



EHS Junior Team 2023

Term 1 Newsletter



Kia ora whānau,

A very warm welcome to all families in our Junior Team for 2023, we hope you all had a great summer break. It was great to see so many of you at our 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon. A very special and warm welcome to our 5 year olds beginning school for the very first time.

Junior Teaching Team

New Entrants/Year 1	Year 2
C1 Mrs Jacqui Graham (Team Leader)	B1 Miss Olivia Harris (Team Leader)
C2 Mrs Louise Macdonald	B2 Mrs Jess Richardson
E4 Ms Anne Prichard	B6 Miss Rebecca Barkla
E6 Whaea Angela	D1 Miss Astrid Meulenbroeks/Mrs Louise Harrington
E7 Mrs Erica Hatcliffe	

Learning through Play

The Junior Team focuses on learning through play. In all Junior classrooms tamariki will be encouraged to create, explore, think, manage and connect through a variety of play based experiences. Our play based activities are integrated into all curriculum learning areas. Play is a natural part of 5 and 6 year olds development. Play is hard work for busy little minds!

Term One Inquiry

Inquiry learning is a process where students wonder, formulate questions, investigate and explore ideas, and build new knowledge and understandings. Inquiry learning allows us to learn about a range of curriculum concepts, and the world around us.

EHS Inquiry Cycle				
WE SEE AND WE WONDER What do we notice? What questions do we have?	WE EXPLORE, INVESTIGATE AND DISCOVER How could we find out? What sources could we use?	WE SHARE OUR THINKING How can we share our new skills and learning? Can we use our new skills and learning in other areas?	WE REFLECT We used to think.... Now I know.... What did we notice? What did we wonder?	WE ACT AND WE CHANGE How have we independently taken action?

We start the year by exploring the concept of '*Identity*'. Students will discover who they are as unique individuals, and how we can all develop a sense of belonging to our class whānau, our school and other groups in our wider community.

In the second half of the term, students will delve into the Science curriculum. We will explore animals, their habitats and the requirements they have to stay alive in our 'Living World'. In Week 5 we have a trip planned to Staglands Wildlife Reserve (more information to come). Classes are also encouraged to follow their own mini inquiries which link to student's interests and passions.

General Information

- School officially opens at 8.30am and classes start for the day at 8.55am. Teachers are unable to supervise your child before 8.30am.
- A sun hat must be worn outside at all times during Terms 1 and 4. Wide-brimmed sun hats give the best protection from sunburn.
- If your child is going to be absent, please remember to contact the school absentee phone line or use our texting service.
- Juicies are on sale for \$2 every Friday at lunchtime in Term 1 until stocks run out - starting Friday Week 2.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 3rd February	Pōwhiri for new tamariki and whānau 9.45am
Monday 13th - Friday 24th February	Kelly Sports Fundamental Skill Sessions (information coming soon)
Monday 20th - Friday 24th February	EHS <i>Cultural Week</i> celebrations
Wednesday 1st March Thursday 2nd March	<i>Staglands Wildlife Reserve</i> Junior Team Trips (information coming soon)
Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th April	Scooter Safety with Hutt City Council and NZ Police
Thursday 6th April	Junior 'Fun Run' Event (Last day of Term 1)
Friday 7th April	Good Friday (School closed for Holidays)

How can you help?

- Provide a box of tissues to be shared in class.
- Label all belongings - clothing, lunch boxes, drink bottles and swimming gear.
- Help your child to remember to bring their yellow book bag to school every day.
- Sign up for Seesaw, so your child's learning and class reminders can be shared with you.
- File reading books away each week in our school resource room - talk to your classroom teacher if you can help!

Back to School - Settling in

The beginning of the school year can sometimes be overwhelming for our young tamariki, especially those who are brand new to school! It is normal to feel nervous, anxious and excited as we begin school for the year. Make sure your child has lots of time to rest after a busy school day. Some earlier nights during the first few weeks of the year can help lots too!

If you have concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher first. As a team, we are there to support and encourage your child in their learning, and to ensure they feel happy and confident at school! Here's to a fun filled 2023!

Ngā mihi nui,

Junior Teaching Team