

KIA MANAWANUI

Te Rāwhiti & Te Rā Pānui - 25 March 2022

Reminder: It's a beautiful day!!!



MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Kia ora koutou e ngā whānau o te kura o Te Rā, me ngā whānau o Te Rāwhiti hoki.

This week was a reminder that the sunny days of autumn may be numbered! The children have been re-discovering the joys of puddles, so please remember to send not only a raincoat and gumboots along on rainy mornings, but also a change of socks and trousers (or even a whole outfit) particularly for the younger children.

Over the last six months in particular, so much of our kindergarten and school communication has been dominated by Covid announcements, guidelines, and requests to do this or that! And yes, this newsletter is no exception. Following the government's most recent announcement, below are some of the details for your information, with some initial implications. There are likely to be other changes, if not this term then next term, as the Ministry of Education is working through the finer details of all of this, and kindergartens and schools have been urged to wait



for updated advice. So, as so often, we ask that you bear with us ... and thank you for your patience and understanding!

Ngā mihi mahana nā

Kerstin Wagner (Tumuaki)

Shelley Wrigley (Kindergarten Kaiārahi)

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills."

Changes to the Traffic Lights
From 11.59pm Friday 25 March

RED	ORANGE	GREEN
Face masks required in most indoor settings	Face masks required in many indoor settings	Face masks encouraged indoors
Indoor capacity limits of 200 people. No outdoor capacity limits	No indoor or outdoor capacity limits	No indoor or outdoor capacity limits
Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19	Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19	Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Unite against COVID-19

Covid Update

On Wednesday the Government announced the removal of the COVID-19 vaccination mandate and tweaks to the red traffic light setting.

At this point, this is what we can say about how the changes impact on Te Rāwhiti and Te Rā School:

- From 11.59pm Monday, 4 April, the vaccine mandate covering staff in the education sector will be removed. This means that the law no longer requires staff who are working on site when children are present to be vaccinated. For vaccinated staff, booster vaccinations are no longer mandatory either. Kindergartens and schools must carry out their own risk assessments to ensure that it is safe for children and staff to be on site.

- The country remains in traffic light setting Red, but limits on numbers of people gathering outdoors will be removed from 11.59pm 4 April.
- Outdoors, facemasks will not be required but continue to be still strongly encouraged when coming on site, particularly when there are active cases known in the community.
- Indoor limits increase to 200. For this term, the school teachers have decided to remain cautious and any assemblies will continue to be held outdoors (rather than in the hall).
- Face masks continue to be required indoors for students in years 4 and above and their teachers, and also for office staff.
- The isolation period for COVID-19 positive people and their household contacts remains at seven days.
- Vaccine passes and contact tracing will not be required from this weekend.

We will provide further information over the coming weeks.

If you or someone in your whānau tests positive for Covid 19

- If you or your child receive a positive test result the household must isolate for **seven** days (this has changed from previously 10 days).
- Household contacts must test on Day 3 and Day 7.

Returning to school after COVID-19

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 are not required to self-isolate past seven days, **but they shouldn't return to school if they are still feeling unwell.**
- Many children will have long lasting runny nose and cough after viral infections. If it is **over 10 days since the onset of the COVID infection and they are no longer feeling unwell**, they are unlikely to be transmitting any active COVID infection and can return to school. However, if they are continuing to feel unwell or their symptoms are worsening after 10 days then GP review is recommended.

We continue to have whānau report that they are home isolating (due to adults in the household having tested positive). Therefore we do still have some children away from kindergarten groups and classes, who are part of this whānau isolation. We continue to advise the parents/caregivers of the children in each class when a child has tested positive **if it is likely that they were on site during the infectious period.**

Please remain vigilant for symptoms right now and follow government guidance on testing, on letting people you have been close with know and so forth if symptoms arise within your whānau. Please notify kaiarahi@tera.school.nz (for kindergarten children) and principal@tera.school.nz (for school children).

We thank everyone for keeping children with any sickness home - aside from being good practice at all times, this is particularly important right now.

