



28 February 2021

Dear Parents and Whanau

As you will be aware, last night the Prime Minister announced that beginning at 6am, Sunday 28 February we entered COVID-19 Alert Level 3. Naturally for all of us, as the Prime Minister said, this is frustrating. However the Government has made this decision in order to reduce the likelihood of the spread of the virus.

It was lovely to have been able to complete our first full week for this school year, on Friday. The students have begun the process of getting to know their teacher and classmates over the eleven days, across the three weeks that they have been at school.

This letter covers the following topics:

- COVID-19 Alert Level 3
- Ministry of Health
- Online Programme of Learning
- Online School Prayers
- School Picnic
- Beach Education
- sKids
- PTA Meeting
- Parish Sacramental Programme

COVID-19 Alert Level 3 ([Poster](#))

Level 3 means stay home to protect your household bubble and if you do have to go out, keep a 2-metre distance from people you don't know. Where possible you should keep your children home from school for this period.

We will be open for those of you who have no other options but to send your children to school and we will have safety precautions in place to look after them. If this is the case please email principal@sj.school.nz, informing me of which dates your child will be needing to attend COVID-19 Alert Level 3 school.

As in previous COVID-19 Alert Level 3 lockdowns the following is in place for students that attend school for part or all of this lockdown - [COVID-19 Alert Level 3 Guidelines](#)

Ministry of Health

For all of our community, we need to keep ourselves, family and whānau safe. It's important we follow the rules.

If you aren't sure if you have been to a place where someone with COVID has visited – please go to the [Ministry of Health website for the 'Locations of Interest'](#). Check the date and time of each location listed in the table and if you were there at the same time, go to the right column on the right to see what you need to do.

COVID-19 symptoms can vary a lot with each person, so while we are familiar with the following symptoms:

- a new or worsening cough
- fever (at least 38°C)
- shortness of breath
- a sore throat
- sneezing and runny nose
- temporary loss of smell.

Some people may present with less typical symptoms such as only one of the following:

- muscle pain
- fever
- diarrhoea
- headache
- nausea/vomiting
- confusion/irritability.

If you or your whānau experience any of these symptoms, please contact your GP or Healthline (0800 358 5453) for advice and get tested if advised to do so.

Online Programme of Learning

Links for the Online Programme of Learning team websites will be emailed out tomorrow, Monday 1 March between 8.30 am and 9 am. The team websites will go live at 9 am.

Parents of Team Kakariki and Team Kakapo students are welcome to contact their child's teacher if their child is having any issues with their school email address.

Home Learning TV can be [accessed on demand here](#) or via the TVNZ App on a device (Mobile phone, smart tv or tablet). Mauri Reo Mauri Ora is also available on demand from Māori TV [for primary aged tamariki](#) and [here for secondary school rangatahi](#).

Online School Prayers

These will be available each day at 9 am on the YouTube channel [Principal St Josephs](#)

School Picnic

Unfortunately the school picnic will be cancelled. Having attempted to hold this event on two occasions we will now look for an alternative way in which you can meet your child's teacher and fellow parents. This will occur when we can be confident the country will be in COVID-19 Alert Level 1 for a period of time.

Beach Ed

The Team Kiwi Beach Ed programme that was to happen on Friday 5 March, will now be cancelled.

sKids

The Government has determined there will be no Before or After School Care in COVID-19 Alert Level 3. sKids will therefore not be open this week.

PTA Meeting

This week's meeting is cancelled. The next meeting will be organised for when the country returns to COVID-19 Alert Level 1.

Parish Sacramental Program

The Parish will be in touch with families of students participating in the Sacramental programme as to when the first session for the students will be held. This week's session is cancelled.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact your child's homegroup teacher or me.

Ka manaakitia e te Atua

Alister Bridgman
Principal