



PUNI SCHOOL

Effort Brings Reward

Kia ora whanau

I hope all is well in your bubble.

As shared in the email last week syndicates / classes will be sending out the information for your child's distance learning this afternoon (Tuesday 14th April) in readiness for the school term starting on Wednesday 15th April. This will be via See Saw, email or a shared link.

A reminder that each syndicate will have a slightly different approach, but there will be a range of consistent and optional activities available. Just do your best and please ask for help if you need it.

Some of you will be receiving the packs organised from the Ministry of Education. The priority for these was for students who have limited or no internet or no suitable device. We hope these will be to you asap as they will be sent out from today.

The key message is that we want you to do what you can do to support your children. The focus remains on the NZ Mission of stamping out COVID 19.

Be Safe, stay in your bubble and look after each other.

Your child's teacher is there to help and support and whilst we are not there in person, the hard working staff will continue to focus on what we can do to support in this distance context.

Many of you will have seen differing reports in the media about when and how schools will reopen once we move down from Alert Level 4. There is a lot of misinformation out there so this is the information I have received from the Ministry of Education.

The five main points are:

1. No decision has been made yet about when schools will reopen. This decision will be made based on data about the spread of Covid-19 and how we are going in stamping it out. It is unlikely that a decision will be made before 20 April.
2. The very earliest schools would open would be 29 April. And this would likely only be for SOME students, not all.
3. The Ministry (and us) are preparing for several possible scenarios - opening only for staff, opening for essential workers' children, opening in shifts so that children can stay 2m apart, opening for just senior students, a combination of distance and on-site learning, staggered

opening, not opening for a number of weeks etc. We want to be prepared for whatever the decision is once the data becomes clear.

4. There will be ample notice before schools open. They will not be closed one day and open the next. We will be given ample time to ensure that the school has a deep-clean, that our planning for the term is completed and that we put in place any H&S regulations.

5. The Ministry has been VERY clear that we will NOT be moving out of Alert Level 4 early.

Chris Hipkins is, this week, working on guidelines for what Alert Level 3 could look like for schools. We look forward to his guidance on this matter and this will likely be to us by the end of this week.

If you have any questions, please do let me know.

We look forward to reconnecting with you on our first day of Term 2, by distance, on Wednesday.

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