

Greenhills Primary School



Term 1, 19th March 2020

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

Grit, **Respect**, **Effort**, Adventure, Teamwork

Term 1 - Week 8, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Hi All,

One of the best things about our school is the incredible art program that Andrea Williams and Sarah Leach organise for our students. One GREAT example is this collective piece based on our whole school picture story book for 2020 "Here We Are" by Oliver Jeffers.

This combined artwork features a collection of small monochromatic self-portraits by all the students in Years 1-6. It is displayed in the corridor outside the staffroom so if you get the chance come and have a look at the real deal...as this photo doesn't do justice to this amazing artwork.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ GREENHILLS 2020

Friday 20 th March	Year 1 & 2 Swimming lessons 3pm Assembly
Wednesday 25 th March	EASTER SPECIAL DAY (Canteen)
Friday 27 th March	Last day of Term 1 2pm Assembly 2.30pm finish
Tuesday 14 th April	First day back for Term 2 9.30am School Tour
Thursday 16 th April	Greenhills Cross Country Carnival (Years 3-6)
Monday 20 th April	5pm OSHClub Sub-Committee Meeting
Wednesday 22 nd April	6pm School Tour
Thursday 23 rd April	Year 3/4 Swimming starts
Friday 24 th April	3pm Assembly
Wednesday 29 th April	School Photos

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

I thought given the current environment that I would publish a few answers to some of the more frequent questions I am receiving at the moment around the Coronavirus and our school:

Who decides if or when the school closes?

Closures to schools will be made on the recommendation Victoria's Chief Health Officer. Once this occurs, the Department of Health and Human Services will inform the Department of Education and Training, who will then work with the school to implement the closure. This may be on an individual school basis if a student or staff member presents with symptoms or on a wider scale in response to "flattening the curve" and trying to reduce the rate of infection across the community.

What happens if a student or staff member is or has had contact with a confirmed case?

If a staff member or student at our school is in one of the categories below, the school must contact DHHS on 1300 651 160 for advice on what to do next:

- the person is a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- the person is a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

'Close contact' is defined by DHHS as someone who has had at least 15 minutes of face-to-face contact with a confirmed case, or shared a closed space with someone for more than two hours with a confirmed case.

Unless the school has a student or staff member in one of the two above categories, we do not need to take further action.

What is Greenhills doing to help manage this situation?

We are encouraging our students to keep up good hygiene practices as this is the most effective means of minimising the spread of COVID-19. This includes reminders to wash hands frequently with soap and water.

Tips that everyone at our school can follow:

- cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with a tissue, or cough into your elbow.
- dispose of the tissue into a bin and then wash your hands afterwards.
- wash your hands regularly, after using the toilet, and before eating.

We are also taking the view that parents are able to make their own decision in regards to their child/ren attending school. We currently have about 20% of our students at home each day through this parent choice. When this occurs we are recording the absence as "Parent Choice / School Approval / Covid 19".

If the school closes, how does learning continue?

We are currently planning how we best ensure our students continue their learning in the event of our school closing for a period of time. This may be organised via a daily email from your child's teacher outlining the program for the day. We will also ensure that our staff were available via email or other electronic communication so that we can stay in touch with you. The most important thing to ensure if this was to happen is for students to maintain as regular routine as possible including recess and lunch styles break in between learning sessions. The worst thing would be for our students to fall into the free and unsupervised time trap!

I have also attached an advice sheet "Tips for coping with coronavirus anxiety." From the Australian Psychological Society.

WELL DONE & THANK YOU CAMPERS

Our Year 6's had a GREAT Anglesea Camp last week. Camps provide our students with a wonderful opportunity to try new things and challenge themselves. It might be having a go on the zip line and facing a fear of heights, working with a group of peers to complete a range of initiative activities involving leadership and teamwork or even simply being able to meet new friends or broaden a friendship group. Our Year 6 Camp is definitely one of the highlights of the year and I know our students will remember the experience long into the future.

These opportunities are only organised thanks to the dedication and commitment of our staff. Our staff are not paid any extra money for the countless extra hours they work (or lack of sleep!). Instead this relies on their goodwill and commitment towards our school. Many thanks to Jonathan McFarland, Rachel Emmerling, David Symeonidis, Bianca Fedele, Jess Johnston, Jordan Daley and Libby Egan.