From the School Teacher Team

Firstly, a big thank you to Natasha McLean, who has been co-teaching Class 6 this term. For this group of children, Ashley Gibbs is stepping into the class teacher role full-time at the beginning of April. We are extremely pleased to let our community know that Natasha will remain on our 2022 teaching team as the Class 3 co-teacher, together with Sharon Wilmshurst.

Natasha has a lot of strings to her bow. Being a former student of Taikura Steiner School in Hastings is one of them, and being the president of the local branch of NZEI (which is the union for primary school teachers) is another.

From the Kindergarten Team

We are starting to notice the weather change and have been harvesting merrily from our various fruit trees. There are some wonderful opportunities to see the tamariki engaging with the seasons!

WHĀNAU HUI POSTPONED

As noted above, the government announcements recently will cause a few more changes as we proceed into living with Covid in an ongoing manner. We await advice from the Ministry so we can be sure to provide correct detail as we go forward.

In the meantime, we have determined to postpone our normal parent hui until very early in Term 2. At that point Beth MacGibbon will have started in Korimako as a second kaiako and we will know a little more about whatever phase we are in and what that means. Your kaiako will be in touch with an actual date late this term.

KINDERGARTEN OPEN DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Kindergarten will remain open throughout the school holiday period! This is new for us and will mean that we will likely run with shared group(s), with one kaiako leading and another also being present for each group. The staffing will change over each school holiday as the team share workloads during this time.

Kindergartens are funded based on the days they are open, usually for 50-52 weeks per year. During term breaks (school holidays) your child remains registered to attend on the weekdays they are normally attending. There is no pressure for you to take up these additional weeks, especially if you also have older siblings at home from school, but we want to let you know that the option is now available.

Over the next week, could you please indicate to your class teacher if your child is likely to attend during the week after Easter and/or the week following Anzac weekend. This provides us with approximate numbers to work out the practical aspects of the days. Thank you!

At this stage, we are still planning to close for a period of time over the summer school holiday break at Christmas time. However, we will carry out a review before final decisions are made.

And finally, the standard reminder of the need for spare clothes, and a bag for the dirty ones!

Shelley Wrigley

From the Trust

From the Finance Office



End of tax year is approaching so now is a great time to transfer your available balances in Kindo to the payables in your Kindo account. Any donations up to 31 March 2022 to the school and trust for disbursements or special character contribution will be included on the donations summary receipt.

IRD Tax Summary Receipts will be available in your Kindo accounts in the first week of April so you are able to complete your IRD rebate claim with IRD.



School Policy Review

In 2022, all schools will review the **Health, Safety, and Welfare Policy** section throughout the year. The main, overarching policy will be reviewed at the end of the year.

In Term 1, the focus is on the **Health and Safety Management** and **Emergency, Disaster, and Crisis Management** sections.

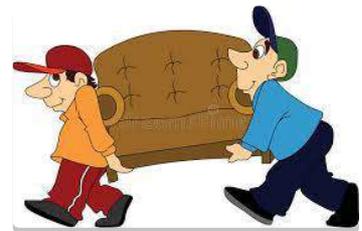
Reviews are open to board, staff, and parents/caregivers/whānau. Please go to <https://tera.schooldocs.co.nz/>, look for the **Current Review** tab and follow the instructions.

If this is your first time on SchoolDocs, please email the office for User Name and Password.

Looking for items

2-Seater Couch

Do you have a 2 seater couch to sell or donate? The kindergarten is looking for a good quality 2 seater couch for the kindergarten cabin office. If you have one to sell or donate, please email executiveofficer@tera.school.nz



Storage Cupboard

Do you have a cupboard or filing cabinet to sell or donate? The kindergarten is looking for a cupboard to store A4 folders in the cabin office. This could be a cupboard or vertical filing cabinet. If you have one to sell or donate, please email executiveofficer@tera.school.nz

Washing Machine

Do you have a washing machine to sell or donate? The kindergarten is looking for a replacement as our one has died. If you have one for sale or to donate please email executiveofficer@tera.school.nz

Eurythmy

Kia ora e te hapori. Is there a pianist out there who would be interested in (and enjoy) occasionally playing the piano for Eurythmy lessons? If you can read music and are interested in supporting us on the occasional Wednesday, please contact the Te Rā office. Thank you.

