



Papakōwhai School

Growing Together – Igniting Potential



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www.papakowhai.school.nz

Papakōwhai School Newsletter

Week 6 | Term 1 | 9 March 2022

Kia ora koutou

It has been a challenging week at school. Like most businesses and organisations we are starting to see the effects of Omicron here at Papakōwhai School. However, the staff and students are awesome and we are continuing to have fun with our learning every day. **The government has announced today the change to 7 days of isolation. We will send out more information about this by Friday.**

We have had a total of 23 confirmed cases. They are all children.

Syndicate	Number of positive cases
Rātā	0
Mataī	2
Rimu	8 (6 cases in Rimu 5)
Tōtara	10 (3 cases each in Tōtara 2, 4 and 5)
Kauri	3

There are currently 16 children self-isolating as household contacts and two staff members.

SEND WELL CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

Papakōwhai School is open for instruction and your child should attend school. While it is natural to feel concerned about your child's health and want to keep your child off school, this needs to be balanced with the potentially negative well-being and learning effects for your child if they are off school for an extended period. If your

child has underlying health concerns I encourage you to discuss attending school with your doctor.

MONITORING CHILDREN WHO ARE SICK

You and your whānau should watch for symptoms and if any develop, get tested and stay at home until you receive the result. It's important that anyone who experiences symptoms such as the following gets a test and stays away from school.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- A new or worsening cough
- Sneezing and runny nose
- A fever
- Temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath

Less common symptoms include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, or confusion/irritability. For more information, go to [Covid Symptoms](#)

WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP

Keeping track of who is learning at home, who is sick and who is at school is a massive job at the moment for our office staff.

Please contact office@papakowhai.school.nz or phone 2338321 if your child is absent from school before 8:30am. Please clearly state your child's name, class and the reason they are absent.

Examples of reasons

1. They have tested positive. Please give the day they were confirmed and their expected return date.
2. They are a household contact. Please give the date of the confirmed case and your child's expected return date.
3. You are keeping your child at home out of caution. Please give an expected return date, even if you are currently unsure.
4. Your child is sick.
5. Other, please specify.

STAFFING

When we have a staff member away for a day or two we have the staffing in place to cover this. If a staff member has to isolate for an extended period we will need to combine classes to cover this extended absence. An email will be sent to any classes affected by this. We are doing this so that children and whānau can have certainty and continuity about who they will be working with over the seven day period.

LEARNING AT HOME

Children who have tested positive, are household contacts or who are being kept at home by their parents out of caution, will be recorded as **learning at home** and we expect children to be engaging with the learning set online. If your child is not well enough to do home learning, or there is no one at home well enough to support them, please contact your child's teacher and let them know.

All home learning work will be communicated using SeeSaw. If you don't receive this or you are not yet set up on SeeSaw, please contact your child's teacher directly. If you don't know how to contact your child's teacher by email please contact the office, office@papakowhai.school.nz

DIGITAL DEVICES FOR LEARNING AT HOME

To prepare for online learning at any time, we need all Year 6 - 8 students who have a BYOD device to take their device and charger home every night.

For other learners we are able to supply devices while you are learning at home. **Please fill in [this form](#) when you are learning at home: please don't fill it in, in advance.**

Please contact Chris Robinson (Deputy Principal) chris@papakowhai.school.nz if you need digital support.

HARD PACKS FOR LEARNING AT HOME

The [same form](#) can be used to request a hard pack containing a Maths work book and reading books. **Please fill it in when you are learning at home: please don't fill it in, in advance.**

Ngā mihi
Mark Smith
Principal

mark@papakowhai.school.nz

TAX CREDITS FOR SCHOOL DONATIONS

When you pay school donations and voluntary contributions to the school they qualify for the tax credit of 33.3 cents per dollar. Items that qualify for this include school donations, Athletics and other learning subscriptions, Hapara, and camp costs. Items paid before 31 March 2022 will be able to be part of the 2022 tax credit claim.

HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Papakōwhai School wide brimmed hats are available to purchase, year round, from the school office. The hats are available in navy or yellow and cost \$22 each.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Scholastic book orders have been handed out today. If anyone is interested in assisting to sort the books for future orders please email the office, office@papakowhai.school.nz It would involve working alongside an existing parent volunteer to check and sort the book order ready for children to take home. It is relatively simple and takes approximately 2 hours, 4 times a year.

MOVIN'MARCH – WEEK 2!

Wacky Wheels Day - Wednesday 30th March

We are having a Wacky Wheels Day to celebrate Movin' March. Dress up your bike, scooter, skateboard or even your shoes!! There will be prizes for the best dressed wheels! We can't wait to see all of your Wacky Wheels!!

The Enviro Crew

We're **loving** all the stamping of passports! If you walk or wheel we'll tick off your trip in class and all entries are sent to GWRC at the end of March (remember you only need one trip recorded on your "passport" to enter). All passports in the **WOW Passport Challenge** go in the draw to win one of 12 x \$400 [MYRIDE](#) vouchers. We have spot prizes to give away too!

Whānau Photo Competition

Post a pic and comment of your journey under our weekly theme and be in to **WIN 1 of 5 x adult or child [Micro Scooters!](#)** We're also giving away **TEN** Family Passes to [Staglands Wildlife Reserve](#) or [Zealandia](#). Check our Movin' March [Facebook](#) to see what whānau said about last week's theme and look for week 2's theme to be posted up **first-thing Monday morning**. More details on Movin' March [Facebook](#) - winners announced by 8th April.

