



# Glen Eden Primary Team Newsletter, Term 1, 2019



## *Nau mai, haere mai! Welcome to Term 1!*

### Curriculum Focus

*This term's curriculum focus is "Kei hea au? No hea tātou? Where am I? Where are we from?" Students will be investigating local areas in relation to our community and ourselves. How this looks will vary across classes and levels throughout the school. Students will also be exploring outdoor education and safety skills.*

### Health & PE Focus

*Swimming is the main PE focus and has already begun with teaching sessions for all classes. If you don't yet know which days your child's swims are, please see the classroom teacher.*

### General Reminders

- It is extremely important for students to wear sunhats and to have water bottles on hand every day. Each class has a supply of sunscreen which students are encouraged to use and access to water during class time is also encouraged.*
- All students are encouraged to swim with their class - our pool is a wonderful resource for students to develop water confidence, safety and swimming skills. They need to bring their togs and a named towel on the appropriate days.*
- We celebrate great attendance by having a draw for pizza vouchers in each team as well as the end of term movie and popcorn celebration for students who have been at school for at least 95% of the term.*

## Tui Team News - Introductions

**Room 3 - Casey Bellingham** - Casey is in her 6th year of teaching, 3rd at GEPS. She is especially looking forward to camp and being involved in all our sports teams. Casey is excited for our learning journey ahead and celebrating all our success along the way.

**Room 7 - Monica Topia** - Whaea Monica is in her third year at GEPS, and we are very fortunate that she will be taking Kapahaka this year. Monica also enjoys sports, especially Netball. She is fluent in Te Reo Māori and currently has two daughters who attend our school.

**Room 8 - Francis Paopao-Brown** - Francis is of Samoan and Pakeha descent and is keen on PE, the arts and writing. He has played rugby overseas and has travelled extensively around the world.

**Room 10 - Mariah Chettiar** - Mariah is of Maori and Samoan descent and has joined the Tui team after teaching New Entrants for the last two years. She is an experienced piano player who has a passion for performing arts - particularly singing. She has been working with the GEPS choir for the last 2 years and will be leading the choir again this year.

**Room 14 - Leonard Davids** - Leonard brings many skills to Glen Eden Primary. He is a talented guitar player and is very interested in performing arts and physical education. Leonard is of Samoan descent.

**Tui Team Leader - Alana McKenzie** - This is Alana's 6th year at GEPS. She spent her first 10 years of her teaching career working with Intermediate aged children, and came to GEPS in 2014 to take up a Year 5/6 teaching and Year 5/6 team leader position. This year Alana has the role as Year 5/6 team leader and AP.

## Important Dates:

### February

6<sup>th</sup> Waitangi Day

8<sup>th</sup> Pōwhiri welcome @9:15

12<sup>th</sup> Tui Team Whānau BBQ & Swim @5:30

14<sup>th</sup> Kiwi Team Whānau BBQ & Swim @5:30

21<sup>st</sup> Takahē Team Whānau BBQ & Swim @5:30

25<sup>th</sup> How can you help our kura parent meeting @9:15

28<sup>th</sup> Whānau meeting about GEPS strategic plan

### April

5<sup>th</sup> Term 2 Out of zone enrolments close

11<sup>th</sup> Attendance reward movie

12<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 1

## Camp

As you hopefully already hopefully know, we are very excited that we have been able to secure a booking at Carey Park for a Year 5/6 two night camp this year! The camp will take place in the first week of Term Two which is 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. The approximate cost for the camp will be \$200 per student which will cover all transport, activities, kai and instructors. There will be time allocated at the Tui Team Meet the Teacher Hui for information to be shared with whānau and some Q and A time which is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 5.30pm in the school hall.

### Homework in the Senior School:

Year 5 and 6 students will have regular homework that will help children consolidate on work covered at school. Students would not be expected to spend more than 20 minutes per evening on these tasks. Homework will mainly be learning their basic facts and times tables, regular reading of text at their level, and learning set spelling words. Although Homework is not compulsory and should not be onerous for the students or family members, we encourage our Year 5 and 6 students to attempt to complete their homework the best that they can. This helps not only the consolidation of skills learnt at school but also starts instilling work habits and time management skills that will be beneficial to them at Intermediate and High School. We appreciate Parents/Caregivers support with encouraging homework.

### Garden to Table:

We are fortunate that our Year 5 and 6 students will once again be participating in the Garden to Table programme this year. The Garden to Table programme aims to change the way children approach and think about food. Students, in their classes, participate in the programme once a fortnight, learning how to **grow, harvest, prepare** and **share** fresh, seasonal food. Students take turns planting and maintaining the gardens and worm farms, harvesting the food from the garden, right through to preparing and cooking the food, ready to share with their peers at the end of the session. If you want to know more, pop onto the Garden to Table website to have a look [www.gardentotable.org.nz](http://www.gardentotable.org.nz). Our Garden to Table programme at Glen Eden Primary is run by 2 of our fabulous Teacher Aides Julie McCallum and Margaret Thorby and with the support of wonderful volunteers and friends of our school. We are **always** looking for more whānau members to come along and help out whether it be in the kitchen - preparing and cooking food with the students, or in the garden - planting, watering, weeding or harvesting with the students! It is really important that all students wear covered shoes, have long hair tied back and a hat in the summer months for their Garden to Table sessions.

Term One sessions					
Week	Tuesdays	Thursdays	Week	Tuesdays	Thursdays
3	Room 3	Room 7	8	Room 3	Room 7
4	Room 8	Room 10	9	Room 8	Room 10
5	Room 14	Room 3	10	Room 14	Room 3
6	Room 7	Room 8	11	Room 7	Room 8
7	Room 10	Room 14			

If you are keen to come and have a look or help out, please leave a message at the office with your name and number for Julie or Margaret. Any help is gratefully appreciated! Our programme runs on a Tuesday and Thursday from 12.20-12.50pm and 2-3pm.

### Sports events coming up:

Sport/Event:	Date:
Tui Team Swimming Sports	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February at 9am
Interschool Cricket tournament	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March (Save day Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March)
Interzone Swimming Sports	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Interzone Cross Country	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April

That's all from us for now. We look forward to working with you and your children this year.  
Nga mihi nui,

Ms Casey Bellingham (Room 3 Teacher)  
Whaea Monica Topia (Room 7 Teacher)  
Mr Francis Paopao-Brown (Room 8 Teacher)  
Mrs Mariah Chettiar (Room 10 Teacher)  
Mr Leonard Davids (Room 14 Teacher)  
Mrs Alana McKenzie (Assistant Principal and Tui Team Leader)