



06 3880130
 26 Huia Street
Taihape, 4720
www.tas.school.nz
 TAS Radio - 88.1FM
rmcmillan@tas.school.nz
Principal: Richard McMillan



Lead Me to Lead My Learning

Taihape Area School

Monday 8th June, 2020

Term 2 – Number 9

Important Dates

This Week

This week is Support Staff Week
 Tuesday 9th Year 7/8 Immunization

Next Week

Sports Practices in full swing!!

Principal's Corner

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back to the start of another busy week, during this surreal period in our history. The Pandemic has created its own language and we are now well versed in the use of vocabulary such as Alert Level, Social Distancing, keeping in the Bubble, Contract Tracing, and Distance Learning.

Alert Level One from Thursday, and a return to (almost) the way most things were – we will find out today!!

Distance Learning has had its challenges for Teachers, Students, and for Parents. However it has also opened up exciting new possibilities, and opportunities, for the way Schools are delivering learning to Students, the way we are thinking about teaching and learning, and how this will look in the future.

As an example: - Judith Bradley is the Resource Teacher of Reading (RTLit) for the Taihape/Wairarapa Region. She works one on one with children, sometimes with small groups of Children, and sometimes with Teachers. Judith covers one of the biggest regions in the Country, and as you can imagine, spends a



lot of time travelling. This has been a frustration to her as it means she spends less productive time actually teaching.

During Lockdown however she discovered the joys of Zoom. Judith connected with the children on her Roll by Zoom, and was able to Teach using this platform. As she became familiar with using Zoom, she unlocked a range of functions and tools that assisted with her Teaching, and by the end of Lockdown she was really excited by the potential of Teaching in this way.

Judith plans to continue to explore online Teaching, with the hope that she will be able to reach even more children, more effectively, and better utilising her time in the process.

Most Teachers used Zoom, and a range of other Platforms, for teaching during Lockdown. For some it was quite new and a great learning opportunity, but overall it highlighted that teaching is in a transformational stage, with Schools exploring a range of different options for delivering learning to Students. This is a really exciting development, as the way Teachers teach and deliver learning is likely to evolve rapidly in the immediate future.

Have a great week!!

Nga mihi nui

Richard McMillan
Principal



The TAS School Wide Behaviour Expectations

Rangatiratanga:

We are Learners
We show Rangatiratanga

Whanaungatanga:

We are Caring
We show Whanaungatanga

Wairuatanga:

We are Reflective
We show Wairuatanga

Manaakitanga:

We are Respectful
We show Manaakitanga



Attendance

Thank you for your support during the last few months, as together we united against the challenges of Covid-19. Alert Levels 3 and 2 brought relief for many Families and

Whānau, as it was once again safe for children and young people to physically attend School.

Getting back to a normal routine is important for the health and wellbeing of your Children, and being around their Peers and Teachers will help them feel in control and reassured. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to School and making it a positive experience for them and for you.

However not all children have returned yet. Regularly attending School really matters when it comes to their learning and future. We are here to help and will be happy to talk about any challenges you have in ensuring your Children are back at School.

All children under 16 are legally required to attend School every day, unless they are unwell. If they are unwell, please let us know so we can support you. Otherwise, we look forward to hearing from you to advise when they will recommence their learning at School.

Tall Poppies – Week 7



In the first week out of Lockdown the following Taihape Area School Students rose above the Crowd as outstanding achievers, and members of our Learning Community:

Rone Temara and **Elijah Cashell** (Room 1) - for being enthusiastic learners;

Jimmy Cowx (Room 2) - for caring for others and always willing to help;

Cullen Musgrove (Room 3) - for completing work with pride;

Blake Anderson (Room 3) - for awesome maths;

Kenzie Pilato (Room 4) - for your knowledge and achievement in our Electricity topic this week. Your understanding about how electricity is made is exceptional;

Hailyn Hetaraka (Room 4) - for your effort and achievement this week working with Fractions. Keep up the great work!

Keelan Kelly (Room 5) - for his amazing attitude towards his learning, great to see you leading learning conversations.

Lea Ranginui (Room 5) - for presenting her Inquiry learning to a very high standard. Well Done!

Chloe Gerritsen and **Aiden Lamb** (Room 6) - for demonstrating TAS values by being focussed learners, helping others and always trying their best;

Xavier Heeney and Annie Mattock-Turner (Room 7) - for showing Rangatiratanga in learning;

Grace Fannin (Room 8) - for showing determination and hard work with writing her speech.



