



# Lower Moutere School



SCHOOL ROAD, LOWER MOUTERE

[www.lowermoutere.school.nz](http://www.lowermoutere.school.nz) ~ [office@lowermoutere.school.nz](mailto:office@lowermoutere.school.nz)

ph.526 7775

Absentee txt 027 3398801

22 MAY 2020

Dear Parents and whanau of Lower Moutere School –

It has been a long time since we have put out a school newsletter! It is really great to see our school full again with both students and staff. Thank you parents for your understanding and positivity towards the rules that we have had to implement while still working at Level 2. It does seem really foreign to us all having parents waiting outside the school gate. It makes us realise how lucky we are in our school, to have such healthy partnerships with our parent community. We were reminded this week that there are schools where parents are not permitted in the school at all (these are schools overseas). It is hard for us to imagine!

The request to close schools did come at a reasonable pace and thankfully we were well prepared for this. Staff had packs of learning materials sorted for our students all set at school – so it was a matter of posting out materials in a staggered fashion. Supported by the Ministry of Education and their packs, along with the online learning, our students have been well supported. It has been appreciated, the numerous comments made by many of our parents, thanking the staff for all they did during the home period. I too, wish to acknowledge all the school staff for the tremendous contribution that they made to ensure contact was maintained with students over the lockdown. Being the ‘best that we can be’ was well demonstrated! Plus...we have all learnt a huge amount about distance learning!!

As a result of the learning at home period, the Board and senior leadership team have put together a survey for our community, which is going to come out on . We are really interested in hearing about what went well, and student learning – both home and school – and what we can reflect on / implement, now that school is open again. We are using a googleform to collect the information. We look forward to receiving your responses. As bit of an incentive, a \$100 New World voucher will be up for grabs for the lucky family who submits their survey and has their name drawn from the hat!!



## LEVEL 2 REMINDERS

Just a few reminders, that while we are working under Level 2, we have been required to do the following:

- Parents are unable to enter the school grounds unless they are New Entrant parents. Please enter the school via the top gate, sanitise, register and await a staff member. Signing out and sanitising is required again.
- If you are needing to enter the school grounds, please phone the office – 526 7775, and await further instruction.
- Break and lunch times will continue to be split across the school.
- There are no school assemblies until we are advised that bringing the school together is a safe practice.

## END OF THE SCHOOL DAY...

Our end of day arrangements are working exceptionally well – thanks everyone! Just to remind you all – all New Entrants along with students in Rooms 1, 2 and 3 – with their siblings, are being released at 2.45. Bus students are assembling by the staffroom.



At 2.50, the rest of the school is released.

What is being most successful, is the parking situation. Parents are quickly leaving the parks and freeing them up for the next parent. Wet weather is going to be the bigger test as the grassy areas will be slippery – so again, a quick turn-around is appreciated for all vehicles.

## SCHOOL BUS



The bus run from Motueka is a parent / school funded bus. For the remainder of this term (6 weeks left), we have set bus fees at **\$20 for one child and \$35 for families**. We have reduced these significantly for this term to support our families, in the current economic climate. Payment for this would be appreciated **by the end of MAY**. The bus leaves Motueka High at 8.30. **Be at the stop by**

**8.25**. The bus returns by 3.10pm.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are now in the beginnings of winter. The school uniform for winter is the same Lower Moutere School top and fleece, along with black shorts or fleece type pants (black). Students may wear a poly-prop type thermal underneath providing it is black. If you have any questions, please check with your child's teacher.

## ABSENCES

We know that with the winter ills creeping in, that children will be absent from school. Please let us know in any one of these ways ... email [office@lowermoutere.school.nz](mailto:office@lowermoutere.school.nz), phone 5267775 or txt 027 339 8801. Many thanks!

## Board of Trustees news

The Board has met twice since we went into lockdown. Highlights of the meetings were:

- Our Annual Accounts for the Auditor have been prepared and sent off. The school is financially very healthy and our budgeting is well on track for the year.
- We are in the process of reviewing our Strategic plan and goals.
- Property wise, we have installed 2 heat pumps in the hall (yah for this summer!!), and CCTV system.
- We have reviewed our 10 Year property plan and prioritised projects for the next 12 months – we can expect some awesome improvements coming soon!
- Due to the lockdown, we are reviewing the 'Reporting to Parents' timeframe for the next two terms.
- A survey will be going out to all our families regarding learning at home during the lock down.

### Upcoming events...



<b>JUNE</b>	
<b>1</b>	Queens birthday
<b>22</b>	BOARD MEETING
<b>JULY 3</b>	Last day of term

Term Dates for 2020			
<b>Term 2</b>	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	To	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
<b>Term 3</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	To	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Term 4</b>	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	To	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December



*Students in Room 4, enjoying the outdoors - making Sundials!*

Thanks for supporting Lower Moutere School! Enjoy the weekend  
Chris Bascand – Principal

THE BEST WAY TO TREAT **OBSTACLES**  
IS TO USE THEM AS STEPPING-STONES.  
LAUGH AT THEM, TREAD ON THEM,  
AND LET THEM LEAD YOU  
**SOMETHING BETTER.**

ENID BLYTON