



Newsletter

COVID-19

3 May 2020

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Dear Parents

I want to give you a quick update on how we are doing under Alert Level 3 and other information.

Under Alert Level 3, the key message from the Government remains the same, you should keep your child at home and only send them to school if you are an essential worker or you are able to return to your workplace.

We reopened the school last Wednesday and have closely followed the public health measures that have been put in place for Alert Level 3 set by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

We have 30 children back at school, which works out perfectly for three bubbles of 10 children. At this point in time, the Ministry of Education guidelines limit bubbles to 10. We have staff rostered to each bubble to support and supervise the children at school. The children at school continue with distance learning set by their class teacher.

Distance learning is working well for children both at home and at school.

Thank you to the staff who have demonstrated amazing levels of support and dedication to the children and to each other.

Teachers have shared with me some of the work that has taken place at home, and I am most impressed by the diligence and creativity of the children.

While it will certainly have challenges for you at home balancing work and care for your children, we are getting some great feedback from you as well. My thanks to you for everything you are doing to support your child's learning.

Now that we are entering Week 4 of Term 2, I want to repeat a couple of important messages that I sent out at the start of distance learning:

- No one is expecting parents to be the teacher. Your role is to support your child with the learning activities and opportunities that the teachers will be providing to the children through distance connections. Each family's individual circumstances will be different during this period; therefore, **what works for you is good enough**. As long as the children are doing their best, and it fits into your family commitments, that is all anyone expects.
- More than ever, routines are important for us all in whatever situation Alert Level 3 finds us in. Routines are reassuring, give us a sense of direction and promote health and physical wellbeing. Whatever your routine is at home, I send my encouragement to you to maintain that for your children and, in particular, how that applies to their school-based learning and in the other daily responsibilities and activities you have established for your family.

On Monday 11 May, the Prime Minister will announce whether the country will move to Alert Level 2 and what that would mean for schools. At this stage, schools have not been given guidelines on what Alert Level 2 would look like. If and when we do move, I will update you as soon as possible.

In the meantime, take care and look to support those in our community who particularly need extra help during this time.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Anthony". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a clear "Anthony" following.

Principal