



Friday 8 May 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia ora koutou.

Like me, I am sure you have followed with interest the announcements made by the Prime Minister.

It is reassuring to hear how well our country has done at minimising the impacts of COVID-19. Alert Levels 4 and 3 have not been easy and I thank you for your ongoing support with the work we are doing. Teachers, students, and in many cases parents are to be commended on all the wonderful efforts during this unusual time.

The Prime Minister advised that in Alert Level 2 schools are safe environments for children, young people and staff and that additional public health control measures will be in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing.

The good news is that when we are able to, and we will find this out on Monday, we will be ready to welcome all students and staff back to our school site. Bubbles will go, playgrounds will be open and sports equipment can be used. In the meantime, for the next week at least 11- 15 May, online learning is to continue. Once school is back the provision of daily online learning will cease as teachers will again be focusing on teaching and learning in the physical classroom. The only exception will be if someone is needing to isolate for a very specific reason such as contact with COVID in which case we should be informed.

Because we are being asked to maintain physical distancing where practical, although there is no minimum distance requirement for schools at level 2, and also support contact tracing, we ask that parents do not come into the school grounds unless there is a very good reason to do so. Children should be left at the school gate and in the afternoons we would also prefer that you do not congregate in the grounds if possible. Please talk to your children about where you could meet up at 3pm each day.

Assemblies are to be put on hold, no parent helpers will be required, and the perceptual motor programme is also postponed. An exception is parents of brand new students. You will be notified by Assistant Principal, Mrs Logan Burson about visits and beginning school.

TEN NEW CLASSROOMS



Rear view of our new building



Front view of new building

C3 Construction has been back on the job during the past week and are working hard to catch up lost time. They continue to make good progress but the completion date has been postponed till December.

Our term 2 value is assertiveness that we will be talking about when school resumes.

'To be passive is to let others decide for you. To be aggressive is to decide for others. To be assertive is to decide for yourself. And to trust that there is enough, that you are enough'
Edith Eva Eger

Minimising the risk that someone gets infected is a key Public Health message so good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of the school will be a priority. This includes staff and students coughing into their elbows, handwashing and drying, and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.

Under Alert Level 2, we advise any students and staff to stay at home if they are sick or shows hints of sickness. Your cooperation with this is extremely important. We will send anyone home immediately if they show any symptoms.

Our school has safe and sensible practices to maintain the health and safety of everyone on the school site. As described by Dr Payinda in his [NZ Herald article](#), "Covid's not measles or chickenpox, it doesn't hang in the air for hours waiting to infect passers-by. It travels on invisible drops of spit. You don't have to cross the street to avoid anyone. Just avoid getting in their 'moist breath' zone". We all just need to remember to have some breathing space at Alert Level 2!

It's important however that not just at school but at home, safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, as this is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the covid19.govt.nz website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

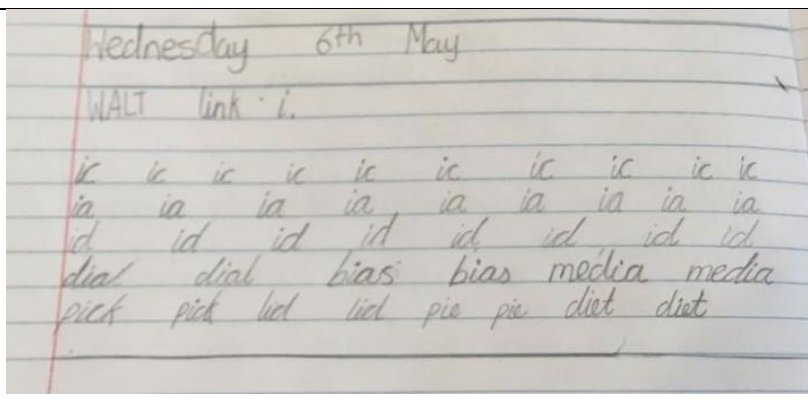
ANOTHER MESSAGE

If anyone has old sombrero hats that they would be willing to donate to the school for our musical show please could you send these in with your children when we come back to school. That would be much appreciated. About 12 in all are needed. Many thanks.

I will be in touch again next week to update you with our plans. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns in the meantime.

Sincerely
Clarinda Franklin
Principal

Right: Amelya Cheng's super handwriting



And happy Mothers' Day from.....

<p>Keileot Zhuang</p>	<p>Max Lawton</p>	<p>Ryan Turner</p>