



HATAITAI SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Whanau

Thank you everyone for supporting the Ahi Easter Egg Raffle! Nearly \$800 has been raised to go towards the Ahi Camp later this year. This is such an amazing effort on everyone's part - especially for the senior students. We held the raffle draw of 40 plus eggs today in a full school assembly outside! It was great fun and a wonderful way to end the term.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MOVING TO ORANGE

As you are all aware - the country moved to Orange Traffic Light setting last night.

As today is the last day of term we decided that our current Orange Traffic Light setting practices would remain.

Please see the the letter below from the Secretary of Education:

Kia ora koutou,

You'll be aware that Minister of Education Chris Hipkins has announced the move to Orange at 11:59pm last night.

The decision to move to Orange has been made on public health advice and reflects that we are moving past the peak of cases and our health system is able to cope. We are seeing that cases are declining due to high levels of vaccination and natural immunity after infection.

I wanted to give you an update on what the move to Orange means for schools.

At Orange, face masks are no longer required at school. However public health advice is that masks continue to be strongly encouraged when indoors. Wearing a mask is a key health measure that slows the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings. For that reason, we ask that visitors to the school, including parents and whānau, wear a mask whenever they are indoors on school grounds.

We also ask that your child (if they are Year 4+) continues to bring a mask to school every day. There may be times that they will be asked to wear a mask, too – for example, when there is an assembly in the hall. If there are a high number of cases at school or in the community, we may ask that masks are worn in classrooms for a time.

At Orange, students aged 12 and above are still required to wear a face mask on school or public transport.

We will continue to keep all the other health measures in place at school that we know slow the spread of COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette, appropriate physical distancing whenever we can and, most importantly, staying home if we are sick.

We are looking forward to a few less restrictions and returning to school life that is a bit closer to normal.

Once the SLT has been able to meet to discuss what our new practices will be, we will let you know of the confirmed expectations as we go into Term 2.

PB4L - POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

We have continued with our professional development this term. We are encouraged with the many positive actions we are seeing in the students and the way they are showing our three values of respect. Each time they are 'caught' showing mana, manaaki or ako they are rewarded with house points and classroom rewards. A lovely example we experienced this week was a Year 4 student who showed fantastic manaaki by sharing his board games with many students who decided to join the game well after the game had commenced! He was told he was AWESOME by his teacher.

PROPERTY

Yesterday another site meeting was held and Melissa and I had the wonderful opportunity to join Board Chair - Nolen and be taken through the new building.

It was exciting and there has certainly been a lot of work carried out this term.

The refurbishment of Block L toilets will also start during the school holidays. To mitigate the reduction in toilet facilities - a temporary toilet block is to be installed at the end of the holidays to provide additional toilet facilities.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Over the Term 1 break, there will be a lot of work getting underway on-site including the removal of the existing roof, asbestos removal works and the start of the refurbishment of Block L toilets. The asbestos removal works will be undertaken by an approved asbestos removalist with the appropriate measures in place (including sign-off of the asbestos removal plan from MoE).

Commencing Tuesday 19 April there will be **no access to the school** until the end of the holidays - Sunday May1.

On behalf of all the staff I wish you all and your families a very happy Easter and holiday break. It has been an amazingly complex term for everyone. Despite all the health interruptions your children have happily got on with engaging and participating fully in their learning.

My special thanks to the whole staff for their relentless energy and commitment to keep school as interesting and as exciting as possible.

Kind regards

Jacinta Simpson
PRINCIPAL

Confident, independent, highly achieving students who enjoy learning.