WAYS TO ASK YOUR CHILD HOW WAS SCHOOL TODAY?



Talking with your child about the school day shows you are interested in what's going on in their life. Research has shown that this interest can boost a child's mental health, happiness and wellbeing. It can also have a positive effect on your child's behaviour and achievement and shows your child that you value school and education. Getting children to open up about their day, however, is not always easy. Often the first response to a "How did school go today?" is a short one word answer such as "good"! Similarly, asking "What did you do at school today?" is answered by "not much" or "lots of things". This is where you need to be a bit creative with your questioning. Here are some examples:

- What was the best thing that happened at school today?
- Tell me one thing you discovered at school today?
- How did you show a growth mindset today?
- How did you help someone today?
- Where did you play / spend most of your time at lunchtime today?
- What are you most looking forward to doing at school tomorrow?

Most importantly, try not to bombard them as soon as you see them and choose a time when it is more likely to be a discussion as opposed to an interrogation!

WAYS YOU CAN HELP AT GHPS

Thank you to all of our parents, carers, grandparents and friends who contribute to our school and help to make our Greenhills community really unique and special. There are lots of ways parents can have input in our school. This could be assisting in the classroom or on an excursion, helping out in the canteen or at working bees or by joining one of our sub-committees. When I talk with students around our school they love it when their parents or carers get involved at our school. This is also a reminder that to help at our school, you need to have read and signed the Parent Helpers Agreement, which confirms that you have read all of our policies such as the Child Safe Policy that directly relates to being a helper at our school. I also take this opportunity to remind everyone that a vital part of being a parent helper is working under the direction of the classroom or specialist teacher. This might mean at times, not working directly with your own child or being in the same classroom. Our teachers have specific lessons planned around the curriculum that they need to deliver and we really appreciate our helpers following this planning.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

The countdown is on to the start of the 2020 Premiers Reading Challenge. Michelle our Librarian, has registered all of our students to participate and we are aiming for our whole school to complete the challenge. What a wonderful achievement this would be. Let's do it Greenhills!



James Penson
Principal



Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating their birthdays:

**Zavien H, Mia G, Charlotte S, Zoe B, Nicholas Z, Heath K, Liam S, Josie E
Daniella J, Eden C, Wes M, Ruby L, Ava W**

PLEASE READ...FROM THE OFFICE 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please read the following important information and reminders :

Family School Payments 2020 – **DUE NOW!**

If you have not paid your child's school payments or made other payment arrangements e.g. term instalments, please ensure payment is made immediately. Information relating to school payments can be found on the school's website (www.greenhillsps.vic.edu.au) under notices and forms.

Split Family School Payments – If you require family payments to be divided between parents/guardians, please contact the school to arrange this. Please ensure all parties are aware of the payment arrangements. Supporting documentation maybe required to confirm these arrangements.

Camps, Sport, Excursions Fund 2020 – CSEF is available to eligible families in 2020. If you received CSEF in 2019, you do not need to reapply! Only complete an application if you are applying for the first time at this school. For further information regarding CSEF or financial assistance, please refer to the following link;

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/going-to-school/Pages/school-costs.aspx>

Please contact the office if you require a CSEF application form.

Nb. If you are a recipient of CSEF, remember to write this on the School Payment form.

Afternoon Messages

We offer this service for urgent messages only and we ask that you call the office before 3:00pm where possible.

ACTIVITIES REQUIRING PAYMENT

State School Spectacular T 'Shirt	\$25
Choir	\$60
Sports Carnival	\$50 (if not already paid)

Confidential Student Information/Medical Updates – It is very important that you keep us informed of any changes relating to your child's personal details. So please notify us immediately of any modifications relating to family/student details; emergency contacts, medical, address and in particular phone numbers and email addresses.

Family Emails Contacts

As most correspondence is emailed out to families frequently during the year, including our newsletter, activity notices and messages from the school, it is important that email details are kept up to date. If you are not receiving information from the school, please let us know.

Smart Phone Apps – Down load now!

QKR app (MasterCard app) – The QKR app allows you to conveniently & securely make payments using your smart phone. Contact the school if you require assistance.

Sentral support – View the link below for Parent Portal & App support. <https://www.sentral.com.au/solutions/im-a-parent/>

Feel free to contact the office if you have any queries, we are happy to assist anytime.



