

Kia ora koutou

I hope everyone got a good night's sleep and is looking forward to a busy day: the sun is out so the weather at least will be brighter. The news yesterday obviously wasn't very good, and we are expecting more cases today, but I hope that everyone is managing as well as they can, and that the children are enjoying being home and connecting to their online lessons.

Online lessons will be continuing today and tomorrow exactly as timetabled, so just a few pieces of news for you:

1. The Year 3 / 4 Production has now been postponed and will, we hope, take place in Term 4.
2. The Year 11 to 13 Mocks have been postponed until the week beginning September 6th, provided we are in Level 1 or Level 2 by that time. There will be no Mocks before that date. If we are not able to run the Mocks in that week, we will make a call as early as we can, and will give students as much notice as possible.
3. AIMS and the Year 8 Ski Camp have not been cancelled yet, and we will make a decision on these within the next few days.
4. All College students are expected to attend online lessons - we are aware that there is an old document circulating that a few students are using to say that they don't need to attend lessons. Primary students have a full programme of lessons, but if parents feel that a child needs a break or will benefit from having less time in front of the screen, that's absolutely fine.

And please, make your decisions according to your circumstances. Our job is to support students and families, so just talk to us if you have any concerns or questions, and we will work them through with you. Communication and kindness - accompanied by good organisation from the school! - go a long way right now.

On a broader note, there are still ten cases as I write, and the locations of interest list is now pretty long, including many locations on the North Shore, such as Albany Mall - very close to us, in other words. I am aware of several people connected with the school community who are getting tests, and there will be others out there too. This is entirely normal, and a really important part of our response to Covid-19 as a country. The current list is here (and this will grow, unfortunately):

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/contact-tracing-covid-19/covid-19-contact-tracing-locations-interest>

I did want to make clear, though, that there are **no** positive cases of Covid-19 connected with our school. If there were, I would expect to be notified, and I would follow the Ministry instructions and be in touch directly with everyone. Feel free to let me know if you have been at one of the locations of interest, and are getting a test, but there's no requirement to do so. Any information you do send through will, of course, be treated confidentially.

Have a good day today, keep in touch and look after yourselves and your whanau. I'm looking forward to seeing my Scholarship class after school, and to hearing about all the great work everyone is doing online.

Kia kaha

Alex

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Executive Principal

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