



Principal's Newsletter

Term 1 Week 1

Fruitvale School

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Ko Tangitu toku maunga
Ko Whangaroa toku moana
Ko Maamaru toku waka
Ko Ngati Kahu o Whangaroa toku iwi
Ko Te Aeto toku hapu
Te Patunga te marae
Ko Hine Viskovich ahau



Kia ora whānau! Nga mihi nui, nga mihi mahana. Nau mai Haere mai!

Welcome back to Fruitvale School for 2022, and a special welcome to whānau new to our school.

My name is Hine Viskovich. I am Acting Principal for this term and have been the Deputy Principal at Fruitvale for nearly 14 years.

We have all enjoyed a wonderful summer of great weather, the chance to catch up with loved ones and hopefully experience some of the beautiful nature we have in Aotearoa.

Unfortunately COVID has not taken a holiday and we are still having to deal with the challenges and issues COVID brings and made worse by the Omicron variant. Our priority is that we can keep Fruitvale as safe as possible so that you can feel confident sending your tamariki back to school.

Beyond the usual protocols such as mask wearing, social distancing, and air ventilation, we have put in place additional safety measures for the start of the school year. These are:

- Students are all now in single class spaces. MLE classes Kaki, Korimako, Kokako, and Kotare have all been split into two bubble classes. You will receive an email tomorrow confirming which teacher and class space your child will have.
- Gates in the morning will be open between 8.30 and 8.55.
- Your child/ren will be waiting to be picked up from the driveway between 2.45- 3.00pm if they are not walking.
- Juniors and seniors will be having separate lunchtimes during the day.
- There will be no Tuck shop operating so please provide your child with morning tea and lunch.

- There will be swimming this term but not every day. More information will follow from class teachers.
- No parents on site please.
- As per ministry recommendations online learning will only be available for students who are self isolating at home due to covid related reasons. Sick children are not expected to engage with online learning.
- We will notify you by all our usual methods if there is a case in your child's class and your child becomes a close contact. Learning will be provided by the teacher online (unless the teacher is sick) for that class. Devices will not be sent in this situation

Keeping our school staffed so that teaching and learning can happen uninterrupted and safely for teachers and children is vital. We know that adults are more susceptible to transmit Covid. Therefore we are making every precaution that all our staff keep apart from one another, follow safety protocols and wear masks (unless they have been exempted).

Please support our school by helping in these ways:

- Please notify the school immediately if any of your whanau are requested to self isolate or contract Covid. Please do not send your child to school if a family/ household member has Covid.
- Do not send your child to school with any Covid symptoms until they are cleared by testing.
- If your child is unwell in other ways please keep them home.
- Pick up your child promptly if your child is sick at school
- Make a plan if your child's class has to stay home because of a case in their classroom.
- Please email our school a screen shot of Covid test results (not just verbal).

We are sure we can provide a safe place for your child to learn and socialise. We are all looking forward to welcoming our children back for a fun term of learning and activity. Shirley and I are always available to discuss any of your concerns via phone, email or zoom. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Jacqui Teale at reception and we can make a time to talk.

I will be sending weekly updates for you all on Tuesdays. You will also be invited to join our fortnightly assembly zooms. Take care, keep well!

Kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui!

Ngā mihi,
Hine Viskovich
Acting Principal