Kate Reade, Nicole Pearson, Anne Doolan & Karen Heitzmann
School Administration Team

STUDENT OF THE WEEK Term 1 Wk. 8 - PRESENTED AT ASSEMBLY on 27th March 2020

NAME	CLASS	REASON
Alexia P	Prep BH	Alexia, thank you for being such a caring and helpful person in our Grade. Your smile brightens up my day. Keep up the great effort. You are a SUPERSTAR!
	1/2's	None due to Swimming
Stephanie C	34B	For being an enthusiastic and reflective learner. I've been particularly impressed by how you've challenged yourself with the numbers you are working with in maths. Keep pushing yourself and remember that you can achieve anything you set your mind to!
Mitchell S	34D	Mitchell should be extremely proud of the effort he is putting into all areas of his work, especially his maths. Mitchell is working really hard to improve his mental recall of number facts and it is showing!
Alannah G	34H	For the impressive work that you have been doing with decimal numbers. You have challenged yourself and demonstrated your understanding of tenths and hundredths, and your ability to model decimal numbers in different ways. Outstanding work Alannah!
Ella D	34K	Ella you are to be commended for always giving things a go. Your positive attitude, supportive nature and calmness during challenging tasks is inspiring. It is a pleasure to have you in our classroom.
Elke O	34R	Elke is going leaps and bounds in her reading and comprehension. She is impressing us with her contributions to our group work and is finding facts and details within a text with ease.
Lucia T	34S	Lucia it is so great to see you sharing all of your amazing ideas with the grade. Well done on your incredible enthusiasm and effort during our Inquiry Maths this week!
Izzy N	56F	For showing outstanding resilience while at camp. Izzy I am so proud of how you faced the challenges of surfing with such positivity. Well done superstar!!
Chas W	56J	For his exceptional behaviour on camp. I was so proud of the way that you showed leadership with your excellent behaviour. Well done!
Oscar S	56M	Oscar has been a real star in 5/6M during term 1. His fantastic arguments in Socratic circles have let his classmates learn plenty about our topics. His excellent attitude has been present in all our subjects. Well done Oscar.

Greenhills is recycling old mobile phones

We now have a Mobile Muster collection box at the school office. Mobile Muster transforms the components from mobile phone waste into valuable materials for reuse. You can watch [this video](#) to see what happens.

If you have any redundant mobile phones laying around (even old fossil flip phones!) please bring them to school and drop them in the green box! **Please leave batteries inside phones.**

What is accepted?

- All makes and models of mobile phones
- Mobile phone batteries
- Mobile chargers and accessories
- Mobile wireless internet devices
- Smart watches and fitness trackers



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ GREENHILLS Teaching and Learning

Don't forget to check out the Blogs

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PREP?

<http://prepsatgreenhills.global2.vic.edu.au/>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GRADE 1

<http://greenhillsgrade1.global2.vic.edu.au>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GRADE 2

<http://greenhillsplevel2.global2.vic.edu.au/>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GRADE 3 & 4

<http://grade34ghps.global2.vic.edu.au>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GRADE 5 & 6

<http://grade56l.global2.vic.edu.au/>



NO INTERSCHOOL SPORT THIS WEEK DUE TO GRADE 6 CAMP

GREENHILLS EPIC

EASTER RAFFLE



Tickets only \$1 each

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd

Winner drawn at end of term assembly 27/3/20

To enter, write full name and phone number on the ticket stubs and return with payment by Thursday 26/3/20. Extra tickets will be available to purchase from the office. All money raised will be used to purchase new home reading resources across the school.

Parents Partnerships - Leading the way for children during the Coronavirus pandemic

(Advice from Michael Grose)

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is having an unprecedented impact on our daily lives, and will probably do so for some time. While keeping ourselves and children healthy and safe is our main concern, it's also essential to address the anxieties of children and young people during these changing times. Here are some ideas to help inform, reassure and keep children and young people safe.

Build on what your children know

Children and young people have already been exposed to a great deal of information about corona virus through media, digital means and direct social contact. Their understanding will vary depending on their age and the quality of their information sources so you probably will need to help kids process what they already know. Parents will need to address their children's specific concerns without giving too much information that can overwhelm them.

