

# Amisfield School 2020

Term 3, Week 5

Together We Achieve

- Respect
- Excellence
- Commitment



## Upcoming Events

**Assembly:**  
CANCELLED while we remain under Alert Level 2

**Cross Country:**  
POSTPONED due to Alert Level 2; new date TBC.

**Board Meeting:**  
Wednesday 2 September, 5pm in the Staffroom

A warm welcome to our new students:

**Aria**

and

**Zach**



20 August 2020

Kia ora koutou,

I would like to begin by saying a huge thank you to our school community for all of your support during the re-entry into COVID Alert Level 2.

Please be assured that we have our systems in place and our number one priority is to keep your child safe and happy at school. To support this, we have increased our cleaning regimes and have hygiene reminders being given regularly. We have soap and hand sanitizer available for students to use, and are also contacting parents of children who are sick to be collected.

While we take these steps to keep your child safe, we are also trying to keep the school running as normally as possible. We know that student wellbeing is vital for their learning, and we are aiming to have students feel safe, secure and happy at school. We are also very focused on our students' achievement. After such a messy year we are very conscious that we need to do everything we can at Amisfield school to keep our students' learning progressing.

Thank you again everyone for your support during this time and the Amisfield team is here to support your child and your whānau. Please get in touch if you need anything and we will do our best to help.

Ngā mihi nui,

Gareth Gilmour  
Principal

## COVID-19 Attendance

With the move to Alert Level 2 and the emergence of COVID-19 in Tokoroa we have seen an increase in the number of students away from school. We know that at this time people are cautious with their health. We do want to reiterate that school is safe and that as teachers we care deeply about your children's wellbeing and their learning.

Unfortunately, students can't engage in learning if they are not at school. We encourage you to send your child to school if they are well and there are no other extenuating circumstances. We ask this because we want to see your child achieve to their full potential and we are trying to minimise the impact of an already disrupted year for their schooling.

If you need any support around your child's attendance at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us so we can discuss ways that we can assist you.

If you do decide to keep your child at home, it is important that you let us know the dates of, and reasons for, their absence by phone, email or through the Skool Loop app.

## Attendance Review

Studies have shown that there is a direct link between students' attendance and their levels of achievement at school. With this in mind, we have been reviewing the attendance levels of our students. Our aim is to check attendance rates at least twice a term, and to make contact with whānau if their child's attendance is of concern. If you recently received a letter from us, this is why!

We are aware of the disruption that has been caused by COVID-19, and we will be taking this into account as we follow this process. As a school we have a legal obligation to monitor and address attendance concerns, however our main concern is about the success and wellbeing of our tamariki. We care about your child's progress and we know that attending school regularly makes a huge difference to achievement levels.



## School Assemblies

Although Ministry of Education guidelines allow for assemblies to take place, we are currently taking the additional precaution of cancelling our School assemblies for the time being. We will be reviewing this decision as we move forward, and will let you know when these will be starting back up.

## Access to Water for Drinking

Our drinking fountains are currently covered for hygiene reasons, though water bottle filling stations are still accessible to our students. Therefore, it is important that all children bring their own drink bottles to school every day while we remain in Alert Level 2. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide cups or bottles to students who forget to bring their own.

## Home Learning

At Alert Level 2 the Ministry of Education has an expectation that students will be learning at school. The guidance we have is that home learning should be supplied only to those families who have medical reasons for staying away from school, or who have people in the high risk category they need to look after. If your child is absent for one of these reasons please get in touch with the school so that we can support your child's progress.

## Policy Review

A reminder that our Learning Support Policy is currently under review, and we need parents to share their thoughts on this. Details on how to read and review this policy were sent out via email, and were shared to the school Facebook page. If you missed these and would like to review our Learning Support Policy, please contact Fern in the office.

## School Cross Country

We have made the difficult decision to postpone Cross Country, which was scheduled to take place next week. We understand that Cross Country is an exciting event for our students, and because we want them to be able to enjoy family being around to support them, we will not hold this until we are in Alert Level 1. If the Primary Inter-schools event happens before we have our school Cross Country, Mrs Hearmon will organise for those students in the eligible age bracket to have an opportunity to trial at school first, so they still have the chance to represent Amisfield in this competition.

## School Sports

It is our understanding that netball, soccer and basketball have all been postponed until further notice. We will keep you updated as things change.



- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission slips

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**SKOOL LOOP**

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