



Glen Eden Primary Takahē Team Newsletter Term 1 - 2025



Nau mai, haere mai Welcome to Term 1

Topic Focus

Our topic this term is largely based on whakawhanaungatanga (building relationships and connections). This will be built on through the learning of our new school pepeha as well as our individual pepeha. A pepeha is a way of introducing yourself in te reo Māori as well as connecting you to places and people. It is also a wonderful way for students to celebrate and share their cultural identities. A new year also comes with everyone having a shared understanding of our school values: whakawhanaungatanga, kairangi, ako and manaakitanga.

Health PE Focus

The main PE focus for this term is swimming. Our pool is a wonderful resource for students to develop water confidence and safety, as well as their swimming skills. Each Takahē class swims three times a week, with an optional lunchtime whānau swim on Tuesday and Thursday. Children are expected to participate in the class swimming sessions. Students also have weekly P.E. sessions with Mr Shouaib. It is essential that children have a water bottle, shoes and sun hat for these sessions.

General Reminder

It is extremely important for students to wear sun hats and to have water bottles on hand everyday. Classes have sunscreen which students are encouraged to use.

Takahē Team

- **Takahē Team** consists of four Year 3 & 4 composite classes Room 1, Room 5, Room 11 and Room 15, and one Year 2 & 3 composite class Room 9.
- **Belongings** - We actively encourage tamariki to take responsibility for their own belongings. Names in hats, swimming togs, towels, clothes and scooters make it easier to return any misplaced items. Teachers have vivid markers that you are welcome to borrow to name these items.
- **Reading** - Books read with the teacher or buzz box books may be sent home for further practice. Some students have a reading eggs account which can be used both at home and at school. Logons and passwords will be glued into homework books. All students need a book bag to transport readers and library books between home and school. They can reuse last year's one or buy one from the office for \$6.
- **Mathematics** - In mathematics we have started the year with 3 weeks of Statistics. Tamariki are learning to investigate, group, graph and comment on sets of data. In week 4 we will move onto Addition and Subtraction. Learning the addition and subtraction basic facts will help tamariki to progress. Basic facts relevant to the topic will be glued into homework books for extra practice.
- **Communication with whānau** - Communication with whānau will be through our school newsletter that is emailed and also found on our website. We also share information through our new student management system 'Hero' and Facebook.
- **Trip** - Our term 1 trip is to our local stream, Waikumete, where we will take part in water testing, a stream clean up, mulching stream edge areas and potting native plants. More information to come.
- **Meet the Teacher** - This year we are holding an open afternoon on Wednesday 26th February from 2:00-3:00 pm. You will be able to meet your child's teacher, have a look around the classroom and ask questions.

Introducing the Takahē Teachers 2025



Room 1 - Ngaire Williams (Team leader) Email at ngairew@geps.school.nz

Kia ora. My name is Ngaire Williams I have been at Glen Eden Primary for many years. I really enjoy working with our Glen Eden whānau and tamariki. I have lived in West Auckland all my life. My husband Owen and I live locally in Glen Eden. We have 3 grown up children. I enjoy reading, swimming, gardening, camping at the beach, travelling and motorbike riding (as the passenger). I look forward to getting to know you all. Our swimming days are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Our library day is Tuesday.



Room 5 - Sam Hogan You can contact me by email at samh@geps.school.nz

Kia ora, my name is Sam Hogan. I'm super excited to work with Ruma Rima this year and to be teaching year 3-4 again. I was born in Cairns, Australia but moved with my family to New Zealand when I was 8 and have lived here in West Auckland ever since! I have a lot of hobbies and interests; movies, games, music, and anything you might call nerdy! I live with my wife, another teacher here, Mrs Hogan- and our dog Jessie! Our class time swimming days are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with a lunchtime swim on Tuesdays.



Room 11 - Reese Gleeson You can contact me by email at reeseg@geps.school.nz

Kia ora Whanau, my name is Reese and I'm the teacher in Room 11. I enjoy mathematics, sports and teaching Jump Jam. I am currently living near Glen Eden with my partner Jayden and our two puppies Rocky and Boston. Rocky is a Malchi and Boston is a Pug Griffon. Our swimming days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Our class Library day is Monday.



Room 15 Jess Maoate You can contact me by email at jessicam@geps.school.nz

Kia ora my name is Jess Maoate and I am the kaiako in Room 15. I was born and raised in West Auckland and now live in Laingholm with my husband and two boys. I began teaching at Glen Eden Primary 7 years ago, I love teaching at GEPS! Our swimming days are Tuesday and Thursday. Our library day is Friday.



Jack Shouaib You can contact me by email jacks@geps.school.nz

Kia ora! I'm Jack Shouaib and I'll be teaching Room 1 on a Tuesday and I teach PE to all the other Takahē classes throughout the week. I'm from Wales and arrived in Auckland last year. I'm very excited to be at Glen Eden again and continue exploring all that New Zealand has to offer. I love to run and hike as well as watch football and, of course, rugby! I'm really looking forward to teaching all the children again at Glen Eden this year.



Room 9 - Liesl Crowther You can contact me by email at lieslc@geps.school.nz

Kia ora! I'm Liesl Crowther and I am teaching Year 2/3 in Room 9. Originally from Johannesburg, South Africa, I moved to New Zealand eight years ago. I worked as a journalist and copywriter in marketing and communications for 10 years before changing careers to be a teacher. I look forward to a fun year of learning ahead! Our class swimming days are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday with a lunchtime swim on Wednesdays.