

**7 September 2021 - Term 3**

**No. 12**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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My warmest greetings to you all.

We are truly looking forward to welcoming children back to school tomorrow morning (Thursday 9th September) from 8:30am. As you will know, since the 1st September we have had 23 children (children of essential workers) on site at school, working safely in small groups and having two teachers with each group. These children will be so pleased to have their friends back at school with them and my staff will be thrilled to be back on site, teaching children face to face.

Over the last 48 hours school staff have been preparing our school for everyone to return safely.

The school has been well cleaned and prepared.

We have provided hand sanitiser and wet-wipes into every classroom and work-space.

Our adventure playgrounds will remain closed for the next week or so.

Our grass and hard-surface playing areas have been divided and these spaces have been allocated equally to each team (Pukeko, Kahu, Weka and Piwakawaka).

We have planned for children to learn and work within their homeroom for almost all of each school day, with no across-class mixing.



There will be no whole-school assembly in our Hall until Friday 24th September (over two weeks away).

Our school music programmes will start in a new format - Choir children will be taught in their homeroom groups, and orchestra will be done in the same way over the next two weeks.

Each school team (Pukeko, Kahu, Weka, Piwakawaka) will plan short outside-play times for children with only two classes from each team outside at one time.

Masks will be worn by staff who wish to do so, and by children who have parents choose them to do so. Mask wearing is not compulsory or mandated for staff or for children while they are at school. Children need to know the correct protocol for wearing and removing a mask, if this becomes an issue during the day, staff will manage appropriately.

I have included a photo of what I will look like for most of the next week or so at school!!



We have thought deeply about how we can best make you feel positive, safe, and assured about sending your child back to school tomorrow. This is our plan and to make sure that this plan works, I am asking for your trust and help. Thanks.

Our Plan.

Senior staff will be waiting at the entry points to the school site.

These entry points are;

- (1) Staff car park off Memorial Avenue, (Piwakawaka and Weka)
- (2) Main Car-park by Hall off Memorial Avenue (Kahu and Pukeko)
- (3) Walkway off Ilam Road.



Parents are requested to bring their child (by car, cycle or on foot) to staff waiting at these entry points from 8:30am please. Please record your visit by using the QR codes widely placed around the entry areas. Children will then be welcomed by staff and directed through the gates to their homeroom.

Parents are then able to depart the school site, without going through our school gates and up to or into classrooms please. I would like all families to be aware of and to respect "social distancing" at our school entry points please.

All homeroom teachers will be waiting in their homeroom to welcome children back to school.

All support staff and non-homeroom teachers will be on Road Patrol, at entry points to the school, or helping children to get to their homeroom.

After the school day is finished for children between 2.30pm and 3:00pm, staff will make sure children are guided back to the same entry point that their parent took them to in the morning.

For this after-school pick-up, parents are requested to please wait outside the entry point (in your car or if outside respecting social- distancing guidelines) and should not come into the school grounds please.

We realise that many families will have had a very quiet and isolated few weeks and we want to make everyone feel as comfortable as we possibly can about being around large numbers of people again. I request that you support these simple rules please.

These rules have been put in place at our school to ensure that all families and all children can feel safe and positive about returning to school.

I have truly appreciated the support, love, and care that you have given to your children over these recent weeks. We are committed to the learning and wellbeing of your children, and I thank you in advance of your support in returning them to our school tomorrow.

Kindest regards  
Matt