



TINWALD SCHOOL

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty

NEWSLETTER - 2022

131 Thomson St

Ph 308 4555

PO Box 5032, Ashburton

admin@tinwald.school.nz <http://tinwaldschool.weebly.com/>

Term 1: Thursday 24 February 2022

Red level – Phase 3 Update

Parents and families please be aware that as we are now going to Phase 3 from midnight tonight, the following conditions apply at school and will have a direct impact on you:

Pick Ups and Drop Offs

These continue as explained below. Parents are asked not to enter the school grounds. Communication with teachers is now by email/seesaw only.

The gates for parents to use are as follows:

Rooms 1-4 Use the Jane St gate

Rooms 6-9 Use the Harland St gate

Rooms 10-12 Use the main gates on Thomson St

Parents, please talk to your children about where you will be dropping them off and picking them up from. Older siblings will be allowed to walk around to the gate of the youngest child. For example a family with a child in Room 2 and Room 9 can meet at the Jane St gate.

No Casual Visits

All visitors must report to the office. Only **one** visitor in the office at a time. Please do not drop into a classroom or other area of the school.

Minimising Sickness in the School

In order to minimise sickness in the school for both staff and students, **from Monday onwards** the school will operate in 3 bubbles.

Bubble 1

- Rooms 1-4 will be in a zone that includes their classrooms, toilets, the small adventure playground and half of the Room 6 court. Support staff have been designated to this zone and the staffroom will be available for this bubble.

Bubble 2

- Rooms 6-9 will be in a zone that includes their classrooms, toilets, the rugby field and half of the Room 6 court. Support staff have been designated to this zone and the hall will be available as a staffroom for this bubble.

Bubble 3

- Rooms 10-12 will be in a zone that includes their classrooms, toilets, the soccer field and the big adventure playground. Support staff have been designated to this zone and the hall will be available as a staffroom for this bubble.
- Each bubble will have a designated first aid space.
- The library and PE Shed will not be open for students.
- PMP, BOOST, music tuition and church use of our hall and staffroom will cease while we ride out the inevitable. The duathlon and Year 5/6 camp are postponed. Subway and sushi orders are on hold until further notice.
- Children sent to school showing signs of sickness or telling us they are unwell will be sent home. Please keep your child at home if they tell you they are unwell.

We are being strongly encouraged by the Ministry of Education to avoid school closure. This is possible if we can keep our staff sickness to a manageable level. We may need to send a class home if we are unable to find relieving teachers to cover them. Please be prepared for both class cancellations and school closures as they may still happen.

Other Points to Note

From Monday onwards these changes will happen:

- No Subway and Sushi orders.
- No after school play at school. All children must leave as soon as possible and not return to play.
- Parents to keep drop off times and pick ups to 5 minutes max. Please do not hang around after school and allow your children to play.
- No library books will be sent home.
- All children to wear masks on the bus.

Changes to Close Contacts

Under Phase 3, there is a change to the definition of who is a close contact.

From tomorrow onwards, if there is a positive student or teacher case in your child's class, your child will no longer be classified as a close contact. This means your child can stay at school.

Parents should still closely monitor for symptoms and keep children home if they show symptoms.

The school will notify parents if there is a confirmed positive case. This notice will go to all of the school. Parents will need to decide for themselves if they wish to send their child to school if there is a positive case in their child's class.

Please make sure the office has your most up to date contact information and if you child is not well, do not send them to school and notify the school office that your child is unwell.