

Kia ora Postgate School Community

After what seemed a long time coming, Monday is rolling in real fast! I'm really looking forward to seeing all of our Postgate School family again. Going by how Mr Cassidy has been over the last few days, I think he is more excited than me to see everyone again.

The COVID-19 statistics are very pleasing for New Zealand and especially the Wellington region. There are 78 active cases for all of New Zealand and only one active case for the greater Wellington region. Over 16,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 in the greater Wellington region and there has not been a confirmed case in greater Wellington for over 23 days. Have you been tested yet? With these outstanding stats, you can see why we have been dropping Alert Levels and also why schools are a safe place to be. If you'd like to see the current picture for NZ, please follow the link: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-current-situation/covid-19-current-cases> From here, we need to trust ourselves and trust others to keep COVID-19 down.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey; over 100 replies so far. Your feedback/feedforward and wonderful comments are extremely useful for us all as all staff return to school tomorrow. If you haven't, please complete the survey.

One of the key points that have come through that we haven't thought about is reminding our children that it is ok to cough/sneeze; it is natural, just remember to do so into your elbow. We need to make our children aware that adults/children do suffer from hay fever/asthma which causes sneezing and coughing. It does not mean they have COVID-19. This notion of kindness is very important. If your child/ren suffer from asthma/hay fever or any other condition that may cause them to cough/sneeze, please let your child's teacher know.

If you forgot to complete the survey, here is the link: <https://forms.gle/yXr4ddogTYP5jEip7>

A reminder that we at school tomorrow and Friday. We have three relievers booked and currently have about 10 children on our list. Please let me know if your child/ren are coming back for either tomorrow or Friday or both days. No stress. Children who are at school tomorrow and/or Friday should be in mufti, no uniform.

Today's email is full of reminders, just in case we have forgotten or couldn't be bothered reading the email sent on that day (All goods). As well as information about ordering school uniforms and returning devices. I've also attached a very useful poster and a clip I've been singing around our school at the bottom of this email.

It is vital you read the attachment, 'Transitioning Students Back to School'. There are some real gems in here that will make Monday a very successful day and create ease in your child/ren. The emotions you show will be passed onto your child/ren. Please be very mindful of the messages you give to your family. Keep them positive, please.

The Most Important Points for our Successful Return:

We need your help and support with the following 3 points:

Number 1, and for a reason, is that **whanau, parents, caregiver do the right thing; we remain COVID-19 free at home**. If your extended family remains healthy, then we will be ka pai! (Good) As a school we need to ensure we are aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 and that if we or our child show any of these symptoms, we stay home, we seek medical support; we do the right thing! Stay home, keep your child at home.

In addition to staying home, we are asking that if one of your children is sick, please keep all your children home. If your child falls sick at school, we will be sending all your children home. We have purchased a Thermo Gun to take temperatures at school. We feel this will be very useful to inform you of your child's temperature if they were to fall ill at school.

From all that what I have read from MOH we need to fear our hands, try to avoid touching our faces and we, adults, need to keep our physical distance from other adults. Children have very low rates of transmission and extremely low rates of actually having COVID-19.

Number 2, we maintain high hygiene levels at school and at home. We ask that whanau do the following to help us at school:

- Teach/remind your child about coughing/sneezing into their elbow.
- **If possible, send your child with a small bottle of hand sanitizer** attached to their bag or person. This bottle does not have to be filled. **We will have plenty at school** and are happy to fill/refill bottles at school. If your child has their own 'sano' it will help with building great habits moving forward. The biggest fear we need to have now is that of our own hands! The virus can only enter our bodies through our eyes, nose, or mouth.
- **We would like all children to return to school with their own cleaning rag/cloth**. It will save considerable time if students were to wipe down their own desks/equipment throughout the day. Staff will spray each child's cloth regularly throughout the day and children will wipe down their area and equipment. We have brought a high-quality spray which claims to keep surfaces 'germ' free for three days.
- Children will need to **bring their own drink bottle to school**. The drinking fountains are potentially a minefield for transmitting any illnesses. Children will be allowed to fill their bottles at school. Please remember, we are a water-only school.

Finally, Number 3 and this goes against all Postgate is about. We ask that parents/adults/family members do not enter the school grounds or buildings. We are asking that you drop your child to their school gate (any gate now) and watch them from there. We understand some parents may have to enter the grounds (parents of new Year 1 pupil, or parents of children with any needs). Any person entering the school buildings will need to sign the Contact Register in the office.

Parents of Year 1 pupils – You will be allowed onto the school grounds to drop your child at the bottom of the Junior Steps. However, you can not enter the building unless you sign the Contact Register. Can you please enter through the Drive Way Gates, the same one the Music Bus uses. If it rains, you will need to come through the office and sign the Contact Register.

School Uniform Orders

Please email through to Lesleigh or Jacqui your uniform order. We (the Royal We) will outfit your child with the items needed. We will send you an email confirming the order and the cost. You will need to pay via Internet Banking. Once the money hits our account, we will send the order home with your child. Easy as eh?

Our bank account details are:

Account name: Postgate School BOT

Bank: Westpac

Account Number: 03 0547 0372414 00

When making payments can you please list your child/ren's full name and what the payment covers.

e.g. Kelvin Harper- XS polo top x 2

Loaned Devices - Chromebooks and iPads

Please return all loaned devices next week to school. If they could be returned to your child's teacher and Kelvin will collect them from each class. To make our (his) job easier, on a piece of paper please write your child's name on it and stick it to the top of the device with sellotape. If there is a problem with the device, like missing keys or slow to boot, please also write this on the piece of paper; no questions asked, just means we can get onto fixing them. We do know some devices went out that weren't in the best condition. Sorry about that, we didn't have time to check last term.

A reminder that there is no Distance Learning tomorrow or Friday. All staff will be back at school. We are open if your child/ren require supervision, just let us know.

Only four days to go until we are "Back to school, back to school..."

Keep smiling, keep being amazing, keep looking out for yourself and others. Catch up very soon, like real soon. "Back to school, back to school..."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmbOWm_UqYo

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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