

Coatesville School Newsletter

“Aim! Strive! Achieve!”

www.coatesville.school.nz

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19 November 2021

Newsletter 28

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa



What a fantastic three days! It is so nice to have so many people back at school - fully open; happy and relaxed students and staff; the sun shining; and we are in our stunning school environment!

Things have gone very well this week. There is no need to change organisation at this time but over the coming weeks we may adjust aspects of our reopening plan. If so, we will let you know well in advance!

Thank you everyone for making ‘drop-off’ and ‘pick-up’ work so successful. Those are potentially more difficult times but the way the children have been prepared and supported is a real credit to you all. You have done a super job in allowing the days to flow so well. And your support for the ‘no visitors’ in the ‘school zone’ has tremendously helped the staff and students settle in without additional anxiety and any disruption. Thank you!

Thank you also to our whole staff who have helped make the past three days so enjoyable. Any plan always relies on the staff to implement it well and they have done so in such a confident and supportive manner.

Great work Coatesville School staff - I am hugely appreciative!

Progress & Achievement Reporting

Barely three weeks into Term 3 we ceased onsite learning. Three months later we are finally back!

This has meant a significant restructuring of our usual achievement reporting process for individual students. Distance Learning was implemented to provide continuity of learning for students. It simply does not give teachers the opportunity to make highly accurate judgements for reporting purposes (at a primary level anyway).

Based on the work completed online over the past three months, we do not have enough information of what students can demonstrate independently (without support).

Students have also had differing levels of engagement over the past few months.

What will reporting look like?

Schools will vary in how they approach end of year reporting this year but many schools are adopting a very similar approach to our school.

We will produce a report which will **summarise learning in 2021 and will act as a starting point for learning in 2022**. We will not make ‘overall judgements’ against year level expectations (refer to the Progress Report from Term 2 for the last reference point) but this information will be extremely helpful for starting 2022 with clarity - for next year’s teacher and for the students themselves.

The **‘Learning Summary Report for 2021’** will include:

- A personal ‘General Comment’
- ‘Positive Progress’ in learning - for each of Competencies, Literacy & Mathematics
- ‘Next steps’ for learning - for each of Competencies, Literacy & Mathematics
- A personal ‘Final Comment’

After the issuing of this report parents will be asked to share any comments and questions they have. This will be an important contribution to the targets/goals for each child to be determined very early in 2022.

We want to start 2022 with clarity and urgency. We want momentum from the start of the year, as we all hope for minimal disruption to learning after the past two, very challenging, years.

Coatesville School/Community Pool - 2021-22 Season

The opening of the swimming pool for this season is yet to be confirmed.

Public pools are not to open at Alert Level 3 Step 2.

We will do our best to reopen the pool as soon as is practical but this will be influenced by any Alert Level or 'Traffic light' level restrictions at the time and our ability to ensure the pool and the pool environment is safe for all those who use it. This may provide several challenges.

A risk management analysis will be undertaken by school leadership & the BOT prior to any decisions made regarding reopening. The school community & previous pool keyholders will then receive information.

Confirming student numbers for 2022

Currently we are confirming student numbers for 2022.

We completed a ballot for out-of-zone students for 2022 last month.

Now it is extremely important we have a very accurate picture of the number of students at each year level so we can arrange classes and class numbers with the right balance across the school.

The process for confirming classes for 2022 will begin shortly.

So if you have any additional information regarding your children in 2022 please contact the office asap (office@coatesvilleschool.nz). Thank you for your support.

School Library - Books returned to school

Could we please have all school library books returned to school in a **NAMED BAG**.

There will be a **box outside the school office** for these to be put in and we will mark them off the library system.

Please **only return them on weekdays when school is not open from 7:30 -830 and from 3:15-3:45**.

We look forward to refilling the library shelves before the annual end of year stocktake. Thank you in advance.

For any books that are not returned an invoice for a lost book of \$20 will be sent to you.

End of school year for 2021

School finishes for the year on **Friday 17 December at 1pm**.

Start of school year for 2022

School starts again on **Tuesday 8 February** at 8.55am. This follows the long Waitangi Day weekend.

Thank you for your support. Stay safe and well.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend. Look forward to a step forward next week!

Ka kite ano. Hei konā mai.

Richard Johnson

Richard Johnson – Principal

Community Notices



**Term 4 Online
After-school Classes**

SCIENCE & TECH CLASSES
AGE 5 - 13

VISIT BRAINPLAY.CO.NZ
BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL

Brain Play teaches STEM classes covering topics such as coding, robotics, and 3D printing. For the rest of term 4, these will run online, and after school hours. Free trials are available, and we have weekend events such as Minecraft. Ages 5-13. Email us for more information on info@brainplay.co.nz or see brainplay.co.nz