

Term 1, Week 2 2021

Dear Parents/Caregivers - Greetings, Kia Ora, Talofa

A huge thank you everyone for the support we have had at the start of the year and particularly this week when we are operating under Covid 19 alert level 2. I have delayed the newsletter in the hope that we would have greater certainty about what was happening level wise but wanted to get some communication out to whānau today.

In Alert Level 2, schools are open for all students to attend and it is safe to do so.

The overriding principles for Alert Level 2 are:

- Minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone at our school is infected
- Understand that Level 2 is not business as usual

The key controls for schools are:

- Ensure people with Covid-19 symptoms or feel generally unwell stay away from school
- Maintain physical distancing (in schools this means children and staff maintaining distance so that they are not breathing on (moist breath zone or touching each other)
- Enable good hygiene practices
- Keep track of people that enter our school



A reminder that our Alert Level 2 Procedures are as follows:

- Parents are to remain outside the school gates for both drop off and pick up
- Only the main gate by the school office will be available to enter the school grounds - these will be open from 8:30am
- Both the gates by the hall and office will be available to leave the school grounds at the end of the day
 - 2:40pm Rooms 15 & 16 (main gate by office)
 - 2:50pm - Rooms 6 & 8 (gate by hall), Rooms 13 & 14 (main gate by office)
 - 3:00pm - Rooms 1, 2 (main gate by office), Rooms 7 (gate by hall)
- Coast Road Bus children to remain in classes until 3:00pm
- Older siblings of children in the junior school can be picked up at the earlier times - it is the children's responsibility to keep track of the time and meet their younger siblings at the designated time
- Students will be asked to sanitise their hands upon entering the gate
- Allison Burdon, Luke Hudson and/or Sam Sanders will be at the gate at the start and end of the day. They will observe students arriving checking for symptoms and will ask those presenting as unwell to go home
- Classroom teachers are also asked to observe students arriving checking for symptoms. Those presenting as unwell should be sent to the office ASAP to be sent home
- Parents farewell/pick up students from the gate showing awareness of physical distancing with other families
- Students are asked to sanitise their hands when leaving the classroom at the end of the day to avoid congestions at the school gate

- Students travelling to and from school on their own will be first to leave
- Parents are asked to be respectful of these regulations as adults are the 'most likely' chance of Covid-19 entering our school grounds
- Swimming will not start until we go back down to Alert Level 1

These procedures will remain in place until we move to Alert Level 1.

Let's hope that we will soon be down to Alert Level 1 and things can go back to "normal"— seeing scenes from around the world on the news makes you realise how lucky we are as a country to have the freedom we have had over the summer break!



I would like to welcome our new children and their families to Wainuiomata Primary School: Arjun, Aryan and Chloe.



We would also like to welcome Prue McIvor back to our school in 2021. Prue will be doing classroom release in Room 16.

Stationery

Thank you to all families who have organised their child/ren's school books. Teachers really appreciate it and it makes it so much easier to get straight into their learning. We ask that all children have their stationery by the end of this week (19 February). If you are having problems with this, please come and talk to me so we can make arrangements.



School Lunches

This week saw the start of the Healthy School Lunches. It has been good seeing tamariki try the new kai. As a school we are asked to give feedback to Eat My Lunches so they can alter or refine their menus which we will be doing.



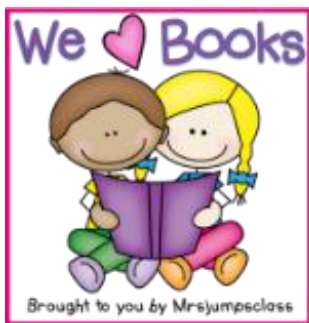
Happy Birthday

Best wishes to these students whose birthday was last week or is this week: Amelia, Victoria and Mason

Bread Tags and Soft Drink Tabs



Please start saving your bread tags and soft drink can tabs – students and their families have asked if we can start collecting these. The bread tags are used to raise money for wheelchairs for the less fortunate and the can tabs are used to support Our Kidney Kids. Thank you – we appreciate your support with this!



Book Amnesty

School books lurking in corners, under beds, in drawers?

We would love them back

We don't care how low you have had them.

