

Monday 23rd March, 2020

COVID-19 Update

Kia ora koutou,

Over the weekend, our Prime Minister outlined the new COVID-19 Alert Levels. These can be viewed through the following link:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/>

Nationally, we are at Alert Level 3 and from midnight Wednesday we will be at Alert level 4.

Ōtūmoetai Intermediate School will be open tomorrow and Wednesday for the children of parents who work in essential services. From Wednesday afternoon we will be closed for four weeks.

The biggest question for parents is: should I send my children to school?

If you are an essential worker eg: in emergency services, medical professionals, cleaners, mental health professionals, truck drivers, supermarket workers, primary industry workers, employed in education, Port of Tauranga worker etc then your children can come to school tomorrow and Wednesday.

If you are not one of these, please keep your child home from now on until further notice. Parents may exercise their right to keep their children home even if they are an essential worker.

From the Government

See the prime Minister's announcement through the news channels or at the following link:

COVID19

<https://covid19.govt.nz/>

From Ōtūmoetai Intermediate School

We had 290 students kept home today and were overwhelmed by the number of emails coming into the school.

Over the next 48hours we will not be ringing homes where children to do attend school. Instead please email admin@otuinter.school.nz if your child is coming to school tomorrow and Wednesday.

The teaching staff are currently preparing a home learning package for all students who are at home and this will be distributed electronically to all families by Wednesday afternoon.

On behalf of our Board of trustees, a big thank you to all our staff, students, whānau and families for being exceptionally understanding, very patient and working together with the School in these extraordinary times.

Be kind by checking-in on others, especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Look after each other and following all the steps necessary to stay well.

Ngā mihi

Henk Popping
PRINCIPAL