



GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL

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Special Newsletter – 21 August 2021

Kia ora

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Late yesterday afternoon, the Government announced a further extension of the NZ-wide, Level 4 Lockdown, until 11.59pm on Tuesday 24th August. We will learn more this coming Monday, about what will happen next.

I want to reassure you that our school staff and Board of Trustees, will continue to be available to support your child's learning and wellbeing in the coming days. Most, if not all, classroom teachers have been in touch already – provided that we have your correct on-line details. Please contact us as soon as possible if you become aware of another school family that has not heard from the school - and we will endeavour to make contact via other methods. As we have very limited legal access to school during Level 4, we are not in a position to offer any hard-material packs at this stage. The Government has given priority to those in Auckland and the Coromandel.

Please feel free to contact me should you need any support with food, medical/mental health services etc. As the Mental Health Foundation of NZ says, (www.facebook.com/mentalhealthfoundationNZ) "it's all right to feel a range of emotions right now. Going into a Level 4 lockdown is a big deal and it brings all sorts of different feelings to the surface, including frustration, worry and even gratitude. However, you are feeling, know that you're not alone – we're all going through this together." If you need to talk, check in with a friend or whānau member, or free call/text 1737 to chat with a trained counsellor. It is free and confidential. There are also a lot of other supports available to you, your whānau and your community if needed.

You will also understand the importance of routine for your family. If your routine has been shaken up, it's good to structure your time. Routines are reassuring and promote health and physical wellbeing.

A big thank you to all of you for taking the lockdown so seriously – we've seen before that staying at home will break the chain of transmission and save lives. Breaking the rules could risk someone close to you and if the rules are not complied with, this could risk the lock down period being extended or could risk the virus being spread to thousands.

And just a quick point – please don't use our playground during lockdown.

Playgrounds cannot be used at Alert Level 4.

Nga mihi nui/Best wishes

Steve Hayward
Principal

P.S. Obviously, tomorrow's **cheese roll making has been cancelled** and full refunds will be given (eventually). Thank you for your support and understanding.