



**CENTRAL NORMAL SCHOOL
TE KURA TUATAHI O PAPAIOEA**

Whāia Kia Tutuki - strive to your potential

Friday 20 March 2020

**What would happen if we had to close the school?
Online Learning at our school**

Kia ora whānau mā

This letter has two parts:

1. What would happen if we had to close our school?
2. How we could facilitate online learning if required.

1. What would happen if we had to close the school?

With so much information and misinformation going around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what would happen if we were to have a case in our community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.

- As soon as a case is confirmed in our immediate school community, (eg: a student, staff member, or a member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Education will inform me about this and we will work together to get quick and clear messaging out to you.
- If there was a case confirmed of someone in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with **no case confirmed in our school**, your children are safe here.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

The graphic on the following page, created by Dr Siouxsie Wiles, shows a comparison between COVID-19, the flu and the cold:



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SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19, FLU AND COLD

	DRY COUGH	FEVER	RUNNY NOSE	SORE THROAT	BREATH-LESSNESS	HEADACHE	BODY ACHES	SNEEZE	FATIGUE	DIARRHOEA
COVID-19										
FLU										
COLD										

FREQUENTLY SOMETIMES LITTLE RARE NOT

@SIOUXSIEW @XTOTL thespinoff.co.nz

SOURCE: WHO, CDC

CC-BY-SA

This graph tells us:

- A dry cough and a high temperature are common to both flu and COVID-19
- Breathlessness is a symptom of COVID-19 and not the flu
- Sneezing is not a symptom of COVID-19, however if someone has COVID-19, then sneezing can spread droplets containing the virus

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

2. How we could facilitate online learning if required

As advised by the Ministry of Education, our school is preparing for the **possibility** of having to provide online learning. I would like to reiterate, that this is preparation - it is **not** saying that we are about to close our school.

As you are aware we use Seesaw extensively to share learning with you. In the past week, Seesaw have changed their settings to enable us to share learning remotely if we ever need to. This would enable us to send out learning, which the children could view at home and carry on with if necessary.



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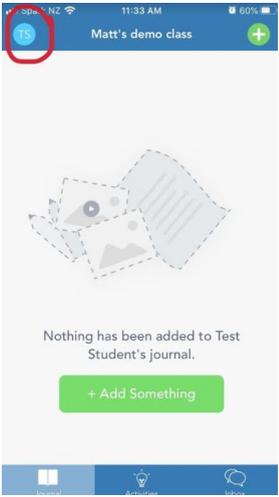
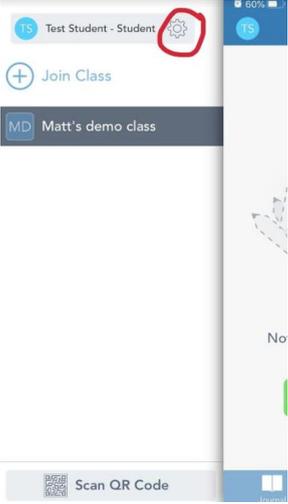
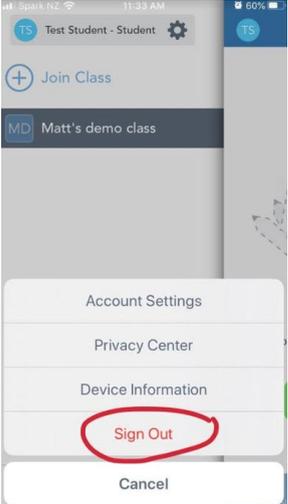
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We are in the process of developing a range of resources and ideas in preparation should we need to send learning remotely.

We want to be as prepared as possible, so accompanying this letter is your child's Home Learning Code. At the moment you will have the Seesaw **Family** App, but in order for this to work, you will need to download the Seesaw **Class** App. Make sure you have the most recent version. The accompanying letter gives very clear instructions on how to do this.

If you have more than one child, each child will have their own unique login. This means that after one child has viewed their learning, you will need to logout of Seesaw and then log back in again with your next child's login.

The following photos show you how to do this:

		
Click on your child's initials in the top left corner	Click on the Settings icon	Click on Sign Out

If you have any questions at all, please come and see us.

We sincerely thank you for your understanding and support as we endeavour to continue the learning for our tamariki.

Ngā Mihi

Regan Orr
Principal/Tumuaki