



Kia ora Whanau

Welcome back to our students after being absent from school for around 12 weeks following the Government move to Alert Level 4 on 17th August. Welcome to our new families that have enrolled and started over lockdown. Term 3 and 4 have definitely been unusual! I want to personally thank all those families that have sent their children to school. I know for many of you there were some hard conversations being had in homes all around our school community. To those families that have made the decision to keep their children at home, we miss you and hope to see you in the new year.

As you will be aware, the school day is looking different for this term. We have Yr 0-4 students and Moemoe Fou on-site at 9am until 11.30am (using lower Keegan Drive gate), Kahukura on-site 9.30am – 12.30pm (using upper Keegan Drive gate) and Yr 5-8 students on-site from midday until 3pm (Lilburn Crescent entrance). We are asking parents to drop off and pick up their children, or if children are walking, remind them to use the assigned gate. Unfortunately parents cannot come on-site for this term, our staff are instead meeting students at the gate. Can you please ensure children are not dropped to school early – this reduces the chances of mingling on the way to class! We understand your frustration with these changes however must follow Ministry of Education guidelines.

We are following Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education guidelines and we believe school is a safe place. All of our staff meet the requirements of the vaccination mandate. All staff are wearing masks at all times while around children, social distancing and using hand sanitiser frequently. Hand sanitiser is readily available around the school for everyone. Classrooms are well ventilated and children's playtimes are split so that they are together in their bubble.

Unfortunately there will be no prizegiving, presentations, assemblies, or end of year functions this year. We will continue to keep you updated via newsletters coming home every fortnight, plus by Facebook and by Skool Loop app. We will make sure that there is a celebration of our year 8 leavers. Watch this space. We will have a Mihi Whakatau early in 2022 - if the Traffic light system allows it!

While everyone has been away Gordon has been working on-site to finish off our environmental projects. You will notice that the front pedestrian entrance to the school is now beside the driveway and all visitors will pass under the waharoa as they enter the school. Landscaping has been done at the front entrance and further plans are underway for shading. The play equipment designed by Gordon is installed and he is currently working on a 'water play' area which will allow children to hand pump water.

The front canopy at the reception entrance has been demolished and a new canopy will be constructed over the Christmas break so look out for this in the new year.

Due to COVID-19 and the disrupted learning our students have experienced for Terms 3 & 4 this year, we have made the difficult decision to defer Camp Tupare until early 2023. This means that camp for Yrs 5-8 will not go ahead in February 2022 as planned. We know many will be disappointed as much planning has already been done, but we believe establishing routines at the beginning of the year should be a priority given the circumstances our tamariki have been through this year.

Communication – sometimes there are changes to dates or we just need to send out reminders. We use the FREE Skool Loop app, our Lincoln Heights School Official Facebook page and the school newsletter to communicate these changes or updates to our school community. Please ensure that you read the newsletters fortnightly when they come home as they will have important information in them, especially given the current uncertain climate around COVID-19. We also keep our school website updated and next year, this will include links to school policies.

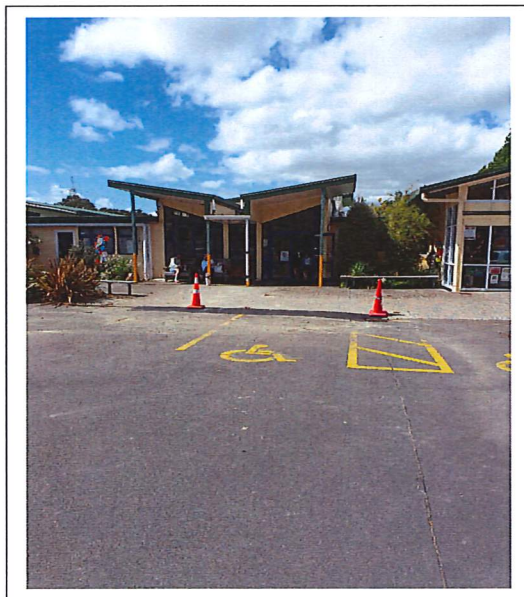
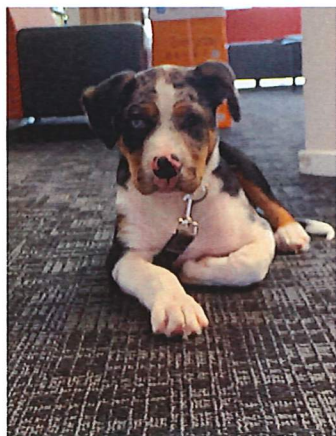
In term four it is compulsory for students to wear sun hats. Terms Four and One are the harshest in terms of potential sun damage. All students must wear a sunhat when outside. New compulsory bucket sunhats in your child's house colour will be available for purchase soon for \$10 each. These are now part of our Lincoln Heights School uniform. The new sunhats must be worn by all students from 2022. Samples will be available in the office to try on for sizing in the new year. Once you purchase your sun hat, we would encourage you to name it as there will be 450 students with the same hat at school.

