

Principal Update 20th September 2021

Dear parents and caregivers

“Are we nearly there yet” feels so appropriate to share as the feeling today, on this journey to normality. We do appreciate the longer we remain in Level 4 the tougher this gets, and like any journey the closer you get to the destination the slower the time until actual arrival. So we are nearly there - Albany Primary School (and Auckland) - we just have to tough it out, despite this latest ‘flat tyre’ on our highway back to school.

“He taonga nui te tūpato” *“Caution is highly prized”*.

Following this afternoon's announcement, Auckland will now move to Level 3 from midnight on Tuesday 21st September. This means at home and online learning will continue next week (until the end of term Friday 1st October) as potentially Auckland will not move into Level 2 until 5th October.

As per our previous newsletter communication:

Schools are **essentially closed at Alert Level 3** with the exception of those few children whose parents and carers must go to work at Level 3, and there is no appropriate caregiver at home. Your family bubble can be cautiously extended to include a caregiver if necessary. Your bubble must remain small and exclusive. Due to the additional safety requirements for schools under Level 3 this time, supervision can only be offered in bubbles of 10, with strict separation of each bubble. There is no expectation that these students need to continue both bubble school activities and their class online learning. The supervision staff will be running separate programmes, allowing our teachers to continue working from home, and **current online classes running as normal for the rest of the school.**

If you have already registered your requirement to have your child attend bubble school you do not need to update us, however if there has been any change in your circumstances please email elder@albany.school.nz directly. We will be contacting you directly to confirm details on Tuesday for the children attending school during Level 3.

Please check the COVID [Alert Level 3](#) if you are unsure what this updated level means for your family. To quote the Prime Minister “Stick to the rules and let’s keep going to stamp it out”. One significant difference is important regarding whether anyone over the age of 65 must be double vaccinated before they are able to leave their home.

As a little ‘light relief’ you might enjoy sharing this staff video that Mr Hopkins has created. You have all so graciously shared a window into your home, so now you can see what Learning from Home looks like for the staff, their families and even their pets. [APS Staff in Lockdown](#)

Stay safe, stay cautious, keep your mask on and continue to stay in your family bubbles.

Maree Bathurst