



22 Kotare Street
TAUPO 3330

admin@taupointermediate.co.nz

Phone: 3788097
Fax: 07 378 8618

3rd September 2021

Tena koutou te whanau o te Kura Takuwaenga o Taupo

- me nga matua whaea, nga kaiako, me nga tamariki. He nui te aroha me te tautoko ki a koutou.

“What is home? My favourite definition is "a safe place," a place where one is free from attack, a place where one experiences secure relationships and affirmation. It's a place where people share and understand each other. Its relationships are nurturing. The people in it do not need to be perfect; instead, they need to be honest, loving, supportive, recognizing a common humanity that makes all of us vulnerable.”

— Gladys Hunt, Honey for a Child's Heart: The Imaginative Use of Books in Family

We survive another week in Covid Level 3 here in Taupo and I have to wonder really what's the difference between Level 3 in Taupo and Level one. Answer very little?

This week we have provided a number of services in support of our whanau and students with delivery in the past week of approx. 80 x hard packs of learning material, along with delivery of Laptops and chargers – 50 of these to ensure we have 100% coverage of our school community.

I am sure that our school laptop scheme over the past few years, has contributed to the number of devices that we have in the community – well we should have.

It has been full on commitment from us all as well as setting up our school site for the re - entry of students on Wednesday in Covid Level 3 we have also had students in school and a large number off site.

Huge thank you to all my staff particularly my Senior Management team and Learning Support Coordinator who have worked since last week in coordinating the hard Packs and Laptops as well as liaising with our students/ parents and teachers at home.

A week in school with 25 – 30 students who have been fantastic and with a small number of teachers supervising here and then spending some time online with their class of students – a double job and to these teachers I am grateful for your commitment.

The other teachers who have been at home continuing their teaching online and I would hope they have managed to engage with their students every day.

Please contact the teacher or me at school if this is not happening as we really need to try and keep up to date because when all our students return, we will not have time to go back over work that has been missed. We are 4 x weeks from the end of the term and then the next minute we will be hanging up the Christmas decorations

In my opinion, speaking of Christmas, what a huge disappointment to hear our Covid Minister also Minister of Education inform us that if any one overseas has plans to come home for Christmas, then

cancel them, after all the sacrifices we have made this year, the one time where we can bring our whanau together at Christmas we can't!!

This is why I have chosen my quote for this week about what home is and what it means to us all. I am quite frankly not interested in the excuse that we don't and won't have enough quarantine spaces when we can bring in sports teams, entertainers, people from other nations. Just get facilities up and running, get the vaccine programme up to actual speed and if we haven't enough vaccines then get some more in. At least if we can get the majority of us vaccinated, it would allow us to perhaps quarantine at our homes.

Whatever it takes to ensure we really look after our whanau by allowing us to get members of our whanau home for good or for at least a catch up.

Who knows what will happen next week at this stage, and there is no point in speculating?

I would suggest that we may be back at Covid Level 2 by next weekend Thursday's announcement giving us enough time to prepare for Monday start at Level 2. That's my reasoning so no need to speculate.

**THANKS FOR ALL THE WORK WE ARE DOING AND LET'S CONTINUE TO KEEP WORKING TOGETHER.
LET'S LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER SO WE CAN GET OUR WHANAU HOME AROUND US FOR A HAPPY AND
SAFE CHRISTMAS.**

Safe and enjoyable weekend , I will be spending my time sharpening up the hooks, cleaning and preparing the boat, for the opening of the fishing season!!!!!!

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

***Wiremu Clarke
Principal***