



SUTTON PARK SCHOOL
89 Vine Street, Mangere East, Auckland 2024
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Principal: Fa'atili Iosua Esera

26 Paenga Whawha 2020.

Kei te mihi nui atu kia koutou.

It is wonderful that our school community have been spared the heart-ache from Covid19. We can only reflect with sadness on the deadly impact of the Spanish Influenza on the Pacific which is 100 years exactly as of April this year. The losses were much higher in the Pacific nations that it was in New Zealand. There were 38,000 lives lost in Samoa and 6,400 in New Zealand. This puts our death toll of only 19 from Covid19 in to some perspective. So we need to be grateful.

The Board of Trustees approved significant changes that you need to be aware of as we prepare ourselves to return to school.

- i. Sutton Park School will continue to be in lockdown and will open ONLY for students and staff. The gates are locked from 9:00am until 2:30pm.
- ii. Visits to the school will be by appointment only.
- iii. There will be different times for different students to start, have morning tea break, lunchtimes and finish times.
- iv. We issued all our school devices to our students last week with priority to Years 5-8 students. Nearly all families got a device from the school. If you did get one or two devices for your family, do be mindful that our school can ill afford any of these devices to be damaged. So do take good care of them.
- v. These devices can be shared with others if you have younger children.
- vi. There are Learning Packs for Years 1-4 and Years 5-8 who do not have internet access at home.
- vii. There are also learning opportunities on television for all age groups.
- viii. Children wear face mask and staff face shields while at school.
- ix. Each class or groups of classes will operate as a bubble with each bubble having their agreement of what to do. There are strict aspects that every student is to follow.
- x. The canteen, breakfast club, lunch time club, SKIDs are closed.
- xi. All food and drinks are to be brought from home. Each child to have his/her own drink bottle.

We will continue to review these changes with the well-being of our students, staff as priority. Your support is critical for the changes to be effective, and these will be reviewed weekly.

Be assured that if any of our staff or students get the virus, Sutton Park School will be closed a longer period.

School attendance at Level 3 of the lockdown is dependent on parents. If you feel your children are safe at home, and can be supervised while they learn at home, then keep them home. Teachers will continue to provide on-line learning and learning packs for students away from school.

At this stage, the safest place for your child is within your family bubble. We have made significant changes to increase the possibility of our students and staff being safe. However, the Board of Trustee and I cannot assure you, that your child will be safe from the Covid19 virus at Sutton Park School.

This lockdown again is a golden opportunity to connect with your children. Converse with them, teach them some traditions of your family. It is an opportunity for your children to learn from you, on the things you are good at, or wish your children to know. Time with your children is investment at its best, and the more you invest, the more you get out of it.

Do contact your child's teacher for further support or clarification. Do contact me at principal@suttonpark.school.nz or leave me a message at 021-250-6684 if you need my supports. I hope you had some good quality times with your children and wider family. May God be your guide while we are apart.

Sincerely,

Fa'atili Iosua Esera
Tumuaki/Pulea'oga/Puleako/Principal
Master of Education [Merit]