Check your own thoughts and feelings

Check your own frame of mind and emotions about COVID-19 before talking to kids. Most children are astute mood detectives and they will gauge their safety by the way you communicate with them. If you tell a child, "You've got to wash your hands or you'll get infected," you are communicating your own anxieties, making it difficult for them to maintain a healthy state of mind. Have a think about how you can frame your instructions and their importance in a way that doesn't heighten your child's anxieties.

Stay informed

It is difficult to work out fact from fiction, correct from incorrect, information from exaggeration when the news is changing so fast. However, you need to educate yourself about the virus itself, including how it is transmitted and how to stay safe. Get information from trustworthy sources such as The Australian Government Health Department website and the current federal government corona virus information media campaign.

Answer questions truthfully

It is important that parents and teachers answer children's questions honestly in age-appropriate ways and within context of what is happening at the given time. If their sport or hobby has been temporarily cancelled empathise with their concerns, while helping them maintain a sense of perspective.

Initiate positive action

One way to reduce anxiety and allay children's fears is to involve them in planning and preparation for their personal and group safety. Positive activities such as maintenance of personal hygiene, greeting people with an elbow tap and getting plenty of sleep can help restore a sense of control that is so important for their wellbeing.

Find refuge in rituals

Regular rituals such as mealtimes, bedtime stories and regular one-on-one time provide both an anchor to normality and a sense of connection for kids at times of change. Consider reconstituting favoured family rituals at this time if they have lapsed due to lack of time, or lifestyle frenzy.

Look outwards

In difficult times, there is a tendency to look inwards, which is a natural protective strategy. The alternative is to establish a sense of connection and community spirit by focusing on generosity and togetherness. Help children see past their own needs and look for ways to assist others whether it is shopping for an elderly neighbour, helping a younger sibling occupy themselves, or planning an indoor movie night for the whole family.

The Coronavirus presents many practical challenges to parents and other important adults in the lives of kids. Staying calm, keeping informed, and adjusting our own habits are just some of the challenges we face. However, a significant challenge is one of personal leadership. That is, during these difficult times we need to be civil to each other, look out for each other and be mindful of the common good in everything we do. In this, we can all take a significant lead.



Roslyn Mackie
(Home-School Partnerships Leader)

SCHOOL CANTEEN

Now available for children with special dietary requirements GLUTEN FREE No artificial colours or flavours Peters lemonade icy poles at \$1 each. These will only be available in Terms 1 and 4.

OPERATING TIMES FOR TERM 1



Monday – closed. There will be no lunch orders or window sales available.

Tuesday – closed. There will be no lunch orders or window sales available.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – lunch orders and window sales as usual on these three days.

Volunteers are desperately needed to help in the canteen. You can volunteer for only one day per term if you wish. If you are interested in helping out (you are only required for approximately 1 hour on any day), please go to www.carebookings.com.au, type in the parent code "JGU9L" and enter the day(s) that you would be interested in helping.

Miriam Pekolj
Canteen Manager



LIBRARY

Thank you everyone for your support of the mini Book Fair. At the time of writing a final tally is not ready but will be included in the next newsletter. Special thanks to Margie, Kristal, Miriam and Nicole for your assistance on the day.



Michelle Arthur
Library Technician



RECITAL CHOIR

Due to current circumstances along with Mrs Stewart being away, all choir activities will be cancelled until further notice.

OSHCLUB NEWS



Dear Parents,

Given the uncertain times, we wanted to update everyone with the current information we've received from OSHClub Head Office. At present, as long as Greenhills Primary School stays open, we will still be offering Before- and After-School Care. If you wish to cancel the bookings you have for your child(ren) for the rest of the term, you can do so without risk of incurring a fee by either texting us on 0437 928 183 or emailing us on greenhills@oshclub.com.au with your child(ren)'s name and the session(s) you wish to cancel. The Vacation Care period is still going ahead for the time being, however all excursions and incursions have been cancelled due to COVID-19. We have fun in-service days planned with lots of cooking, science and creativity. For more details on some of the things we'll be getting up to, please come into the service or check out our A-Frame located near the library. If you would like to book or cancel for Vacation Care, please contact us on the details above.

