

Kia ora e te whanau

Hopefully you have heard the news that New Zealand is going into Alert Level 4 Lockdown for the next three days, at this stage. If not, surprise! Postgate School will be closed for the next three days, at least.

My apologies for the late comms. I've been in town sorting my son and his friends. Talk about herding seagulls!

At this time, it is of the highest importance that you ensure you and your family are calm and see the next short while as an adventure. How you react, respond, and communicate will have a lasting effect on your child/ren. Calling it a Lockdown is the wrong wording to use with your child/ren. The term lockdown is one more associated with prison. Perhaps a family adventure or quality time would be a better term. Please put a positive spin on it for your child/ren. Let's think of it as an extra special long weekend and we all know how much we love a long weekend!

The source of the outbreak is in Auckland, and in all likelihood has not made its way to Wellington. If we follow the recipe of success, which is Alert Level 4, we'll be out of this shortly. However, if we have muppets like in New South Wales, we might be locked down for an extended period of time. It is vital we look after our own families and ensure they are following 'the rules'.

There will be no formal online learning for the next three days.

We have a couple of major issues we need to work through before we can start our online learning programme.

First and foremost, our staff need to ensure their own mental health and that of their families are in order. As stated earlier, I have spent most of this evening in Wellington sorting my son and his mates at school. Many of our staff have family commitments, like you, and getting our own house in order is the first priority

Our major issue is who can/cannot access online learning. With no time to hand out devices for our community, we are uncertain how many of our children we will be able to reach, for however long we are in Lockdown.

Tomorrow morning you will receive a Google Form for you to fill out. Once we have this data we can identify who is available to learn.

Another issue we have is that we do not know how long this lockdown will run. While it is 3 days for now, we also know from past history that we will roll down the Alert Levels so more like 7 - 10days?

This Friday we will send out clear communication to you about online learning for the following week, if needed.

Postgate School thanks you for all your support. We are extremely fortunate to have an awesome school community that cares for our school with Postgate PRIDE.

The Postgate School community is here for you. Please reach out or let us know if you or people you know need support. Please check on your neighbours and also let them know we are here for them.

Please take care and we are only an email away. "You got a friend in me." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy4uiiy0qgA>

Be kind to yourself and others.

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

**"Mā te mahi ngātahi, ka tū pakari te mātauranga"**

**Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi engari, he toa takitini;**  
*Success is not the work of one, but the work of many*

*Manuia le aso*

*Ngā mihi*

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