Tall Poppies from Week 8

(the first group photo since lockdown!!! and they all look very pleased to be acknowledged for their hard work this week)

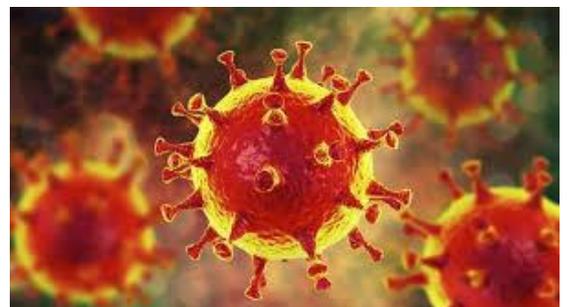
Life @ ALERT LEVEL 1

Jacinda Ardern has unveiled details of the changes New Zealanders can expect when we move from Level two to Level one. What will it mean for businesses, hospitality and day-to-day life?

Level one! At last, life is finally back to normal.

Not so fast. We're still in level two, and will be for at least a week. The statement on Thursday by the Prime Minister only set out the rules for Level one, not when we will actually make the move. That will be announced sometime today.

But still, when we do move, level one means the end of Covid-19 restrictions, right?



We can't quite believe we're saying this, but basically – yes. Things won't look exactly the same as in the Before Times, but once we move into level one Covid-19 will probably have only a very minor impact on your day to day life. We'll get to those changes in a moment but let's start with the good news, and there's a lot of it.

Can we go to School or work as normal? Yes, with no restrictions on physical distancing whatsoever.

Can we go to Restaurants, Cafes and Bars? Yes. With the end of physical distancing requirements, hospitality providers will no longer need to leave tables empty or indeed follow any of the 'three S' rules – that patrons must be seated, separated, and served by a single member of staff.

Can we attend large events, for example Sporting or Music Events?

Yes. People can attend events of any size, indoor or outside. The Government is currently working with Ticketing Agencies and large scale Event Organisers on a "Covid code" for Contact Tracing specifically for large events.

Will there be any Physical Distancing on Planes and Public Transport?

Nope. Transport providers can carry as many passengers as they like.

Church Services? Back to normal.

Funerals and Tangihanga? No restrictions of any kind.

Community Sport? Go for it.

So how will life be different from normal?

The biggest change, by far, is that our current strict border controls will stay in place. A focus on hand hygiene and enhanced contact tracing will also be part of our lives for the foreseeable future.



Today Jacinda Ardern also announced the 10 "golden rules" for life under Alert Level One. They are:-

- If you're sick, stay home.
- If you have cold or flu-like symptoms, get tested.
- Wash your hands, wash your hands, wash your hands.
- Sneeze or cough into your elbow and regularly disinfect shared surfaces.
- If you're told by health authorities to self-isolate, do so immediately.
- If you're concerned about your wellbeing or have underlying health conditions, work with your GP to understand how best to stay healthy.
- Keep track of where you've been and who you've seen to help contact tracing if required – keep using the NZ Covid Tracer app.
Businesses should help people keep track of movement by displaying a Covid Tracer app QR code.
- Stay vigilant – **there's still a global pandemic going on** – and be prepared to step up alert levels if we have to.
- Be kind to others and yourself.

A Letter from Lia Collum

(CEO, Educator, Principal, Author, and Mother of 4)

Dear Parents,

STOP

Stop making excuses for your kids. Stop blaming everyone else. Stop always taking their side. Please stop.

There's a real problem going on and it's getting out of control. I keep reading posts, messages and experiencing it myself.

If a teachers calls you about something, don't immediately start blaming others and siding with your kid. Teachers have nothing anymore. Kids aren't scared when their parents are called. They actually say "I don't care, call them."

Let me give you an example, if the teacher calls and says your child was on their cell phone all day...your first comment should not be "Well, did the other kids on their phones get in trouble?"

Your kids hear you. They see how you react. They know nothing is going to be done. That's a problem.

When my kid's teacher told me he was goofing off in class, my exact response was "Oh really..not a problem. I will take care of that tonight. And please update me daily so I can help nip this situation in the bud." I'm on her side. My kid sees that. He knows that. That's why we don't have any problems anymore.

You're creating entitled children. You're teaching kids there are no consequences and they're always right.

If your kid comes home and tells you something the teacher said (good or bad). Don't immediately start talking against the teacher. Tell them you'll find out more about the situation and do just that! Don't jump to conclusions.

