



Newsletter No 9

Bathgate Park School

15 May 2020

Act kindly and gently

Respect yourself, others and the environment

Own your actions

Have a positive attitude

Always do your best

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Talofa, Bula, Ola, Namastee, Kamusta, Bonjour, Ni hau, Greetings to you all.



Wahoo!! We are on our way to normality – granted we are bunny hopping our way there but we are on our way. From Monday, the school is operating at Alert Level 2. You should have received an email yesterday with a lot of information relating to what the first 2 weeks will look like. A lot of changes but all aimed at keeping everyone safe.

Staff are busily preparing the school and classrooms for the arrival of some very happy children on Monday. Some children may be feeling anxious about returning, please reassure them their classrooms will operate as normal as possible with an emphasis on good hygiene practices. Teachers will be supporting children to get back into routines while at the same time helping with the reconnection to staff and friends; giving opportunity to safely reflect on the situation and to spend time recreating their safe environment.

The Ministry of Education have updated information on their website for parents and whānau to help with preparing them for a return to school. This includes:

- Videos parents may want to watch with their children
- A 'checklist' for preparing for the return to on-site learning
- Translated versions of the information in Te Reo Māori and 10 Pacific languages (Note: They will be adding other language versions in the coming days).

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/news-stories/covid-19-preparing-for-alert-level-2/>

The COVID 19 pandemic has been a huge disruption to our lives over the last couple of months. Hopefully we are on the home stretch now and we can start getting back to “normal”. I want to acknowledge and thank everyone who has worked tirelessly throughout this crisis.

A big thank you to our students. You have had to apply all our school values & A.R.O.H.A during lock down. You have had to step outside your comfort zone and trial new experiences. Well done to all of you. I know you will be looking forward to Monday and seeing your teachers and friends.

Our teaching staff - for adapting quickly to the remote learning and supporting our students and their families. I'm incredibly proud of how you have handled this unique time. A special thank you to those involved in the onsite Level 3 supervision.

Our support staff - for the willingness to continue to be engaged in the lives of our students, in a variety of ways, as well as continuing that invaluable assistance to the teachers.

Joy - for supporting me and the staff; for keeping things running smoothly in the background including manning the school phone.

Ray – for his ongoing willingness to help get our site ready for occupation as well as the continued fantastic painting. An extra thank you for making sure the boiler is all ready to provide heat on Monday.



Our parent community - for supporting the home learning and the school through all the changes; engaging online where possible and keeping up communication. A huge well done for staying sane and having to multitask being parent, worker and tutor. You have done an amazing job.

Wendy & Stephen (Crest Cleaners) – for doing a top to bottom sanitising and hard surface cleaning of our school, in readiness for both Alert Levels 3 & 2.

Ministry of Education (MOE): Regional & National + Ministry of Health (MOH) – for the regular, informative flow of information that has made it possible for me to keep staff and whānau informed of the situation; provide updates and support the work I’ve had to do to make the site ready at each stage of our pandemic plan.

As Jacinda Ardern has said many times – *“it has been a team effort and you should all be proud of what has been achieved.”*

To everyone I am giving you all a



Could you answer this question please.

I would love it if as many as possible would take a minute to complete the answer a question challenge for me. Click on the link below and answer the question. You can do this more than once but each time you will need to reenter the link. Your answers will get added to others to make a Wordall.

<https://answergarden.ch/1193412>

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting is Monday 25 May. Where / how this meeting is taking place will be confirmed closer to date, which I will share at a later date.

Some of the activities and learning that have taken place while we have been in lockdown (last ones for newsletters)



A little fun ditty connected to returning to school...

<https://youtu.be/yZvtoVrykb8>

