our assemblies to every second week and alternating with a whole school reflection time. We will keep you updated with the various dates for both assemblies and reflection times and provide some ideas and resources for you to follow up at home with what we are doing as a school.

Term 1, 31st January 2019

Greenhills is G.R.E.A.T.

Generosity, Respect, Enthusiasm, Acceptance, Teamwork

START OF THE DAY PROCESS CHANGE FOR 2019

We have slightly changed the bell times for the start of the school day.

The music will now start each day at 8.55am (2 minutes earlier than last year) with a short bell at 8.57am. This is the signal for all students to enter their classrooms and get ready for learning before the longer 9am bell rings.

We know that getting off to a GREAT start each day is critical for learning, so we are encouraging everyone to be on time and ready to go inside classrooms by the 9am bell.

At the other end of the day, a bell will now also ring at 3.45pm.

This is a reminder to any student who remains unsupervised that they need to report to the office so that we can ensure they get home safely or arrangements are made for After School Care if parents/carers are delayed after this time.

ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS

Speed zones, pedestrian crossings and parking restrictions around school are there to improve the movement of traffic during peak times and maximise safety for children and road users.

It is vital that as adults, we lead by example and set good road safety practices travelling to and from school. As such we are asking all parents and carers to observe and obey parking signs and in particular No Stopping and No parking signs.

Banyule City Council have asked us to remind our school community that it is an offence to:

- double park by stopping next to a legally parked vehicle, even for a short time or to drop off/pick up passengers

- Stop or park across a driveway, footpath or dividing strip

- Stop or park within 10 metres of an intersection or corner that doesn't have traffic lights

- Stop or park across or in a bus zone.

Council Local Laws Officers will be active around our school area to issue warnings and fines.

HAVE INPUT INTO OUR SCHOOL...

We know that one of the best things about our school is our strong parent input and involvement. Our School Council is one of the main forums in which parents and staff work together for the benefit of all our students. At the beginning of each school year we have a number of vacancies for School Council. There are 3 x Parent member positions to fill this year for a period of two years and 1 x Casual vacancy positions for parents this year. If you are interested in nominating, please collect a form from the school office or contact me and I will arrange one to be sent home. These must be lodged at the office by 4pm Thursday 14th February.

Please contact me if you would like more information about these roles.

penson.james.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Looking forward to a GREAT year ahead.

James Penson
Principal