They can be returned to your child's teacher or Sam Sanders in the Mutukarua Room at the end of the Junior block

1 book? 50 books? Library books? Class books? Not a problem, as long as we get them back so we can use them again – THANKS

School Attendance

Research has shown that regular attendance at school is essential for good learning. Please make sure that your child/ren are at school every day unless they are sick or at a justified event. Please let the school know when your child is absent. You can either leave a message on the school answer phone (ph. 939 8677) or text a message on

022 3109434. Where possible please make any appointments out of school times.

Thank you for your help with this.



Swimming:

Swimming programmes will begin when we move to Alert Level 1.

Learning to swim and developing increasing water confidence is part of our Health and Physical Education Curriculum. *We expect all children to bring their togs and participate every day.* If your child is unable to swim on a particular day, please

provide a written note for their teacher.



Promoting Positive Behaviour

This year we are continuing our behaviour management programme called Whakaora for students who do not follow our C.A.R.E. values.

Included below are the steps that will be followed for inappropriate behaviour.

For accidental, minor incidents and misbehaviours

Staff will:

- Quietly and unobtrusively talk with the child, clearly stating the problem behaviour.
- Redirect the child to more appropriate behaviours
- Focus for the child is 'putting it right'

It is expected that most behaviours will be addressed through these steps

Children who continue to show inappropriate behaviour will move onto the Whakaora programme as detailed below.

Whakaora 1

For behaviour that is –

- **Unsafe**
- **Negatively affects others, or**
- **Continually repeated minor misbehaviours**

Staff will:

- Quietly and unobtrusively talk with the child, clearly stating the problem behaviour.
- Ask the child the following questions
 1. What were you thinking when you.....?
 2. How does the other person feel about your actions?
 3. What are you going to do to put this right?
 4. What are you going to do to make sure this does not happen again?
- Focus the student on 'putting it right'.
- Fill in the Incident form

A member of the leadership team will ensure the student completes a reflection form and that it is returned to school signed by the parent or caregiver

The incidents will be loaded onto our school management system.

Calm down time will be used if the student is a risk to themselves or others.

Students will remain on Whakaora 1 for a 5-day period.

Whakaora 2

For further repeated misbehaviour or serious misbehaviour

Placed on Whakaora programme within 5 days of a previous incident.

Staff will:

- Quietly and unobtrusively talk with the child, clearly stating the problem behaviour.
- Ask the child the following questions
 1. What were you thinking when you.....?
 2. How does the other person feel about your actions?
 3. What are you going to do to put this right?
 4. What are you going to do to make sure this does not happen again?
- Fill in the Incident form

A member of the leadership team will ensure the student completes the reflection form and that it is returned to school signed by the parent or caregiver. The incidents will be loaded onto our school management system.

A member of the leadership team will contact parents / caregivers to discuss the incident

Time out will be used if the student is a risk to themselves or others.

Students remain on Whakaora 2 for a 5-day period.

Whakaora 3

For on-going or extreme behaviour

As for Whakaora 2, with a possible In-school Suspension for up to 5 days.

The period of time and conditions of the in school suspension will be determined in a case by case basis, depending on the circumstances. In every case we will endeavour to be fair and constant.

In school suspension may mean the student works outside their classroom, (in principal's / DP's office) and has breaks independently of their classmates.

A meeting will be held with class teacher, assistant principal and whānau to develop an Individual Behaviour Plan to support the student make positive behaviour choices.

Whakaora 4

Gross misconduct

Probable use of the Stand Down, Suspension or Expulsion procedures as allowed in the Education Act
Formal investigations by Senior Management Staff and BOT notified if necessary.

A meeting will be held with class teacher, assistant principal, principal and whānau to develop an Individual Behaviour Plan to support the student make positive behaviour choices.

We will report to our school community regularly re the Whakaora programme. If parents have any questions or queries about the programme please talk to your child's teacher. We thank you for your support with this programme.

Our Local Curriculum

Last year we asked for whānau feedback about what they thought was important for their tamariki to learn about at our school

We have been working with our facilitator Bek Galloway to develop our local curriculum based on the New Zealand curriculum. This year we are trialling our local curriculum and asking for whānau feedback on it. Next week I will include the overview and share what your children will be learning about this term.

Important Dates

- Monday 22nd February – Board meeting 5.00pm
- Monday 1st March – Moving March Starts

Hei konei ra - Kind regards



Allison Burdon