Sue Pegler

Support for Ukraine



[Conflict in Ukraine](#)

www.unicef.org.nz

Your immediate donations can help save lives. UNICEF has been in Ukraine for 25 years, supporting children on both sides of the conflict line. As the conflict dramatically escalates, our teams will stay and deliver emergency assistance for the 7.5 million children in urgent need.



[Ukraine Emergency One...](#)

www.savethechildren.org.nz

At least 7.5 million children are in grave danger of physical harm, severe emotional distress, and displacement, following the escalation in hostilities overnight. Explosions have been heard in the capital Kyiv and other major cities such as Kharkiv, forcing children and families into basements and bomb shelters.



[Donate now | New Zealand...](#)

www.redcross.org.nz

The events escalating in Ukraine are deeply concerning. After enduring eight years of conflict, civilians caught up in the crisis are now faced with even more fear, loss, and devastation. People are losing their homes and their lives. Many are seeking refuge in basements and underground railway stations.

Reminders

Absences (very important)

Absentees can be notified to the office via School Apps or by leaving a message on the school absentee line. You can also text absences to the school cellphone (021) 295 8618. We ask that absences are notified before 9.00 am every morning.

The Ministry of Education requires us to code absences, so when you are advising that your child is absent, we ask that you provide us with the reason for the absence.

Dates

Remember to check the Diary of Dates below.

DATES 2022

Term 1

Wed 30 March - Class 4 Whānau Hui - 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Thurs 7 April - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Thurs 14 April - Last Day Term 1

Term 2

Mon 2 May - First Day Term 2

Thurs 19 May - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Mon 6 June - Queens BD

Tues 7 June - School Teacher PLD day (school closed for students)

Thurs 30 June - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Frid 8 July - Last Day Term 2

Term 3

Mon 25 July - First Day Term 3

Thurs 11 Aug - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Mon 29 Aug - School Teacher PLD day (school closed for students)

Sat 17 Sept - Open Day

Thurs 22 Sept - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Fri 30 Sept - Last Day Term 3

Term 4

Mon 17 Oct - First Day Term 4

Mon 24 Oct - Labour Day

Thurs 3 Nov - School Board Meeting - 7pm

Tues 13 Dec - Last Day Term 4 Kindergartens

Wed 14 Dec - Last Day Term 4 School

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Van for Sale:

1997 Toyota Estima Lucida van, current WOF and Rego. 8-seater, or can comfortably fit a double mattress. Please contact Erin for details. 02101475696

Junior Rugby:

Paraparaumu Junior Rugby Club registrations are now open for the upcoming season. Go to www.sporty.co.nz/paraparaumuniuniorrugby to register your child. We have rugby grades from Y0/1

through to Y8. The season kicks off in early May with training starting in April. Any questions, please contact rego.pjrc@gmail.com.

VetCare:

An Animal's Journey

S J Lonergan BVSc

Home based veterinary care, reiki and acupuncture

021 0224 4211

ananimalsjourney@gmail.com

Joanne is a parent of Evie in Class 1

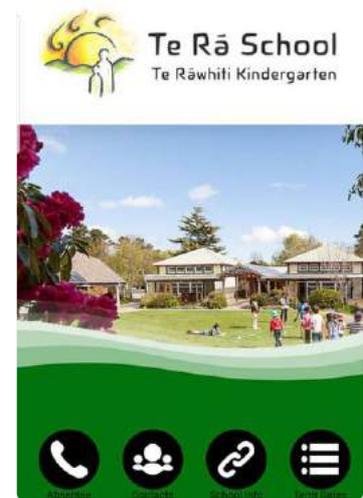
FUN ZONE - Term 1 Holiday Programme:

Tuesday 19 April through to Friday 29 April Based in Kenakena School Hall Book with us for the Term 1 Holidays! We have exciting in-venue games and activities and some adventurous excursions sorted to bust holiday boredom Take a look at our itinerary, enrol and book through our website NOW! Or call us on 0800 543 9696 for more information 😊😊 <https://www.funzone.co.nz/holiday-programmes>

Te Rā Waldorf School - School App

Available on:

PLAY STORE & APP STORE



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 Facebook

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