

NEWSLETTER / PANUI

March 17th, 2020 ISSUE #5



A MESSAGE FROM MR EVANS - TUMUAKI / PRINCIPAL

LATEST INFORMATION AROUND COVID-19 - WHERE TAI IS AT?

As a school, we are following all advice as it comes to hand from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. Currently, as of today, we will no longer be having full school assemblies as our combined number with staff is 500 people. We have fully stocked all soap and hand sanitising dispensers and are communicating the importance of safe

handwashing/

hygiene practices. The following information is the latest from the MOE;

We will continue to keep you as informed and updated as new information comes to hand. <u>Our aim is to keep everything as normal as possible, yet minimise risk as</u> <u>appropriate.</u> These are certainly interesting times. All latest health information can be found on the following MOH website;

https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronav irus

Prime Minister announcement

On 14 March the Prime Minister announced new and strong protective measures to keep individuals, families and communities safe and healthy. The measures came into effect from 1am Monday 16 March 2020 and are as follows:

• Travel restrictions remain in place for people arriving from or who have been in mainland China and Iran over the prior 14 days (Category 1A)

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• In addition, all travellers coming from all parts of the world, except parts of the Pacific, will be required to self-isolate for 14 days on arrival in New Zealand. This also includes Australia and French Polynesia. This self-isolation requirement applies to New Zealand citizens, permanent residents and their families (Category 1B)

• All travellers coming from the following parts of the Pacific will be required to self-isolate if they show symptoms, within 14 days of arrival. This includes all Pacific Islands Forum members (except French Polynesia, category 1b), Associate Member Tokelau, and Observer Wallis and Futuna. (Category 2).

Those in New Zealand thinking about traveling overseas, should avoid all non-essential travel at this time.

For anyone who arrived into New Zealand prior to this time they will need to follow the previous restrictions. The self-isolation requirement would therefore only apply to those arriving on Sunday 15 March and earlier, if they had travelled in or transited through China and Iran or had travelled in the Republic of Korea or Italy.

This decision has obvious and immediate implications for any overseas trips you have planned for your school and for staff who may have personal travel planned.

Prevention remains a priority

Students, staff and community still have a very large role in preventing the spread of COVID-19 through:

• Awareness - know the symptoms and where to get good information

• *Vigilance* - stay away if you are ill

• <u>Good hygiene</u> – hand washing and drying, good cough and sneeze etiquette will prevent spread of a range of ills as we move into cold and flu season

Nga mihi nui Lloyd Evans Principal/Tumuaki

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Protect yourself and others against COVID-19

HEALTH

Cover your coughs or sneezes with tissues or your elbow

Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or in a plastic bag

Wash and dry your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing – use soap or hand sanitiser

Stay away from others if you're unwell

health.govt.nz/COVID-19

Protect your family/whānau from COVID-19 (coronavirus)