

CENTRAL NORMAL SCHOOL

TE KURA TUATAHI O PAPAIOEA

Term 1 Week 7

Whaia Kia Tutuki ~ Strive to your Potential

19 March 2020

Malo e lelei, တယ်လို့, Talofa, Tēnā Koutou - this newsletter is a Community Update about COVID-19

It is incredible what can happen and change in a week and currently, nothing more so than with COVID-19. COVID-19 has made a significant global impact, which is also being felt here in New Zealand. COVID-19 has seen countries and governments introduce and implement a range of measures to try and stop the impact and/or spread of the virus.

As announced by the World Health Organisation (WHO), COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic. Our school has a Pandemic Plan to respond to such an event and our plan has been implemented. So what does this mean? Basically, it means that we respond to the advice and guidance of the Ministry of Education and/or the Ministry of Health. It also means that we maintain communication with our whānau to keep you all informed and up to date with where things are at. It also means that we review our cleaning practices to sustain the high expectations of cleanliness.

As previously communicated with you, **there is currently no advice or reason to close our school**. School remains open and children should still be attending school, as it is the best place for them to continue their learning. As you normally would, if your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. Similarly, if a child is unwell at school, we will call you to collect them from school - these are the same procedures we have always had.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are :

- coughing
- a high temperature (at least 38C)
- shortness of breath

These symptoms do not necessarily mean you have COVID-19. These symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as the cold or flu. If you or someone in your whānau has these symptoms, **call** your medical centre or the Health Line on 0800 611 166.

The best preventative measures to stop the spread of bugs and germs are:

- cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue
- put used tissues into the bin immediately
- wash hands with soap and water often and for at least 20 seconds
- try and avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are unclean

At our school, in accordance with the Prime Ministers advice, we have stopped hongis, high fives, hand shakes and hugs. In response to Ministry of Education advice, we have also stopped school and team assemblies and Te Arawaru morning karakia (individual classes start the day with their own karakia). The planned Learning Conferences that were scheduled for this term have been cancelled. All T-Ball and Softball has also been cancelled.



Pepeha - The Whare

Health Line 0800 611 116

Children will look to adults for guidance on how to react to the events of COVID-19. We can support our tamariki with providing them with factual and age-appropriate information about COVID-19, so that they feel informed and in control. We can also reassure our children that there are people in New Zealand working really hard to ensure the safety of everyone, including them. Similarly, let them know that our school has preventative and planned measures in place to oversee their safety.



Butterfly Art - Akomanga 19

Swimming

We have made the decision to stop swimming early. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, the temperature has dropped considerably over the week, which has made it quite cold for our tamariki to swim. Secondly, we are taking precautionary measures in relation to COVID-19.

Water Bottles

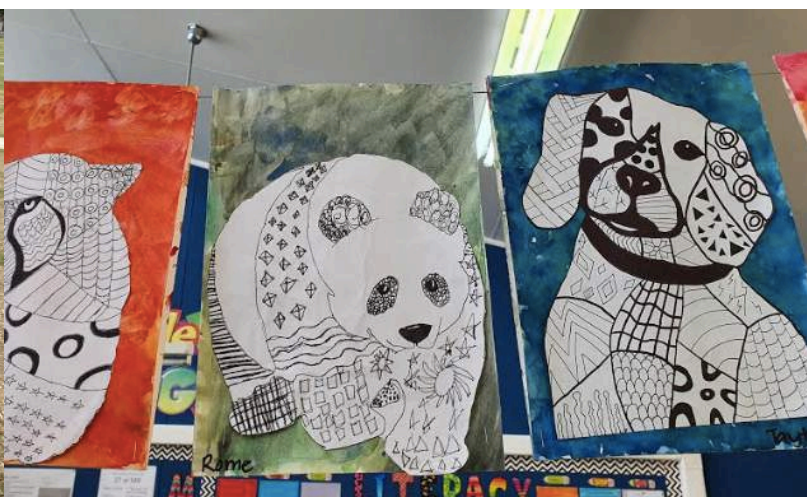
At the end of **today** we will be closing our water fountains. Therefore, ALL children will need to bring their own NAMED water bottle to school.

Year 5/6

As many of you will know, we regretfully had to cancel the Year 5/6 Camp. A lot of planning and preparation had gone into the camp and we know how much our children were looking forward to it, but the health and safety of all our tamariki and whānau informed the Board's decision to cancel. We would like to sincerely thank all the parents who put their hands up to help for camp - camps cannot operate without parental support and we were delighted with the strong response we had from our whānau. A notice went home to all Year 5/6 parents on Wednesday informing them how to claim their refund of funds paid for camp. If you have not received this pānui, please check your child's Seesaw account, scan the barcode to the right, visit the link <https://forms.gle/CHR3j5NeNEdiPrpL9> or call into the Office.



We greatly thank you for your support and understanding as we all work together through these rapidly changing times.



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Left: Akomanga 7 picking up stones near the Scooter Track for Citizenship

Right: Animal Line Drawings Akomanga 4