

Thursday 21st October 2021



Te Atatū
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

COVID level 3 lockdown (Newsletter #10 –Term 4 – Week 1)

Tēnā koutou katoa, ko te tumanako kei te ora koutou.

Fakalofa Lahi Atu kia mutolu osi. Faaka mafana e tino kia mutolu - Welcome to Niuean Language Week! A big hello to everyone, I hope everyone is safe and well.

Thank you parents for once again supporting your child within lockdown learning as we start the new term. It isn't the term 4 start I had envisioned it would be.

As a staff our priority for students this term is to develop **ROUTINE** and to **RECONNECT** with each other to continue to develop, grow and nurture the learning journey and to make the most of the situation we find ourselves in within an online world.

For some students, motivation may be waning, and they are finding it harder to re-engage; For others, connecting in online and seeing their friends and teachers again after the holiday break is motivation for them to engage in the online journey.

Wherever your child may be, by students connecting in and making the time to create the routines for engagement is crucial to support the eventual return back to school, whenever that may be. Teachers are there to support students within their learning and they would love to see all students engaging.

Student devices – For those students who have one of our school chromebooks – please be careful with them. Unfortunately, there have been some cracked screens and damaged devices which we have been made aware of over the last few weeks. Please look after them! [Devices should not be picked up by the screen and when being carried, should be carried carefully.](#)

Events cancelled- Unfortunately, we have had to **cancel** the **Te Atatū Schools Cultural Cluster Festival Day** which TAI were organising and hosting for the schools within our Te Atatū cluster, which was scheduled for early November. This is the 2nd year in a row that we have had to do so. We are hoping that 3rd time will be the charm next year.

School Production – it is also with regret that we will also have to **cancel** our school production of **'The X Factory'**. We were really hoping that we would be back at school by the beginning of term 4, so that we would be able to perform, however, with an uncertain return to school time and limits to attendance numbers likely if or when we do return, we have to make the call.

I would like to thank Mrs Northwood and all student participants in the production.

I know I was really looking forward to it and I understand that many students who had roles and were practicing lines and dances, will be very disappointed in this news.

Vaccinations – The Ministry of Education has recently put out a mandate for all **educators/school staff** to be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022. Should schools return at level 3 this year, all staff are expected to return a negative Covid test within 5 days of a return before being allowed back on site. Myself and the bubble staff currently at school have all returned negative Covid tests.

In regards to students between 12-15 years of age and vaccinations. As an intermediate school, we don't have all our students within this age range. *Although vaccination registers are required for secondary, they are not yet required for the intermediate schools.* Therefore, you don't need to let us know if your child has been vaccinated at this stage. If there are any changes to this information, we will notify you.

Enrolments - If you know of any Year 6 students at our Peninsula schools, who have yet to enrol, could you please encourage them to do so. Local zone enrolments are very slow to come in and we need to know numbers for our staffing for 2022.

Enrolments can be found on our website www.teatatu.school.nz and can be filled in and emailed to office@teatatu.school.nz or to linda.s@teatatu.school.nz

Finally, a reminder that **Monday 25 October is Labour Day holiday.** There will be no online meetings or teaching from staff on this day. They will resume teaching again on Tuesday 26 October.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, noho haumarū.

**Lloyd Evans
Principal / Tumuaki
Te Atatū Intermediate School**