

*Inspiring a love of learning through an education that values the development of the whole child*

12 May 2020

Week 3, Term 2

## Kia ora koutou

I did not send home a pānui to the students this week, therefore I want to acknowledge in this newsletter our students who are celebrating a birthday. Birthday greetings and best wishes to Eslem from Totara, who turns 12 tomorrow and Hannah from Kereru who turns 8 on Thursday. Ra whānau ki a korua.



### School starting on Monday 18 May – A time to reconnect

As I wrote yesterday, we are looking forward to seeing most children back at school next week. Relationships/Whanaungatanga and Hauora/Well-being are priorities that we will focus on during the first few days. The Ministry advice is to establish previous routines but to ease into previous learning expectations slowly. At Otari School our vision is *“Inspiring a love of learning through an education that values the development of the whole child”*, therefore the development of academic, creative, social, emotional and physical needs being fostered together is an embedded understanding.

“Inspiring a love of learning” will not occur if we rush straight into rigorous work cycles and formal assessment. You can trust us to provide engaging activities that will enable us to carefully ascertain individual well-being as well as giving us information about individual learning needs. The children have not missed 6 weeks of learning, they have been learning in a different way for 6 weeks. During the twenty nine school days children were at home they experienced in their own ways the historic response to a serious global situation. This will provide a springboard for much discussion, creativity and sharing. We will not be focussing on “catching up”, only of re-establishing relationships and building the learning from there. Children will be adjusting to being part of a community of learners again. Teachers are transitioning from distance teaching to now planning for classroom teaching again. Over the next few days they may not be able to provide the distance teaching to the same level. I am expecting teachers to prioritise preparing for next week and their school classroom programmes.

### Contact Tracing

We are required to record the names of everyone who visits the school, including parents. Please ensure you give your name to the person wearing an orange vest. They will be stationed down the path a bit, so do not turn left towards Totara class; go to this person first and again, before you leave. If you come into the school you must also ensure they see you leave so that arrival and departure times can be recorded. Please only come to school through the main gate off Wilton Road (by the crossing) unless you live in Shropshire Avenue, in which case you can use that gate. We will have people stationed at both entrances. Do not use the entrance off Wilton Road, behind the library.



To summarise:

- Only use main gate or Shropshire Ave gate entrances
- Go to the contact tracing point (person wearing orange vest)
- Provide your name (or say “I am from the Preschool” in which case you will proceed to the Preschool. They will operate their own contact tracing)
- Quickly proceed with dropping off your child or any other business you need to do and then depart.
- On your way out let the designated contact tracing personnel know you are leaving.

Visitors who are not parents will also have contact details recorded.

**Yummy Fruit Stickers** – Please continue to collect stickers (and cut out the labels from plastic bags) from Yummy Fruit. We get free sports gear for every sticker collected.



Ngā mihi  
Clifford

*Upcoming*  
**COMMUNITY  
EVENTS**

**Samuel Marsden Collegiate School key dates for entry in 2021. Year 9 Information Webinar** – 26 May, 7pm, please register on the [Marsden School website](#), and you will be sent a link. **Open mornings – Friday 14 August, Friday 23 October.** Please register at the link above. **Enrolments** – now [open](#). For personal tours, time in class and questions please contact Enrolment Registrar Leigh McCathie on 476 8707 or email [leigh.mccathie@marsden.school.nz](mailto:leigh.mccathie@marsden.school.nz)