



18 March 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers

TEACHERS' STOP-WORK MEETING, WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH

MEETING CANCELLED

All stop-work meetings for teachers, including our own one, next Wednesday, 20 March, have been cancelled until further notice due to the terrible event in Christchurch last Friday. The NZEI feels that it would not be appropriate to continue with these meetings at this time.

We were all shocked and saddened that such a thing could happen in our beautiful country and would like to send out our thoughts, prayers and best wishes to anyone who has been affected, particularly those members of our New Zealand Muslim community.

Some information has been sent to us for parents to use when discussing the event with their children:

Advice from Nathan Wallis (Child Psychology Expert)

1. Turn off TV and media - it will reinforce the trauma.
2. Show you are concerned like them, but still feel safe now. If you feel safe, they are likely too.
3. Express confidence in how quickly the police responded and their ability to protect us.
4. Be especially aware of how your "tween" is responding. Eleven is a very vulnerable age for loss and grief.

Pamper them, cuddle them, support them.

Kia ora Whanau."

Vicki Hitchcock
PRINCIPAL