



TE AROHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

COVID UPDATE

25 August 2021

Kia ora koutou

I hope you are all safe at home and are adapting to this "new normal", yet again.

Thank you to everyone for supporting your children's learning at home and also for showing your support for our teaching team. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher between 9.00am – 3.00pm if you require information or help with your child's learning.

We want to stay connected to you and your child during this time.

The Delta variant of Covid is a game changer and is very contagious so even though we have no known cases in our area we still need to follow the rules.

Teachers are working hard from home to provide learning opportunities for your children and I would like to encourage you to get your children to keep contact with their teachers. There will be at least two Zoom meetings per week for each class and this is a great way for children to stay connected if they are able to.

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It was great for me to be able to log into 5 class Zoom meetings today to be able to keep contact with our children and their teachers and to see their learning in action. I look forward to being able to do this with all classes again later in the week.

<u>Just a reminder that our school grounds are closed for the public and our students and parents. This means that it is against the law under Level 4 to be on our grounds</u>

TOTARA SPRINGS SPORTS CAMP – CANCELLED

I have had a call from Totara Springs today to inform us that the sports camp for some of our Year 7&8 children has been cancelled because of Covid. This is really unfortunate for our children who have done so much hard work for the camp, but perfectly understandable under the present circumstances.

I was fortunate to be able to get my Covid vaccination the day before lockdown and I would like to encourage everyone to get it when it is available for families. This is my view as I have a very personal connection to Covid. In the last two months I have lost an uncle and a cousin to Covid in South Africa. My sister and her husband and son have been diagnosed with Covid in the last 5 days. So this virus is very real and we have been very lucky to keep it out of New Zealand to date. If we all work together we can work towards containment of the present outbreak.

We will have to wait to see what our Prime Minister says about dropping a level on not tomorrow. Whatever the level we find ourselves in after tomorrow, there will be restrictions and rules to follow if we return to school. I will

communicate this to our whanau very clearly via our school App and your child's Seesaw page as well as on out school Facebook page.

If we continue at level four next week and we have to get further work packs out to our students, then we will be arranging a non-contact pick up of packs by parents at the school. More about this later.

Through our survey it was evident that we still have a number of parents not connected either via Seesaw or the school App. It is vital that we have every parent connected to be able to communicate with you in a number of ways at times like these.

If your address, telephone numbers have change please email the school with the new details to admin@tearohaprimary.school.nz

I have been in touch with our SWiS (Social Worker in Schools), Marina Beilby, and she is more than willing to take phone calls or text messages from any child or parent who needs support at this time. Her work hours are 9.00am – 2.00pm Mon to Thurs

Her details are: Marina Beilby Mob: 021302459

Email: Marina.Beilby@fwn.org.nz

Need to talk (Child or adult): free 24/7 helplines: 24/7 Helpline | 0800 LIFELINE (0800 54 33 54) or free text HELP (4357)

Family/child safety: http://www.areyouok.org.nz/i-need-help

Please stay safe and look after each other.

Ngaa mihi nui

Kevin Johnson Principal/Tumuaki

