



Hororata Primary School



PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

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Kia ora koutou

We hope that Term 2 and our distance learning programme has been a success for you so far. We know there will have been any number of challenges for you to deal with but we have been getting some great feedback about the learning that is happening and thank you for all your support.

Yesterday the Government decided that we will move into Alert Level 3 on 28 April. That means we will be open to receive students from 29 April. We will start to prepare our site from Tuesday 21 April onwards.

The key message for you is that if you can, you should keep your child at home. You should only physically send your child to school if you need to. If your child has a health condition that means they are at a greater risk of a severe illness you must keep them at home. If your child is sick please also ensure you keep them at home.

In order to ensure the safety of those children and our staff who do come to school, we will be operating with strict enforcement of health and safety measures.

I want to assure you that we will continue to support your child's learning at home.

We will contact you later this week to find out whether you can keep your child learning from home, or need your child to attend in person.

The Ministry of Education has advised that they are working closely with the Ministry of Health to develop clear guidance that will support schools to safely re-open their premises to students and staff. This will help us work through the public health requirements that we all need to meet. As you will be doing, we want to be sure that what we do will keep our community as safe as possible.

As you will appreciate there are still a number of logistical questions to be worked through in relation to school transport. The safety of drivers and students is our highest priority. Resuming services comes with the challenge of balancing safety, passenger numbers, social-distancing and driver availability. **At this point there are no plans to run school buses. Parents will be kept informed of any developments in this area as they become available to the school.**

For now, we will continue to support your child's learning by distance while we progress our planning for what Alert Level 3 will mean for you and for our school. We will be in touch again soon with more information. As you have been doing, please keep connecting with your teachers with any questions you might have.

Key dates

Step	Dates
Govt announced New Zealand will go to Alert Level 3 at 11.59 pm on Monday 27 April 2020.	Monday 20 April 2020
School staff can access school site	Tuesday 21 April 2020
School site preparation, including cleaning, maintenance, floorplans and logistical management of health and safety requirements	Tuesday 21 April - Tuesday 28 April 2020
Teachers to contact parents to ascertain how many children will be attending school during Alert Level 3.	Wednesday 22 April – Thursday 23 April 2020
First day at Alert Level 3 Teacher/ Staff Only Day	Tuesday 28 April 2020
First Day that some children and young people can attend from	Wednesday 29 April 2020

More information about the status of schooling in New Zealand the COVID-19 Alert Level 3 are available at the Ministry of Education website. <http://www.education.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions about how COVID-19 Alert Level 3 will affect our school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

He aha te mea nui, i te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.

What is the most important thing in the world? 'Tis people, 'tis people, tis people.

Ngā mihi nui

Marty Gameson (Principal - Tumuaki)