COVID-19 has given many people an opportunity to take stock of their lives and consider their next steps both personal and in their career. This has led to a few of our staff deciding to spread their wings and embark on new adventures. We wish Emily Auva'a (new Pedagogical Leader at Islamic State School), Aisha Bower (Professional Netballer in Sydney), Emily Bingham (RNZAF new Recruit), Trena Lile (new Massey High School Librarian), Sol Heke (off on a new career), Jayde Irwin (Uni student), Sheryl Ennever and Maree Kahi (retired – enjoying the good life) all the best! Although we know they are irreplaceable, we have appointed three exceptional new teachers starting in 2022; Mr Isiah Hamlin (teaching in year 7-8), Ms Courtney Dwyer (teaching in year 5-6) and Miss Gisele Kemp (teaching in year 3-4). Mrs Amanda Shoebridge will be our new Resource Administrator looking after the Library. I want to welcome them all to our amazing school and know they will achieve great things for our students.

Ka kite

Leisha Byrnes and OBE

PRINCIPAL



We would like to welcome Ben Lynch, newly co-opted trustee on the Lincoln Heights School Board. Ben comes from a corporate background with skills in risk management and finance and we know that his expertise will be an asset to our existing Board.

Our current Board comprises:

- Reuben Baker, Presiding Member
- Raewyn Clark, Deputy Presiding Member
- Sean Carter, Trustee
- Lillian Hansell, Trustee
- Ben Lynch, Trustee
- Gordon Irving, Staff Trustee



TERM FOUR 2021

November

17th School re-opens after COVID-19 Alert Lockdown

December

17th School finishes at 1.00pm

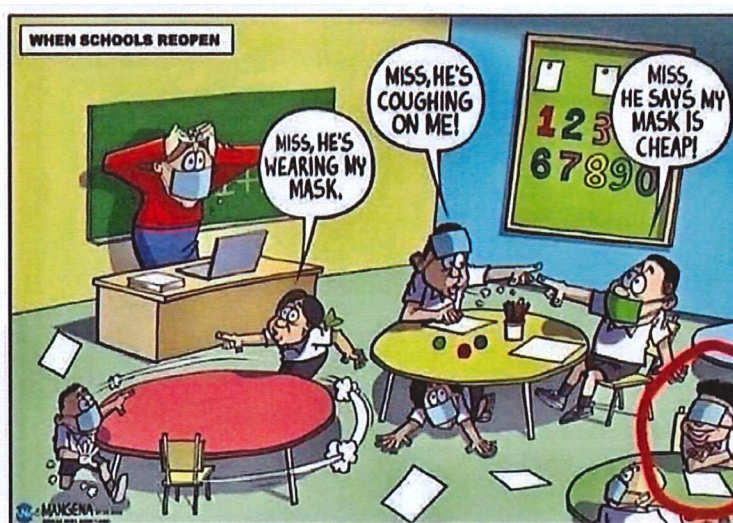
SCHOOL WILL RE-OPEN FOR INSTRUCTION ON THURSDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2022.

TERM ONE 2022	3 rd February – Thursday 14 th April
TERM TWO 2022	2 nd May – Friday 9 th July
TERM THREE 2022	25 th July – Friday 30 th September
TERM FOUR 2022	17 th October – Friday 16 th December

Our motto – In The Gate by Half Past Eight Guarantees You Won't be Late!

GENERAL NOTICES

- **Return of Netball and Basketball uniforms** please. If you have any LHS sports uniforms can these please be returned to the Office as soon as possible ready for next year's season.
- **Parent Supervised Playgroup sessions** are in the room on the top playing field nearest Doone Place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am until 12.30pm. Email Manager Debbie at debbie.clarke@aka.org.nz for more information. Playgroup is not operating in Term Four this year.
- **SKIDS** Before and After School care is not available in Term Four. Contact Sam direct by phoning 027 814 0380, or emailing lincolnheights@skids.co.nz SKIDS is not operating in Term Four this year.
- **Important message re student illness.** A reminder to please not send your child to school if they are showing symptoms of being unwell. When a child is sent to the sickbay unwell we phone parents to collect them. We do not have the capacity in our sickbay to keep children all day.
- **Vistab sponsorship.** Vistab is an electronic automated sign in/sign out system for our pupils, staff, relieving teachers, volunteers, contractors and casual visitors to the school. Vistab is used by many schools nationally, including ours. It makes the sign in/sign out process at reception very quick and reliable, especially in the case of an emergency. Do you have a business or know of a business that would like to sponsor Vistab in our school? To find out more phone Tash at reception on 833 7480, or email lhs@lincolnheights.school.nz, subject heading VISTAB.



Thank you all for supporting and encouraging your children to wear masks each day. It has meant that we can focus on teaching and learning and not on reminding our year 4-8's to put masks on.