

Kia ora Postgate School.

Sadly, this is my last CoronaComms email as from Monday it's back to my long and interesting school newsletter. I already know Chris Shaw will miss my near-daily emails as he enjoys reading every word I put out to you all.

Unlike the other emails, I'll keep it brief by my standards.

### **Thank You**

The Staff of Postgate School would like to thank you for having us as part of your family for the past 6-8 weeks. Usually, we enter the school gates and we are the Postgate Whanau; this is for all of us our turangawaewae, our place. During this period of Lockdown, you have welcomed us into your home, your lounge, your kitchen, your backyards We thank you for inviting us in and making us part of your family. It has been a huge privilege for us and one we are extremely grateful and humbled to have shared with you. This has been a wonderful experience and one we will never forget. You guys are awesome.

We thank you for supporting us and your child as we continued with teaching and learning. We know this wasn't easy. It seems most families found it difficult at the beginning, so did we. Change isn't easy. We knew it would be extremely hard for families where both parents worked and we were mindful of this, not wanting to create additional stress for any families; we all did the best we could. We are all super awesome!

Thank you for looking out for other Postgate families and non-Postgate families. Kindness like yours in food for our souls.

A special thank you to the Mataia whanau (J'dore, Rimu. and William) for the donation of a Fogg Machine through the Saiyans Sports Club. A Fogg Machine is an airborne disinfection machine, just like we have seen on the news. We will use this afterschool in each classroom to ensure a deep clean has taken place. Geez, flash as and has been my new toy at school today. Some staff are super clean!

Many of you have already acknowledged the wonderful work of our Staff over the Lockdown period. I applaud our staff for their professionalism and dedication towards our learners during this period, and also during our school year. Our staff was thrown into a unique situation, one we have never experienced. Jo Riley and Cat Bland were only a few weeks into their teaching careers and adapted quickly to a new world of teaching and learning. This is very impressive. Our team leaders did just that; some people are given a title of leadership, others just lead. Their work with their teams and our school community was top-shelf. As well as Zooming with students, there were also Zoom meetings with various other staff across our school. I am extremely proud of all our staff. Postgate PRIDE!

### **Welcome Amy Grant**

Mrs Grant is Room 7's new teacher and started working with the pupils on Monday; another interesting beginning to a teaching career. We welcome Amy to Postgate School and as soon as we are allowed to have powhiri (mass gathering for adults) we will welcome Amy and all our new families into our school the Postgate Way.

### **Bouncing Through the School Gate!**

Postgate has been humming today as staff prepares the school and their classrooms for next week. It is vital we portray a positive message to our children over the weekend about our return to school. It's important we tell them to focus on their learning and the teacher will worry about COVID-19. Let your child know that no one at Postgate has COVID-19. School is waiting for them!

There are ZERO confirmed cases in the Greater Wellington Region of COVID-19. The last confirmed case for Porirua was on the 20th April. There are 56 known cases of COVID-19 for the whole of New Zealand and over half of these are in Auckland. 95% of people who have had COVID-19 have recovered.

This is why our own hygiene practices as a family and as a school remain so important. If our families remain COVID-19 free, so will our school. Trust yourself and trust others, to do the right thing. Also, as with any virus, there should be no stigma if you were to contract COVID-19. Again, it is knowing the signs and doing the right thing if you or your child is feeling unwell.

<http://www.rph.org.nz/public-health-topics/illness-and-disease/coronavirus-covid-19/current-situation/>

### **Please Remember**

- To send your child to school with a cleaning cloth
- To send your child to school with a drink bottle
- If possible, send your child to school with a small bottle of hand sanitizer. Looking to form healthy lifelong habits. We do have lots at school so no worries if you don't
- Do not enter the school grounds unless absolutely necessary. You'll need to enter through the main office and sign the Contract Register. Year 1 parents may enter through the locked driveway gates and walk their child to the bottom of the Junior Steps if they feel their child needs this support
- To smile, wave out to others, take your time dropping off and picking up. We'll all need to take a few deep breaths as we navigate our way to and from school

We know the first few days back at school maybe a bit tough on us all; physically and mentally as we adjust to this new norm. Looking after oneself and each other is vital as we head back into the new normal life. I'm sure there will be a number of tired children and staff come Tuesday afternoon; we'll be sleeping well next week! Keep safe, keep smiling, Monday is even closer. Any questions, please let me know.

Have an awesome weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday, from the school gate.

Take care.

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***"Ma te mahi ngatahi, ka tu pakari te matauranga"***

***"Together, We Learn and Achieve"***

**Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi Engari, he toa takitini;**

*Success is not the work of one, but the work of many*

*Ngā mihi*  
**Adam Campbell**  
*Principal*  
*Postgate School*