

26 August 2021

Kia ora koutou, talofa lava, malo e lelei, kia orana, fakaalofa lahi atu, bula vinaka, greetings

Following the Government announcement that Auckland will be at Alert Level 4 until at least 29 August teachers contacted families to check whether learning resources were required.

Thank you to all the families that responded. If you requested learning resources you will be receiving a learning pack from school or a chromebook (Year 7 and 8 students who have internet access) today or tomorrow. These chromebooks are owned by the school and are on loan during this time. They must be returned when school returns at Level 2. During this lockdown period teachers will continue to connect with students and families via phone or email or our online Google Classrooms.

Our school expectations for learning at home during this time are:

- Communication from teachers will take place during normal classroom hours (9am - 3pm, Monday to Friday) unless an alternative arrangement has been made with you. Please respect this timeframe if you are needing to contact your child's teacher.
- Parents are THE BOSS. You decide how much time is appropriate for your child to work on home learning activities. We will support your decision.
- Children's concentration develops with age:
 - For younger students, Year 1-2, expect up to half an hour of focused learning at a time
 - For students in Years 3-6 expect up to 30 - 45 minutes
 - For Year 7-8 students, expect up to an hour
- Break up focused learning time by letting children do other activities in between, e.g. complete a reading task, go outside and play for 10-15 minutes, complete a writing task
- Learning that might not look like learning, but we highly recommend includes: LEGO or other construction activities, puzzles, board games, drawing, colouring, designing, building e.g., crafts, creating with cardboard boxes, taking things apart etc. Keeping a journal, cooking, gardening, doing household chores together. Riding a bike, scooter or skateboard if you have one. Practicing a musical instrument, singing and/or dancing, putting on a concert for the whānau/aiga/family, playing in the backyard, climbing trees, making forts, getting muddy or wet. Making playdough or slime together. Tidying their bedroom.

The school website (www.wiricentral.school.nz) is the best place to access updated information during this lockdown period. Our Learning@Home document on the website contains lots of ideas and links to learning resources. Teacher email

addresses are on the Wiri Central School website should students or parents wish to email their class teacher. There are also links or contact details for support services should you require this information.

If your child is accessing online learning options we encourage you to discuss internet safety. School chromebooks must be used in accordance with our school cyber safety agreement. A copy of this will be distributed but the chromebooks. There is further information about online safety on the school website. Alternately Netsafe has lots of information about keeping children safe online. <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/>

There is a lot we can all do to protect our whānau and community from COVID-19 including:

- Everyone must continue to stay home in their bubble
- Do not mix with other household bubbles – if they have COVID-19, it can easily spread to your household, and every other household they and you are connecting with
- As new cases are identified, [new locations of interest are added to the Ministry of Health website](#) – please keep checking this. You can search by your location and they are sorted by date, so you only need to check the locations which have been added when you last checked
- Wash your hands regularly, especially when you have been out in public
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell and seek advice about whether you need to get a test
- Wear a face covering when out and about, and you MUST wear a face covering in any businesses or services which are open at Alert Level 4 (unless you have specifically been exempted from doing so, which includes anyone aged under 12)
- Keep a two-metre distance from people outside your household bubble
- Check in using the [NZ COVID Tracer App](#) wherever you go or keep a manual record (a reminder the App only stores information on your own phone – no one else will know who it is that checked in, or when)

You can go to the [COVID19.govt.nz website if you would like more information on Alert Level 4 requirements](#).

The wellbeing and safety of your whānau, aiga, family is most important right now. When we move to Alert Level 3 staff will be able to prepare and distribute further learning packs for students. We will keep you updated as new information becomes available.

Stay well, stay safe, stay home.

*Ngā mihi
Jan Donaldson
Principal*