

Last Week of Term!

18/09/2020 by Karen Poole

Kiā ora e te whānau

Well here we all are at the end of a very busy term! I am sure everyone is looking forward to a rest and a break from the school routine.

Last week I had the pleasure of travelling to Rotorua with the Upper Hutt Principal Network to visit 4 fantastic schools:

- Otonga Primary School
- Rotorua Intermediate
- Lynmore Primary School
- Whakawerawera School

It was a real privilege to see these schools in action and hear about their curriculums and practices. The schools were incredibly welcoming and shared their successes and challenges openly. There were some real gems to reflect on which I will be sharing with staff next term.

COVID Update

As announced by the Prime Minister today, Auckland region will move to Alert Level 2 from 11.59pm Wednesday 23 September and the rest of New Zealand will move to Alert Level 1 from 11.59pm tonight.

For us this means from tomorrow our school day reverts back to **8:45am until 3pm**. All children should now remain in their classrooms until 3pm, and continue to arrive at school **no earlier than 8:30am**.

Please read the key messages from the MOE below:

Schools are open and must operate safely.

At Alert Level 1 the virus is contained in New Zealand but not overseas. We need to have systems and practices in place in case COVID-19 reappears in our community.

There are no restrictions on personal movement at Alert Level 1 – all children and staff should be at school. The only people who will need to stay away are:

- those required to self-isolate
- individuals who health authorities have asked to stay away while waiting for a test result (most people will be able to go back to school/work while waiting for a result)
- children, students and staff who are unwell.

Testing remains a crucial component in preventing an outbreak.

If a child or staff member is sick, they should stay home. If they have cold or flu symptoms they should call their doctor or Healthline on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) for advice about getting tested. If recommended to get tested, they should do so.

Schools will close for cleaning and contact tracing if there is a confirmed case who was infectious when at school.

Your Director of Education will work closely with you and health authorities should this occur. Please contact your Ministry regional office if you hear of a confirmed case in your school community but haven't been advised about it by health officials.

You must continue to support contact tracing through the display of QR Code posters and your visitor register, attendance register and timetable.

If a new case does appear in your community, your contact tracing processes will support the speedy identification of close contacts of the confirmed case. Please encourage your community to check-in using the NZ COVID Tracer app including when they are doing pick ups and drop offs.

There are no restrictions on numbers at gatherings.

Schools, like workplaces are not considered to be gatherings. Physical activities including cultural and sporting activities, practices and events can go ahead.

Fundamental public health measures continue to apply:

- Hand hygiene
- Cough and sneeze etiquette
- Regularly cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces.

There are no restrictions on domestic travel.

People should avoid using mass transport if sick, awaiting a result from a COVID-19 test or required/recommended to self-isolate. Individuals travelling to, through and from Auckland

by plane are required to wear a face covering.

Face coverings continue not to be required when in school.

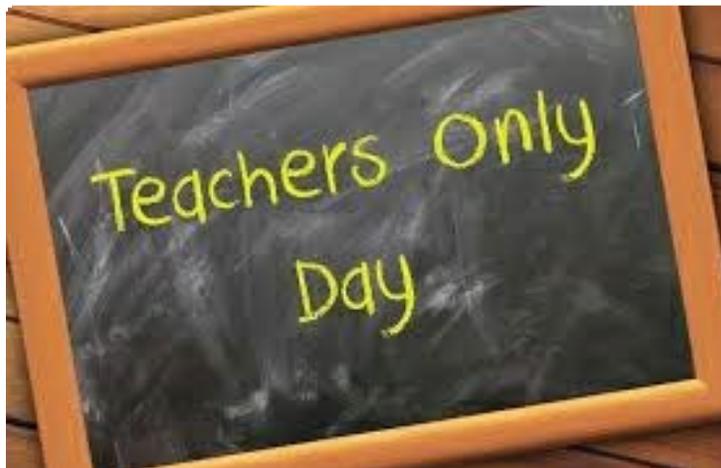
This includes school transport and charter buses hired by the school to transport students and staff to and from school. Anyone who chooses to wear a face covering in any setting should be supported to do so

While we are doing the right things, it is important that we continue to pay attention to the right information. Misinformation is designed to create panic, fear and confusion. Check your source. Get the real deal from the [Ministry of Health](#) or [Unite Against COVID-19](#) websites. The Ministry of Education also provides information for schools and early learning services including specific information for [parents and caregivers](#).

Our knowledge of COVID-19 is developing quickly. But misinformation spreads further and faster. Be part of the solution. Don't share posts or stories if you're not sure if they're true or aren't from trusted sources like the Ministry of Health or Unite Against COVID-19 websites.

Teacher Only Day - Week 2 Term 4

Friday 23 October - this is advanced notice of our Teacher Only Day.





Have a safe and happy holiday everyone.

Ngā mihi nui
Karen Poole