



COVID - 19 UPDATE

5th May 2020

Dear Parents and Whanau,

It's been a really encouraging couple of days with zero new cases across the country. I feel really proud of how we, as a country, have tackled this crisis and brought our number of cases right down. I was on the phone last Sunday to friends who teach in Ontario, Canada and they were feeling a little despondent as they'd just been informed that their schools were to stay in full lockdown for a further five weeks as they are struggling to keep on top of the new cases.

I'd like to say, at this stage, a very big thank you to all of you who are juggling work and managing a family in a time of crisis, with being an 'at home' teacher. A reminder that the health and wellbeing of everyone (the children and adults) is the number one priority for our school this year. Do what you can do in terms of distance learning but please be assured there is no judgement from us when it comes to how much engagement you are able to get from your children. Every family has their own unique context and you need to work with that. We will support as best we can. I'd also like to thank the staff for all the work they have been putting into their learning programmes, both from home and 'on-site'.

We are currently planning for what school will look like when we move into Alert Level 2. At this stage, we are expecting detailed guidelines to come out from the Ministry of Education around Friday or on the weekend. The government will be announcing details around Level 2 this Thursday and then the Ministry of Education will unpack that and provide further details specifically for schools. We expect to find out details around who can and can't come to school, social distancing guidelines, health and safety measures especially around hygiene, and our ability to provide After School Care. I will keep you informed of these as they come to hand.

We will be putting out another survey for **School Attendance under Level 3** for next week. At this stage, we will be assuming we are in Level 3 until we know any different. Like last week's survey, we only ask families who need to send their children to school to fill out the survey. This week we averaged 4% of our school community attending school which is on par with schools around the country.

Keep safe and be kind to one another.

Ngā mihi

Drew Campbell - Principal