

Wednesday
February 2021

10th

Dear Parents/Whanau,

Welcome

Welcome! If you are brand new to our school a special welcome. I hope you had a good break and I look forward to catching up. Thank you to all parents who have bought new uniforms and stationery. Our tamariki are looking smart and ready for the challenges of new learning. With uniforms can I encourage you to label everything- we end up with so much lost property but without a name it is almost impossible to tell who owns what. To start your child off at school on a good footing, we are providing **all Year One pupils with free stationery and a \$100 uniform voucher. All our year 5 & 6 pupils have been given a chrome book to assist them with their learning.** The chrome book will remain the property of the school, but the device will be used by your child for the year.



New Staff: This year we welcome Ms Pace who joins our Samoan Bilingual unit in Rm 13 and Ms Maihi who joins us in Rm 4. I'm sure you join with me in welcoming these new teachers to our school whanau.

Community Consultation: Covid-19 Alert L. 1

As you know thankfully, we continue at **Covid Alert Level 1.** The Ministry of Education and Health has said that it is safe for children to be at school and there is no community transmission. **Regularly attending school matters for your child's future.** We are taking all the safety precautions including the QR codes for



the simplest but most important thing that we all can do is wash our hands. It kills the virus immediately. We will also continue to remind pupils to stay home if they are unwell and to seek medical advice. So be reassured that the way we are operating is safe as we can be.

Swimming

As you know our school (Yr 3-6) swimming programme starts this week. With the number of drownings that occur in New Zealand, it is essential that our students learn to swim. If you haven't already done so, please return your permission slips so your child won't miss out. This is a free programme.



Playgroup

Research says that amazing learning occurs for children in the pre-school years. If you have preschool children the Collegiate has two powerful ways to help either in the Playgroup where the wonderful Ms Mafi can help you engage with your child in fun ways. Our Playgroup is open now and all you need to do is come and see **Ms Mafi who will warmly welcome you to her mother's group and it's all free.** The second option we have is **Barnardos- which has free sessions too.**

scanning in. We have put in place extra cleaning measures and disinfecting practices and encourage good hygiene practice. Remember too,

So, if you have a preschooler you may choose the Play group and or Barnardos.

Bell Times - Junior School 2021

8:45 School Starts:
10:50 1st LUNCH: Eating inside
11:00 Children's play time
11:30 PLAY BREAK FINISHES
1:10 2nd LUNCH: Eating inside
1:20 Children's play time
1:45 PLAY BREAK FINISHES
2:45 School Finishes



End of the school day 2.45pm

Can I ask that you talk to your child about their home time arrangements?

Child/children should be going straight home, so you know they are safe. **Younger pupils either need to be picked up by you or walk home in the care of an older brother or sister.** It is important that if you are picking up your child that you are here before the bell at 2.45pm. If you are late, little ones aren't good at waiting and they may wander off home by themselves or go home with a friend and before you know it you can't find them and you are worried!

Sistema

Our Sistema music programme is going from strength to strength with so many families taking up the opportunity for their child to **learn an orchestral instrument for free.** Sistema has been researched and it is showing very positive results for pupils that stay on the programme. To make it easier for pupils to attend practices the Sistema music programme is held in both in school



and at OMAC. Sistema starts next week. A letter has gone home to all those involved.

Student contact update details

If you have changed address, cellphone or have a new email address please complete the student contact sheet that is attached to this newsletter. That way we are able to contact you should your child get sick and needs to go home. And of course, we keep your details strictly confidential.

Healthy Food and nutrition

The Junior School we have **a free daily breakfast programme** with a breakfast of wheet bix, toast and milk. All your child needs to do is rock on up to the orange pod after 7.45am and enjoy. If your child is not in the breakfast club **8.30am-8.40am is a good time to come to school.** Our School also provides **free fruit for morning tea and lunches** for those who need it and again it's all free. **Fizzy drink, chips and cheezels are not the sort of food that your child needs,** in fact these foods stop your child concentrating and learning. An occasional small packet of chips is ok, but as a once a week treat only. As to fizzy drinks, they are not recommended. Sandwiches and a piece of fruit are all your child needs and it's cheaper too!

Yours truly,
John Shearer
Principal

Return Slip (Return this slip and go in the draw for a book prize!)

I have received the newsletter & I have read it.

