



8 May 2020

Kia Ora Elim Christian College Community

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Yet another week has gone by for distance learning. Never a dull moment, that is for sure. Again, congratulations to you our parent community for all you have willingly or even unwillingly done to support or just cope with your child's learning programme this week.

You will have heard the message(s) regarding Alert Levels yesterday from the Prime Minister. It is always fascinating to see how we all interpret what we hear! As a school our job is to do our best to follow the instructions, re-jig the programme and communicate it to you.

Please know the following:

- We are still in Level 3 – and it has been dubbed '*the waiting room*'.
- Even if the PM announces on Monday that she is moving the country into Level 2, we remain in Level 3 for 48 hours. So, on that basis, Level 2 only kicks in on Wednesday 13 May.
- Distance learning will continue next week – all week!
- Our 2 small Learning Bubbles will continue all week at our Golflands Campus with no additional students being accepted.

Level 2 is dubbed '*play it safe*' and that is what we intend to do as a school. The staff have had numerous meetings today to set the structure under which **we anticipate opening school on each of our 3 campuses to all students on Monday 18 May.**

It may be that a number of families will remain reticent about sending their children back to school, preferring to continue distance learning for longer. We understand this but have one small request. Early next week we will send out a short survey and only need those parents not sending their children back on Monday 18 May to complete it ASAP.

We intend to be **safe and sensible** at school and the clear message is that for a number of days or even longer school will look and feel different and it will not be simply business as usual. More detailed information on our 'start back' procedures will be released by Wednesday next week.

Summary

- Monday 11 May - PM announcement and distance learning continues
- Wednesday 13 May – possible move to Level 2 for the nation
- Monday 18 May – possible restart of face to face schooling
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Psalm 24:1 says "*God claims the world as his. Everything and everyone belongs to him!*" This is both powerful, immensely reassuring and prophetic. Rest this weekend knowing that HE knows you, cares deeply for you – more than you give HIM credit for and in HIM you can trust no matter how uncertain tomorrow may look to you!

Here at school we can't wait to see all our students againand it won't be long!

Nga mihi Regards

Murray Burton MNZM

B.Ed Dip Tchg

PRINCIPAL