

Wednesday 6 May 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers, welcome to Week 4 of Term 2 2020.

IMPORTANT DATES

Term Two

We'll update this when we know what our term will look like

3 Jul End of Term 2

Term Three

20 Jul Start of Term 3

25 Sep End of Term 3

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Tālofa lava, Kia orana, Nameste, Ni hao, Shalom, As-salāmu ‘alaykum and Greetings

I hope this newsletter finds you well and safe in your bubbles. It has been great to see the progress being made across the country at Level 3 of the pandemic.

On a more local note, our Home Learning programme continues to be highly engaging and successful. It is exciting to see our 4C Curriculum coming through. While all elements can be seen, Communication and Collaboration are certainly evident. I have especially enjoyed seeing our tamariki presenting their mahi via video, voice messages or written reports or posts. This is often inspiring and motivating for others, helping to move their learning to the next level.

You may also be interested that our two onsite Bubbles continue to operate successfully. These children are enjoying their learning and especially the face to face contact but school certainly feels very spacious and a bit different with so few children here.

Another benefit has been the clear improvement of our tamariki in regards to working with Seesaw and other platforms. This learning will most certainly continue to be useful when we are all back at school.

On that issue, we eagerly await information from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education about Level 2 and what this will look like. While it is tempting to try and predict, it remains prudent to act when we have the necessary information. We are expecting some school organisational guidelines for Level 2 on Thursday 7th May. A decision about when New Zealand will move into Level 2 will be made by cabinet on Monday 11th May. The Prime Minister has said that the move to Level 2 would occur with 48 hours notice.

Therefore, we will keep you informed about Level 2 changes at Greenacres School as soon as possible. Until that time, we thank you for maintaining the clear guidelines provided for us all at Level 3. Let's not let things slip at this important stage by maintaining hand hygiene, social distancing and keeping our bubbles tight. We also thank you for keeping your children at home unless you are unable to.

We are aware Covid 19 and the lockdown has created challenges for some of you at home. Balancing work and care for your children is no easy task. Stress can certainly be a factor that can affect families and I want to remind you to reach out to others if you are having difficulty. We are on the end of the phone (or email) at school during work hours. Please take care of yourselves.



There were no new students to welcome this week.

Ehara taku toa, he taki tahi, he toa taki tini

Our success and strength is not only measured by the success of the individual but by the success of the collective

We need to wish Mrs Andrea Bengé congratulations. Andrea has been offered an amazing role as a Special Education Advisor at the Ministry of Education. We are sad to see Andrea go as she has made a really positive impact teaching in a part time capacity since beginning at Greenacres in 2019. She will be missed right across the school but especially in Ngahere where she worked mostly in 2020. Andrea will leave us when we enter into Level 2 and we will need to invite her back so we can say goodbye properly. We are thrilled to have Jo Wear join us and thank her for her flexibility at these uncertain times. Jo is well known to the school and is excited about joining the team.

Out-of-zone Enrolment

A reminder to mention to friends, neighbours, family, etc, to register their interest in enrolling their new entrant child if they are due to start school in the second half of the year, and also that we have a small number of out of zone places available for new entrant students. We would normally advertise this in the local paper but in the current circumstances, as it is not being published, we are more reliant on word of mouth. Please ask people who are interested to contact the office for a pre-enrolment registration form.

On a personal note, I thank you for all the lovely welcomes and greetings. Once again, I look forward to meeting you all in person shortly.

Ngā mihi
Mike Thomas
Principal / Tumuaki