



Kia Ora Elim community

As Principal, I have consulted with the Board and based on the current information available to us as outlined below, **our school, Elim Christian College - all 3 campuses Botany, Golflands and Mt Albert will be closed for Monday 13 February.** This decision is made with the safety of all our school community in mind and is not taken lightly.

We have based this decision on the following:

1. The following message for Auckland Schools from the Secretary for Education

"It is the responsibility of Boards to make the decision to close their school if they consider that it is not safe for on-site teaching and learning. Further to the most recent information from Emergency Management advising the upgrading of the warning to a Red warning for Auckland, I recommend that the Boards of Auckland schools make a decision to close their schools for on-site instruction from Monday 13 February. Schools should reopen as soon as possible, subject to mitigating and managing risks. Iona Holsted"

2. The strength of the expected cyclone

3. Advice from Emergency Management Auckland

4. Message from the Auckland City Council to avoid all unnecessary travel

5. Minimizing the safety variables that staying open for on-site attendance would bring - namely road closures, power outages, having to retain students at school with limited supplies of food, water - complicated by any power outages, the challenge of maintaining safety on our sites in view of high winds etc....

6. The existing fragility of Auckland's infrastructure and already waterlogged grounds

As this is a short closure and so near to the start of term, there will be no provision for online learning tomorrow.

A decision will be made shortly after 1.00pm tomorrow regarding arrangements for Tuesday 14th February and even Wednesday 15 February. This decision will come only from me as Principal on behalf of the Board.

Families should continue to monitor and follow all advice from Auckland Emergency Management.

Following this update, Deputy Principals may communicate with your campus as and when they need to.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

These scriptures were shared at Elim Christian Centre this morning by Becs Green:

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Psalms 56:3

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

Philippians 4: 6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

John 14:27

Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it to you as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.

Nga mihi nui

Regards

Murray

Murray Burton MNZM

B.Ed Dip Tchg

PRINCIPAL / TUMUAKI