

Week 7 Updates

13/03/2020 by Karen Poole

Kiā ora e te whānau

Information about Covid19 is changing rapidly. The purpose of this letter is to keep you updated in terms of how Covid19 might impact on the school and your children. Firstly, a few hints and tips to support you and your children:

1. Limit your child's exposure to social media. Children often receive very mixed messages about events such as Covid19, and they often don't have the maturity to understand the issues. Children need your guidance to minimise their fears, while being supported to make choices to keep themselves healthy and safe.
2. Hand washing is **essential**. Wash for at least 20 seconds in hot water with soap, and dry hands properly. Also avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
3. It is important to remember that we are heading into the cold and flu season. As always, if your child is feeling unwell, please keep them at home. Teach your child how to cough into their elbow and throw away their used tissues.

The Ministry of Education have asked us to be prepared in the event of school closures. We require some information from parents and caregivers in order to plan for this possibility. The use of online learning is an effective way for us to continue to offer learning in the event of a school closure. Please ensure that you have signed up for Educa, as this would be an essential tool for teachers and students to share work if the school were to close.

Please complete this very short survey to help us prepare [On line learning](#)

Tawhai School's Tu Rangatira (previously known as our student council)



Many of our very wonderful Year 6 students put their hands up to be part of our school leadership programme. Whilst not everyone who put their names forward can be part of the group, there will be plenty of opportunities for leadership roles. Our process for selection was for children to present their ideas on being a leader at Tawhai School to their class. Teachers then put names forward for interviews and over the last few days I have had the pleasure of talking with a number of potential NZ Prime Ministers.

I will be announcing our Tu Rangatira's for 2020 in the next day or two. This group will be developing their leadership skills, organising School events, and representing Tawhai School at various community events/activities.



TEACHER ONLY DAY FRIDAY 27 MARCH
PLEASE MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CHILD'S
SUPERVISION ON THIS DAY.

Ngā mihi nui
Karen Poole

Message from the

Board

In December of last year the Government announced that they would be injecting extra funds into NZ schools to help improve infrastructure. Tawhai School was granted \$258,489 to spend on infrastructure projects of our choice.

At our Board meeting in December last year, we discussed the option of installing a large canopy over the concreted quadrant area where the existing netball courts are. The idea was that a covered outdoor space would eliminate many issues we have with the size of our school hall as well as provide an area of play in all weather conditions. With the outdoor cover we would be able to hold full school assemblies, full school discos, celebrations for the wider community to attend and provide sun safety for all. We also discussed the option of putting astro turf down to improve the existing surface.

We are sure that you will agree that this is an exciting option for us to pursue and we are pleased to inform you that at our recent February meeting we agreed to go ahead with this project and have engaged a property management company to put the project out to tender. We hope to have the project started in the near future and will keep you informed with the progress.

Ngā mihi
Angela Whitmarsh
Chairperson Tawhai School Board of Trustees