In service, we're mindful of hygiene practices with all staff washing their hands frequently and wearing gloves whenever preparing or serving food. Children are being instructed to wash their hands after being signed in and before eating – following the recommended 20 second wash time – and reminded to wash their hands periodically. We are also sanitizing the toys we have on site where possible to hopefully prevent the spread of germs.

On to more fun news! This week we've been having a great time outside playing in the sandpit, on the play equipment, and playing GaGa ball, dodgeball and down ball. Hopefully the weather will continue being kind to us and we can keep getting out into the fresh air! For those who enjoy spending their time inside, children have been enjoying colouring, bead craft and construction.

We also extend a warm welcome to Macey Evans as our new permanent educator! Many of you will already know or recognise Macey as she's helped us out a lot this term as a casual, but she has recently been made a permanent member of our staff team! We hope that everyone wishes Macey a warm welcome when they next come by!

With Easter and the school holidays fast approaching, next week we will be having fun with some Easter themed arts and crafts and maybe the Easter Bunny will stop by and we'll be having an Easter egg hunt! We will be offering extended care on Friday the 27th of March to coincide with the end of Term 1, running from 2:30pm to 6:30pm. If you need to make a booking for that date, please do so through the iParent Portal.

As always, we want to hear your suggestions and feedback. We're still a new service here at Greenhills OSHClub and we want to make everything the best it can be. So, please either drop feedback into our little feedback box near the sign in/out area or speak to a staff member in service.

Please note, children require a hat at when OSHClub After-School Care from September 1st to April 30th if they wish to go outside. While we have a few spare hats that children can borrow, to ensure everyone has a hat and to avoid the spread of headlice, we ask that children either bring their school hat or a hat from home which we can place in a sandwich bag with the child's name on it.

If you need to make a booking, please do so through the iParent Portal. Greenhills OSHClub is open 6:45-8:45am for Before-School Care, 3:00-6:30pm for After-School Care and 6:45am-6:30pm for Vacation Care. Please note, there is a 24-hour lock-out for making bookings for Before- and After-School Care through the iParent Portal. If you need to make a late booking, please contact the service on 0437 928 183 or greenhills@oshclub.com.au.

OSHClub Service Phone: 0437 928 183 **OSHClub Service Email:** greenhills@oshclub.com.au **Coordinator:** Megan Statham -Dancert **Educators:** Hemalatha Rudraiah, Jordan Martin & Macey Evans **OSHClub Head Office:** 1300 395 735 or oshaccounts@junioradventuresgroup.com.au

All families must be enrolled to attend the service, remember this is FREE!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au. All bookings and cancellations can also be managed via the iParent Portal. For on the day bookings, please contact the service coordinator.



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www.facebook.com/mcgrathgreensborougheltham



ACE Information Evening 2020

Thursday
26th March

7.00pm

In College Library
St Helena Secondary College

Bookings not required
Contact Shavin Ishister on 9438 8500
or visit our College website for more details



St Helena Secondary College

Willows Road Eltham North VIC 3015 Ph: 9438 8500
www.sthelena.vic.edu.au

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Excellent”

Our Program for
gifted and talented
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to excellence

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and
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COLLEGE SHOWCASE

**Tuesday
17th March 2020**
Information Sessions
at 5pm, 6pm, 7pm

On show:
Science experiments in our labs
3D printers in our Technology area
Live band playing in the Agora
Subject displays for all areas
Expert teachers Q&A
Sausage sizzle, and much more...

At St Helena Secondary College
we support every student to
Dare to be Excellent.

**Respect
Responsibility
Personal Best**

St Helena Secondary College



St Helena Secondary College

COLLEGE TOURS

Book a personalised tour
through our College website or via
<https://www.trybooking.com/81EDQ>

ST HELENA
SECONDARY COLLEGE
Willows Road
Eltham North
t. (03) 9438 8500
e. st.helena.sc@odumail.vic.gov.au



JUNIOR BASEBALL



BOYS & GIRLS JUNIOR PROGRAM

Winter U11, U13, U15 & U17

All games Saturday morning 9am start

COME & TRY

Thursday 26th March, 5.30pm - 7.00pm

@ Glenauburn Park, Lower Plenty

Bring your gear and have a throw with our players.

Season kicks off mid April.

Find out more

www.juniorbaseball.com.au

Email: rlpbc@outlook.com Phone: Chris 0407 858 629