



19 September 2021

Kia Ora Elim community

In this update I again share a few snippets and messages but especially I wish to cover **what school will most likely look like in Alert Level 3.**

Firstly, a powerful scripture for us all:

In **Psalm 37:25** David speaks of God's provision and claims that in his entire life the Lord has provided for him. *"I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken....."*. **So Elim Whanau, keep placing your trust in HIM because HE cares for you.**

There are several things we would like to say about **Alert Level 3 and school**. If the PM signals a move for Auckland to Level 3, we anticipate schools will be required to open either from Wednesday 22 or Thursday 23rd September.

1. We have a strong plan and outline of how we will operate at Level 3, and this will be communicated once we have confirmation from the Prime Minister.

2. Operating any form of face-to-face schooling at Level 3 under the Delta variant has a number of health and safety challenges. As a state integrated school, we are relying on what the MOH and MOE tell us. We are using their guidance to do the best we can to minimise risk and maximise health and safety. **It is our firm belief that most if not all students should continue to learn from home, as hard as that is at times.**

3. Y11-13 all continue to learn from home for all of Level 3. Y11-13 students must not come on site.

4. If required, we will only open one campus at Level 3 for Y1-10 students and that will be Golflands.

5. Parents and visitors are not permitted to come on site at Level 2 and 3. Staff will meet families at the gates. **All adults arriving at school for drop offs and pickups must have a mask on and maintain social distancing.** This is mandatory.

6. There is **no requirement from MOH or MOE for anyone on a school site to be vaccinated.** In addition, the MOE in particular have said many, many times that we cannot ask or demand in any way that a person - adult or child, declare their vaccination status. Therefore, we operate school at Alert Level 3 on that basis.

7. Our 'opening the school at Level 3' plan is based on a Gold, Silver & Bronze approach: This reflects our transparency, our desire for maximum risk reduction, our aim to preserve wellbeing of staff still teaching online; student health and well-being and our recognition of the supreme difficulties of operating school on and off site!

Gold Standard: (our responsibility for maximum health and safety)

- a maximum of 2 student learning bubbles (maximum of 10 students)
- staff assigned to a bubble on site do not also have online teaching commitments
- all staff on site have been vaccinated

Silver Standard: (still our responsibility for maximum health and safety but with less guarantees under the level)

- a maximum of 3 student learning bubbles (maximum of 10 students)
- the vast majority of staff on site assigned to a bubble do not have online teaching commitments
- most staff on site have been vaccinated

Bronze Standard: (still our responsibility for maximum health and safety but with rapidly increasing reduction in being able to manage the COVID risk as we see it under the level)

- more than 3 student learning bubbles (maximum of 10 students)
- staff on site assigned to a bubble will most likely also have online teaching commitments
- an equal number of staff on site have and have not been vaccinated

Level 3 Survey

Mrs Openshaw is including a survey with this update. Please follow her instructions here:

Essential workers are being requested to complete a registration for your child/children so that we can plan for Level 3. It is important to note that siblings will not be placed in separate learning bubbles regardless of their year level. The school day will vary slightly from normal arrival and departure times, as each learning bubble is required to have separate times.

Finalised planning will be sent to registered families before school opens.

Please complete the registration form by Monday 20th September 3pm:

<https://forms.gle/zXYigCw2DkzUoKr6>

In other news:

- Here us a link to the GCMY Assembly Friday morning - very special:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mpt5kGQDSxORRBfLP1q1s4QuEgHiE3r2/view?usp=sharing_eil_dm&ts=6143c119

- This is a shoutout to Whaea Kristelle Varney - our Bi-Cultural Lead and Maths teacher at our Mt Albert Campus. Over the entire Māori Language Week last week Whaea produced stunning videos to provide instructions and encouragement in the use of Te Reo. She also got students involved and it was phenomenally good. Paki paki to Whaea Kristelle.

- 3 clips you might like to listen:

1. Our first clip <https://youtu.be/wczPnHy5UNE> comes from Aorere College - the performance is beautiful but so too are the words.....it gives all honour and glory to God ...Te Atua, te piringa - says the Lord God, our shelter/refuge Toku oranga - my life

He hōnore - Honour

He kōroria - Glory

Maungārongo ki te whenua - Peace to the land

Whakaaro pai e - May good thoughts come

Ki ngā tangata katoa - To all people
Ake ake, ake ake - For ever and ever
Āmine - Amen
Te Atua, te piringa - The Lord/God, shelter/refuge
Toku oranga - my life

I thought of Isaiah 26: 8 “Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.”

2. Second clip you will know well The Blessing Song ...but the Aotearoa NZ version is the best - extremely moving and powerful: <https://youtu.be/eZQPifs2kjo>

*May His presence go before you And behind you, and beside you
All around you, and within you He is with you, He is with you
In the morning, in the evening In your coming, and your going
In your weeping, and rejoicing*

*He is for you, He is for you He is for you, He is for you He is for you, He is for you **He is for you, He is for you***

Amen, amen, amen.

3. As a young teacher centuries ago (I know) in 1982, the band Toto brought out a song called Africa. It topped the charts forever or so it seemed. In my little Mitsubishi Lancer, the only thing I had room for in the back seat was two ridiculously loud car stereo speakers (again I know right!!) and Toto was always on. If I wished to carry my Fender Rhodes Electric Piano to band practice, the speakers had to come out! Last week I discovered this version with cool sound effects - enjoy ...or not..... https://youtu.be/6_vpB3tJdel

God bless and much Aroha

Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL