

Important: Coronavirus Update – School Closure Information

Dear Families,

With today's announcement by Government, we are implementing with urgency our plan to support your child's learning from home. We appreciate this is a sudden and significant change, and will be heavily disruptive to many people in our community.

For children of essential workers, we look forward to seeing your child here at school tomorrow morning. You may wish to check if you are considered an essential worker

- <https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/covid-19-alert-system/> however those roles include doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers and police. We continue to ask that children who are not well, do not attend school.

- **If you are an essential worker and intend sending your child to school tomorrow and Wednesday please email your classroom teacher to let them know.**
- There will be no tuck shop available.
- Bizzy Bodz will be on site Tuesday 24th March in the morning and afternoon and will reassess for Wednesday as needed. Contact Bizzy Bodz directly for any questions.
- There will be no afterschool tutor classes from tomorrow.

School holidays are being brought forward so that they are completed within the 4 week period.

Holidays will now begin from Monday 30 March to Tuesday 14 April inclusive (a reminder that the Tuesday after Easter Monday is always a closed day for schools).

Please note the instruction to stay home (Alert Level 4) will continue beyond the new school holiday period but schools will be technically open for distance instruction only. Teachers will be working offsite.

We are looking to establish learning activities over the next few days that are level appropriate and are able to be supported by parents. We are aware that many of our parents will also be working from home at the same time. We will share with you information about how our Seesaw platform (and Google Classroom in the Years 5 and 6) will be used to continue children's learning from home.

The Ministry of Education have stated if you need to have your child cared for by someone else you will need to identify that person or people as part of your self-isolated group. This will need to be done by midnight Wednesday and the group must remain the same for the whole 4 week period. The caregiver's own group (eg, their partner and children), your child and your own group (eg, your parents and other children) become one group. This group needs to be limited to minimise any risk of spread and should be no more than 20 people.

Your child will be looking to you for guidance about this decision. Parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers will have a particularly important part to play in reassuring children at this time. If you haven't already done so, you may wish to read the information put together by the Ministry of Education to support your conversations with your children – [Talking to children about COVID-19](#)

As noted by the Prime Minister these restrictions are our best chance to slow the virus in New Zealand and to save lives. We all have a clear role here to slow the spread of COVID-19.

We will continue to communicate with you over the coming days. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school staff and school community. Please look after yourselves and each other and continue to pray for all the members of our community during this challenging time.

God Bless,

Louise Campbell