

## Principal Update – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear parents

Once again we all find ourselves in the position of "expecting the unexpected" awaiting the government to announce on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September if Auckland will drop down Alert Level conditions from midnight Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

I heard the description of our Auckland extended COVID Level 4 as "*running a race when you can't see the finish line*" and I am sure we can all relate to this sentiment. Some families may also refer to the race as a marathon, as they need to draw on every part of their mind and body to even stay in the race! Please only engage in the learning programmes that you can manage for your family's current situation as we appreciate that many of you are juggling multiple demands.

However, others of you have shared that there have been some moments when "*the race*" may have caused ourselves and our children to take on new learning, creative opportunities and even some special moments of precious family time. While I know it may have been difficult for some parents to be directly involved in your child's learning some of you have also shared how "in touch" you feel with your child's teacher, the class and / or what and how they are learning. Teachers also value this shared partnership in your child's learning. Viewing your videos and the Taskmaster daily challenge has given me (and others) so much enjoyment as I have a window into your family world, and an opportunity to see your children's talents, resilience, personal traits and creativity in ways not always evident at school.

We remain committed to learning partnerships. Should you have any questions or need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the school directly. Your continued support and flexibility within this has been amazing and we value the strength of partnership between home and school.

If there is a change in alert levels to Level 3 this would mean that the school will only be open for the children of essential workers and those who have no option but to send their children to school. To support us in the initial planning for the eventual return to 'Bubble School' we are asking for an indication **if your child/ren will require supervision during Level 3** please complete the form [link here](#) by 9am Monday 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

Kelly Club has informed us they are not able to operate under Level 3, and all school playgrounds and fields will remain closed to the public.

Given the current situation, we have also made the decision to postpone our Term 3 Student Led Conferences (originally planned for Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September). Obviously, we are disappointed as these meetings underpin the ongoing "3 Way Partnership" for children's learning (teacher, child and parent) and we remain optimistic that we may be able to rebook or look at alternatives as soon as we are able to.

Thank you for your support for these COVID Level requirements. We do understand that this situation is frustrating, but the safety of all is why this critical decision has been made. The staff and teachers will do all we can to support your children with their learning, or in any way we can assist your family during this time.

We will update you as soon as any further information regarding Alert Levels is received.

Ngā mihi

Maree Bathurst  
PRINCIPAL