



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 5
13 May 2020

From the School Bubble

Morena everyone.

Following on from the extensive email yesterday there is still more news!!!

More detail!

You will have read in my email yesterday that all students are able to return to school. The Public Health advice is that schools are in the "exceptional" bracket as far as "gatherings" go.

As a school we have decided to learn together, play together and eat together in waka under Alert Level 2. Waka Hourua, Waka Puhara and Mōkihi will have separate eating, playing and church times. This means we don't have 100 in any one place at one time and this is part of our great transition plan moving from home to school. Each waka will have unfettered access to the playgrounds, turf and their own sports equipment.

Friends and social connections will be the priority - we are SO looking forward to our school family being onsite.

For clarity here is the information from Iona Holsted sent in the Education Bulletin yesterday:

Are we able to have more than 100 students in our Modern Learning Environment/classrooms?

Yes you are. Workplaces, educational facilities, and public and school transport are not considered mass gatherings. This means there are no restrictions on numbers of people indoors or outside at schools and early learning services, other than what other public health or health and safety measures require. [View our health and safety guidance at Alert Level 2 here.](#)

Alert Level 2

If your child **WILL NOT** be returning to school under Alert Level 2, you must let me know before **Friday 15th May 3.00pm.**

principal@saintmarks.school.nz

Teachers will provide packs of learning materials for those children at home and these can be collected from the office foyer in a contactless way - a collection time will be made through your teacher.

Shout out!

I want to offer a super "shout out" to the amazing learning which has happened online. I am in awe of the creativity and expertise of our staff, the support of our families and the work of the students has been at times inspirational!! What a lot we have learned together and what a lot we take into our future.

We HAVE to harness the learnings from this time and take into our new curriculum those things which have sparked new learning, ignited a fire under individuals and expressed our special character in innovative ways. As we have moved into online meetings in the senior school we have become aware of the connections that bind us together.

If this has been precious family time for you, or alternatively a stressful time with employment uncertainty or extended family worries, there has been a cover of prayer over our school. We have been prayed for by individuals, by the parish and by staff.

In the midst of that we learned that Mr Davis and his wife are expecting a baby. A new life and much hope. Congratulations!!

Blessings everyone.

Averil





An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



FOR INFORMATION

2020 Term 2 – Policy Reviews:

As part of St Mark's three-year review cycle, there are no Policy areas requiring feedback from school parents this term.

Two policies that will have input from Board members and staff this term are:

- Documentation and Self Review
- Employer Responsibility

2020 Term 2 - Assurance:

In addition to reviewing policy, it's also the role of the Board to gain **ASSURANCE** that the operational policy and procedures are being operationalised in the school.

This term we will undertake assurance on a variety of areas including

<u>Finance and Property Management</u>	<u>Health, Safety, and Welfare</u>	<u>Legislation and Administration</u>
- SUE (Staff Usage and Expenditure)	- Abuse Recognition and Reporting - Digital Technology and Cybersafety - Evacuation Procedure/Emergency Kit - Risk Management	- Student attendance