



Friday 20th August 2021

RE: Coronavirus/COVID-19 Update

Dear Parents and Caregivers

First off....WE HAVE GOT THIS!!.....WE ARE A TEAM!!

#### **LEVEL 4 EXTENDED**

The government as of 3.00 pm today have announced the following

- We will be remaining in **Level 4 until Tuesday 24th August at 11.59pm.**
- Our **school and grounds will remain closed** until this has been lifted.

As there are 3 cases in Wellington we have decided as a staff to still keep preparing in case there is another Alert Level 4 extension or instead drop down a level to Level 3 ie: Alert Level 3: Only essential workers children without other childcare arrangements are on site in bubbles. All other children remain off site.

As a result please read the following information:

#### **CONTINUING LEARNING**

If extended learning continues predominantly online, however, for those children who do not have access to the internet, learning will be in the form of Hard Packs (that the school or MOE will deliver).

As you are aware our school has sent out packs in Term 1 (or on arrival for new children) containing 1 weeks worth of ideas and learning activities that children can do at home. This will enable children to have enough learning at home until Wednesday 25th of August. Staff are preparing additional learning materials and will also deliver devices and hard packs to those that have emailed us. These will be delivered on Monday 22nd.

#### **HARD PACKS**

As previously stated if your child *does not have access to the internet* you can request a hardpack. The next one will be made by our school teachers on Monday, with the following ones provided by the Ministry of Education.

If you have not already done so, we need to know **tonight** who requires a hardpack to be made and delivered. Please email [principal@greytown.school.nz](mailto:principal@greytown.school.nz) to register your child's name, address and year level to be placed on the list. This list will be sent to the Ministry first thing tomorrow morning.

#### **DIGITAL DEVICES**

On Monday 22nd August some of our staff will have permission to access the school to start delivering our devices. This is a one off permission to our school. Any request after this will not be possible.

At present we have over 100+ children on our list. Priority will be given to one device per family before additional devices are sent out. This will take time to organise the devices and deliver them. We will work hard to get these out to all our families on Monday. They will be delivered to your door. Staff will knock on the door and step back to ensure social distancing is maintained, yet ensuring they are not left outside.

If you have not already done so, we need to know **tonight** who requires a school device to be delivered. Please email [principal@greytown.school.nz](mailto:principal@greytown.school.nz) to register your child's name, address and year level to be placed on the list.

## **COMMUNICATION**

We will continue to do our best to keep you up to date. We will send out all information to our parents and caregivers via Seesaw, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, School Facebooks, App alerts or emails. Please make sure that you update your School App (KiwiSchools - free in the App store) and you check these updates regularly. If however you have any trouble please email your child's teacher.

## **REMOTE/DIGITAL LEARNING STARTS WEDNESDAY 25th AUGUST**

As stated all children have their current packs that will last until Tuesday 24th August. Therefore if there is an extension of Level 4: online learning will start on Wednesday 25th August and will continue until we are all back on school site. Each Syndicate will send out information to all parents via Seesaw, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, School Facebooks, App alerts or emails on Tuesday 24th to tell you what the next step of learning will look like and how to access it.

## **FAMILY WELL BEING**

Our first priority during this time is to maintain everyone's well being to ensure we are all happy and as stress free as possible. The best way to maintain this is for your family to continue to spend time together in a happy environment. Therefore do as much or as little learning as you can achieve without causing stress. Mix up the day with a little bit of learning (For some this may be 1 hour or a morning... for others more or less!). It can also involve planning and building forts, watching learning on TVNZ on demand (or a few movies), playing games, going for a short walk etc. Check out our school Facebook for other fun ideas.

Please do not panic about children falling behind as we can all work together once they get back to school to help them. Do what is achievable for your child and you. Teachers will be available either by email or online to support you and your child. Contact us if we can help in any way.

## **STAFF WELLBEING**

We have incredible staff that are working extremely hard to make everything as smooth as possible for your child/ren and family. As you can appreciate we need to look after our staff's well being. Similar to you, many of them have children and families that they need to support while working. To ensure they maintain their well being they will continue to work and respond to emails between a normal school day 9.00am-3.00pm Monday to Friday. Outside this time they will not be responding to emails unless they choose to, as they will carry on with preparation for lessons or spending time with their families.

## **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 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