



Oruaiti School

Caring | Confident | Responsible Life Long Learners

12.05.2022

Kia Ora e te whanau,

Further to our letter yesterday afternoon, please understand that the decision to shut the school was not our decision. In a recent asbestos survey of our school (This is something that is happening in a number of schools throughout Northland) friable asbestos was found to be visible. For this reason the Ministry of Education has a duty of care to remove it immediately, to make the spaces safe. The asbestos is not currently airborne, however, Ministry is not willing to take the risk of it being disturbed and has therefore shut us down as of 3.00pm today. We know this is frustrating and stressful for many of our whanau, all staff are feeling exactly the same. We were planning for a settled term for everyone this term!

We have put a plan in place to support parents/caregivers who have to work. We have secured a room at the Doubtless Bay Christian Centre, behind Mangonui mowers opposite the fire station, from Monday to Friday next week. **As the space here is limited we would really appreciate it if those who are able to keep children at home do so, to make spaces available for those who really need it.** All students whether at home or at the Christian centre will be online learning, or working from learning packs provided by the school. Parents/caregivers will be able to drop children off at 8.45 and collect them at 2.30. Students will need to bring their lunch, morning tea and a water bottle, as well as their device for years 4 - 8, their learning pack for juniors and anything else they need to support their learning as we will have limited school resources available. Please let your child's teacher know ASAP if your child does need to be supervised at the Doubtless Bay Christian Centre, and what days this is required.

We have also arranged a day for any students who wish to attend at the Coopers Beach Christian Camp on Thursday 19th May. This will be a 'fun day' for all students. Students will need to be dropped off at the camp at 9.00am and picked up at 2.00pm in the afternoon. No students will be at the Doubtless Bay Christian Centre on this day. Students will need to bring lunch morning tea and swimming togs and/or a change of clothes. Again please let your child's teacher know if your child will be attending.

We hope all these arrangements will help to ease things for those who are unable to have their children at home. We will send a further update when we know how long we need to remain off site.

Class google meets will be held every morning, starting tomorrow (Friday) these will be at the following times:

8.30 - 8.45 - Kowhai, Rimu
8.45 - 9.00 - Puriri,
9.00 - 9.15 - Kauri, Ngaio
9.15 - 9.30 - Manuka, Nikau
9.30 - 9.45 - Totara

For more information regarding asbestos in schools please visit the following link:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/school/property-and-transport/health-and-safety-management/asbestos/>

Regards

Diane Bates
Principal