Park & Stride:

If your family lives too far away, why not park a short distance away from the school gate and walk or wheel the rest of the way? For more information see our [Park & Stride](#) tips

ENVIRO CLUB WORM TEA ORDERS

The Papakōwhai Enviro Club has made some worm tea! It comes in approximately 300ml bottles and is a concentrated product. It will be sold for \$5! All funds raised will go toward our enviro projects (seedlings etc). Please return your order forms to the office. You are able to pay via internet banking (please use your child's name and worm tea as references) or at the office via EFTPOS. Please remember to drop the order form in at the office. The orders will be delivered to your child's class each Thursday until the end of the term. [📄 Worm Tea order form](#)

Also.....

The Papakōwhai Enviro crew are beginning to collect colourful plastic bottle tops (milk bottles tops etc) to make some collaborative art this year. Donations can be dropped off to Mataī Tahi or the school office. Thank you for your support! The Enviro Crew 🌿

BALLROOM & LATIN AMERICAN BEGINNERS CLASSES

Tuesdays @ 7pm Kapiti College Hall

Wednesdays @ 8.30pm Papakowhai School Hall



A fun form of fitness for the mind, body and soul!

(Vaccine pass required at both venues)

**For full details or to book, please contact Tanya Scherzer
0274807645 or email Tanya.scherzer@gmail.com**

SOME IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH - It's Movin' March all month!!

Wednesday 16	Board of Trustees hui, 7pm, in the staffroom
Monday 21	Vision and hearing screening for Year 7's and New Entrants
Tuesday 22	Photo day for Mataī and Tōtara
Wednesday 23	Photo day for Rimu and Kauri
Wednesday 30	Wacky Wheels Day at school

PREVIOUSLY SHARED SELF ISOLATION AND HOME LEARNING INFORMATION

COVID SELF ISOLATION

You must:

- self-isolate if you test positive for COVID-19.
- self-isolate if you live with a person who has COVID-19.

You are no longer required to self-isolate if you have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19. However if you develop symptoms you should isolate and get a test.

IF A CHILD IS CONFIRMED AS A CASE

We will contact our whole school community straight away. The child and their household contacts will immediately be sent home.

All other children are able to stay at school. You will need to monitor your child and if they develop symptoms they will need to isolate and get a test.

If your child tests positive for Covid -19 they will need to isolate for while they recover from COVID-19. Household contacts also have to self isolate for 10 days.

IF A STAFF MEMBER IS CONFIRMED AS A CASE?

We will contact our whole school community straight away. The staff member and any household contacts will immediately be sent home. They will need to isolate while they recover from COVID-19. Household contacts also have to self isolate for 10 days.

REPORTING ABSENCES

Please let us know if your child will not be attending school by phoning the office (04)2338321 or emailing, office@papakowhai.school.nz

- Name
- Class
- Reason for absence

It is important that you tell us if your child has Covid-19 or if they are self isolating because a household member has Covid-19.

HOME LEARNING WHILE ISOLATING

All home learning work will be communicated using SeeSaw.

If you don't know your child's home learning code or you are not yet set up on SeeSaw, please [contact your child's teacher directly.](#)

If you don't know how to contact your child's teacher by email please contact the office, office@papakowhai.school.nz

You can download the Seesaw Family App for iOS, Android, or use the web to view your student's learning. If you are having trouble connecting to SeeSaw please contact Karen Siwalette, karen@papakowhai.school.nz

Every Monday we will send out to the entire school an online learning plan for the week. If your child is well and at school you can disregard the notification.

HOME LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

While the majority of children are at school we will send out a weekly plan for children to follow. If the majority of children are learning at home we will send out daily plans. We will provide two hours of specific literacy and Maths and inquiry work for children to do each day. There will be options to do other art, PE, or inquiry work if families want it. No work is compulsory. We won't require things to be done at a set time. If children cannot participate in a zoom meeting that's not a problem. Do what you can, when you can.

DIGITAL DEVICES FOR LEARNING AT HOME

To prepare for online learning at any time, we need all Year 6 - 8 students who have a BYOD device to take their device and charger home every night.

For other learners we are able to supply devices while you are learning at home. Only fill in [this form](#) if:

1. You are required to self isolate at home because you are a close contact
2. You are required to continue self isolating after having Covid-19

3. The MOE requires the school to close.

Please contact Chris Robinson (Deputy Principal)
chris@papakowhai.school.nz if you need digital support.

HARD PACKS FOR LEARNING AT HOME

The [same form](#) can be used to request a hard pack containing a Maths work book and reading books.

MANAGING WORKLOAD

No one expects you to be working full-time at your job, caring for your family and being a full-time teacher. Set yourself a daily schedule of when you do Home Learning. Give yourself break times and set a finish time for the day. If things are getting on top of you with Home Learning please talk with your child's teacher.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

If your child is not able to do the work that their teacher is setting, please talk with your child's teacher directly.

You can also contact Sue Jenkins (Special Needs Co-Ordinator),
sue@papakowhai.school.nz or Lesley Hodge (Assistant Principal),
lesley@papakowhai.school.nz for additional learning support.

If you need specific English Language support please contact Jill Clibborn, jill@papakowhai.school.nz

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RESOURCES

You can also independently [Watch Home Learning TV | Episodes | TVNZ OnDemand](#)

There are also literacy, mathematics and science resources organised in early years, and school Years 1– 4, 5 – 8.

[Early Learning Years 1 to 4 | Learning from home Years 5 to 8 | Learning from home](#)