

12 August 2020

Good morning everyone,

I hope you're well and adjusting to the latest developments. It's a bit of a shock to all of us, but our children are often the ones who will be finding this most difficult, so please take care of yourselves and your whanau, and let us know if we can help at all.

Some more details on arrangements this week:

- 1. We have no children in school today, but we are open for children of essential workers on Thursday and Friday this week during school hours. Primary students will be looked after in After School Care; College students will be in the Library; and we will also be running a pre-school zone for children of staff only. College children will be working on their online programme in the Library; primary students will do some online work, but it will be a mixed work/play environment in After School Care. Please let me know if you will be sending your children to school on Thursday and/or Friday.
- 2. Masks are compulsory for all students and staff at school during Level 3.
- 3. Our online programme will be fully up and running on Thursday and Friday. Microsoft Teams has improved a little in the last couple of months, and there will be some additional subjects taught in College as well. Teachers are currently planning work for tomorrow.
- 4. The school will be open this week but there will only be a small number of staff in school. Signing in at Reception is compulsory.
- 5. If you need to pick up books or equipment for the children, **please do this before 1 pm today.** You need to wear a mask, and to sign in at Reception.

Finally, you will see that we haven't made firm plans for next week yet. This is because we don't know exactly what the situation will be. I will write home at least daily this week to give you an update, and we will keep our website up to date as well, but please just ask if you have any questions at all.

I'll end where I started. I've been especially proud to be a part of the Pinehurst School community this year. We have all pulled together and overcome problems as a community. Right now, our school is humming with activity as our committed staff get ready for the next few days and beyond. I'm very proud of them. Our main job right now is to look after our tamariki, our children, and we are here to support you if you need us. So keep getting in touch, and keep asking questions. Working together makes us stronger.

Kia kaha Alex

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