



COVID-19 Update 5

25 March 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I hope you are all settling into staying at home well. It has been very quiet here at school, as we sort the last details for the shut down.

The good personal hygiene messages we have all been hearing over the recent weeks are still important now that we are moving to the Level 4 response. I encourage everyone from the Hinuera School community to put our foundation values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility into action, by staying home and following the Level 4 rules carefully.

A reminder that all classes will have work posted online and supported from tomorrow. Thank you for your understanding as we have transitioned to this. Some staff have still been at school, and others have had to make changes, and set up new routines for their home lives, before we are fully set to implement our distance learning programmes.

Many of you will have seen in the media that school holidays have been moved. So this Friday is now the last day of term 1. I have therefore told teachers to take a well earned break from the end of the school day this Friday, and you can expect online learning and support to recommence on Wednesday 15th April. If you are wondering about why the holidays will end on a Wednesday, that is because schools have always had Tuesday as a holiday on the day after Easter - a hangover from the days of the old 3 term year, when the May school holidays were usually still several weeks away.

Obviously we will not be back onsite at school until this is announced.

Thanks for taking the time to read this update and staying in touch.

Kia kaha and take care. Dean McDonnell, principal and the Hinuera BOT.