

Kia ora koutou

I hope that you all enjoyed watching our assembly this morning! For those of you who missed it you can watch it again here! We had a lot of fun putting it together this week.

<https://youtu.be/bO8sdauscoc>

I am also really enjoying viewing your Autumn Art pictures for our Virtual Autumn Art Exhibition. There are a lot of talented artists out there and you have managed to capture the essence of Autumn beautifully!! Keep these entries coming in as they close Monday which will give us time to put them all together!

Move to Alert Level 2

Like me, I am sure you have followed with interest the announcements made by the Prime Minister. It is reassuring to hear how well our country has done at minimising the impacts of COVID-19. Alert Levels 4 and 3 have not been easy and I thank you for your ongoing support for the work we are doing.

At Alert Level 2 the good news is that when we are able to, we will be ready to welcome all students and staff back to our school site. The earliest this will happen for schools would be Monday 18th May and we will be able to let you know more about specific details next week.

The key Public Health approach is to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone in a school is infected.

At Alert Level 2 we will still need to know who is at school, and who our staff and students have been in close contact with and we will continue to take appropriate measures to keep everyone safe. Physical distancing is a good precaution to prevent the spread of disease. We do however know it is challenging in schools, so good hygiene practices and regular cleaning are even more important here. This includes staff and students coughing into their elbows, handwashing and drying and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.

Under Alert Level 2, we continue to advise any **students and staff to stay at home if they are sick, and we will send anyone home immediately if they show any symptoms.**

It is important that we continue to practise safe hygiene habits not just at school but at home, as this is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the covid19.govt.nz website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions or have a child who might be vulnerable to serious illness and would like to discuss a plan for them, please contact me (principal@leeston.school.nz)

We will be in touch again soon to update you on our plans.

I will be thinking of all our mothers out there on Sunday and wish you all a very happy Mother's Day!

Ngā mihi

Lynda