



Monday 23rd March 2020

RE: Coronavirus/COVID-19 Update

Dear Parents and Caregivers

COVID-19 STATUS

The government as of 1.45 pm today has announced the following

- We are in Level 3 for the next 48 hours.
- Schools are now **CLOSED as of tomorrow to all non-essential service staff** (ie: Children of supermarket workers, police and other emergency services that need an additional 24hours can come to school. We will be ready for them to arrive)
- All schools will be **completely CLOSED from Wednesday to all children.**
- In 48 hours New Zealand moves to Level 4 and all people are to stay at home.
The school will remain closed until this has been lifted.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Last week we asked all parents to update their current emergency contacts that we have on file. Can you please double-check that these are correct and if they are different can you please contact the office. This includes emails.

ANXIOUS KIDS

Our children are well aware of the Coronavirus/Covid-19 outbreak and this has now gone up a level as we head as a country to Level 4.

Please talk with your child to

- see how they are feeling about it.
- ensure that they are correctly informed about what is going on.
- answer the questions that they have.
- continue to reassure them and remind them we are all doing our best to keep them safe and the importance of hygiene practices.

Remember to take time to think about how much discussion is healthy for your child and to also talk to them about how to handle discussions with others.

REMOTE/DIGITAL LEARNING PHASES

Our staff has been working behind the scenes to get ready for school closure and online learning.

In the next 48 hours, we will send out information to all parents via Seesaw, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, School Facebooks, App alerts or emails to tell you when this will begin and what it will look like for children, time for learning etc.

Please give us time as we too get our heads around what the specific timeline will look like in relation to holidays and starting online remote learning. We will contact you when we know more.

For those children who we know have no access to digital devices or the internet, we will make contact with parents by phone or email to arrange packs of work to be sent at a later date and on an ongoing basis.

If you have not told us that you require paper copies as you have no internet or devices at home please contact our school **tomorrow morning** by phone or if you have access to emails, email the office.... office@greytown.school.nz

FINALLY

On behalf of our staff and Board of Trustees, we would like to once again thank our community for their support during this time and helping us to keep our children and families as safe as possible.

We wish all of you and your families the best of health.

We look forward to working with you on a continued basis remotely. We will be here ready for remote learning to begin.

We will look forward (like you) to seeing our school and country once again return to a virus-free and fully operational place with happy healthy kids and families.

All the very best and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Patrice O'Connor, Principal of Greytown School