



COVID-19/CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

Wednesday, May 13



Dear Parents/Caregivers

This communication is to provide you with a further update as we prepare for the return of all pupils to schools throughout the country on Monday, 18 May following the government's announcement of a move to Alert Level 2 from midnight tonight.

Monday, 18 May will be Day 1 of the school timetable. Under the current Public Health guidelines for schools we are unable to conduct full school assemblies. Consequently, the start time for the school day, 8.45am, will remain unchanged on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and extra teaching time will be available during periods one and two. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the start of the school day will be moved to 9.00am to ensure our teaching staff still have planning time. This will not impact on the available teaching time on these days. It is likely that assemblies with smaller groups, where physical distancing requirements can be met, will begin in the coming weeks. SSR will begin from the first day back so please remind your son to bring an appropriate book.

We are aware that over the period of lockdown many young men will not have had a haircut. Under Alert Level 2 barber shops will re-open but they will, no doubt, be very busy and young men may not be able to get their hair sorted before returning to school. We understand the need to be flexible in this regard; therefore, we will allow a period of time for haircuts to be organised. Having said that, we ask that you do your best to ensure hair is as tidy as possible: we do not expect our young men to return to school with egregious haircuts or outrageously dyed hair. All other grooming expectations will apply. Our expectations of grooming and high standards of personal presentation are an important part of our ethos as a school and we would appreciate parental support in ensuring haircuts are organised as soon as possible.

The school canteen staff have worked through the necessary Health and Safety requirements for Alert Level 2 and we can confirm that they will reopen from Monday. Students purchasing food from the canteen will need to follow the physical distancing guides painted on the concrete in the canteen area.



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School buses will operate as normal. Students will be required to use the provided hand sanitiser when they board the bus in the morning and again afterschool. Ministry of Education guidelines require the seats adjacent to the bus driver to remain empty. As per usual, it is important that your son follows the directions of the driver at all times.

It is hoped that sport and cultural activities can get underway at some stage in the coming weeks. While the Ministry of Education has been working with Public Health to develop protocols around a return to sport. Those organisations have been working with NZ Sport and various national sports organisations and we will receive more information in this regard in the coming days.

A reminder that the Ministry of Education has stated, “The expectation is that with the exception of some students who are sick, all students will be attending at Alert Level 2.” Consequently, it is our anticipation that all young men are attending unless they are unwell or have a specific medical exemption approved by a doctor or medical officer. If your son has an underlying medical condition and is unable to attend school on the basis of specific medical advice from a doctor, or is required to self-isolate on the instruction of a local medical officer of health, please notify us by emailing admin@pnbhs.school.nz This information is required urgently so that arrangements can be made for your son to continue online learning and will be treated as strictly confidential.

It is essential that we have up to date contact details for all pupils. If there have been any changes to your contact details please advise the main office.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming the young men of PNBHS back on Monday.

Yours faithfully,

D M Bovey

Rector



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