And oh my goodness.....please stop with the excuses. Seriously. Let's use vape pens as an example. Don't tell me your kids doesn't own a vape pen. I don't care if they own it or not. If it's in their backpack...they're guilty. End of story.

Teach your kids now. Stop waiting until they're in middle or high school. Teach being guilty by association now. Scare them. Be a parent. Team up with teachers.

Go through their phone. If they're not 18...it's not THEIR phone. Take it. Snoop. Look through it. Take it away. You're the freakin parent!



This is a scary world and you're doing a disservice to your kids.

Please. Stop.

Sincerely,

Lisa Collum (CEO, An Educator, Principal, Author and mom of 4)

Post Lockdown Schooling in Singapore

As we are aware the Coronavirus Pandemic is World-wide, and each Country is adopting its own measures to control, and ultimately (hopefully) eliminate, the virus. With any luck New Zealand will move to Alert Level 1 this week, and things here will be as normal as possible – even allowing for the abnormal circumstances across the globe.

When Students returned to School at Level 2, our major emphasis was on safe hygiene practices and social distancing. Students have been terrific following safe hygiene practices, but to be fair the concept of social distancing was always destined to be a fail.

Comparisons with what is going on in other Countries is always interesting. In Singapore the rules being imposed in Schools, and Classrooms, are very inflexible:-

- Children have to wear a mask or shield all day;
- Children aren't allowed to use manipulatives, or play with classroom toys. Be in groups of any kind, sit on the carpet;
- Children must go straight into Classrooms on arrival – they are not permitted in the playground;
- There is no free play;
- Children must remain in their desks all day;
- When on the bus there is no talking – “silent travel”;
- As well teachers can't stop in the Hallways and talk with their Colleagues, or have lunch with them – they are confined to the Classroom with 24 kids!!



I feel for those kids, and also their poor Teachers. These rules certainly wouldn't suit kiwi kids.

Implications of Lockdown for Students Doing NCEA

Students and Schools have experienced real disruption to teaching, learning and assessment because of COVID-19, with some affected much more than others. NZQA and the Ministry of Education have worked closely with the Minister's NCEA Professional Advisory Group (PAG) to develop a set of changes to NCEA in 2020 which address these impacts. These changes have been endorsed by the PAG. Our rigorous discussions have acknowledged the need to ensure both the integrity of the qualification and equity for students.

NZQA has also worked with Universities and Universities New Zealand on changes to the University Entrance award for 2020, which the NZQA Board has endorsed. The changes will mean Students continue to be well prepared for Tertiary Study, Vocational Education, or employment.

As a consequence of these priorities, NZQA will implement three key changes for 2020:-

- Students working towards an NCEA can gain additional credits, based on the number of credits they achieve during the 2020 school year. For every 5 credits a student achieves towards their NCEA through internal or external assessment, they can be awarded an additional 1 credit. Students at NCEA Level 1 are eligible for up to a maximum of 10 additional credits while those at Levels 2 and 3 are eligible for up to a maximum of 8 additional credits. These will be known as Learning Recognition (LR) credits.
- Students will be awarded a certificate endorsement if they achieve 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, rather than the usual 50. Students achieving 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course – rather than 14 – will be awarded a course endorsement.
- Current UE requirements have been reduced to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects, from 14 credits in three approved subjects. Students still need to attain NCEA Level 3 and meet the literacy and numeracy requirement to be awarded University Entrance.

Remembrance Book

We have started a Remembrance Book at School. This is an opportunity for students, parents, whanau, and members of our Community to make a tribute to Shona – this can take whatever form you consider appropriate including a message, poem, or photo.

Tributes can also be made on Facebook - *From TAS in loving memory of Shona.*



Supporting Your Child's Learning - Newspapers

Newspapers are filled with numbers and provide lots of opportunities for raising awareness (seeing the math's around us) - and for solving problems.

Try these activities:-

Big Numbers for the Year 4-8 Students

Turn to the property pages or motor vehicle sales:

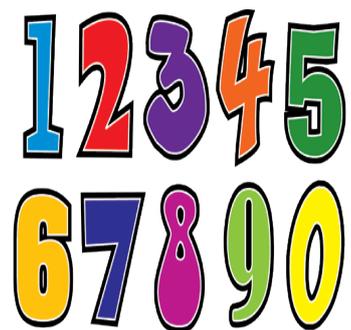
Let's read the numbers. What is the most expensive house/car/motorbike we can find? Which is the cheapest?

More than/less than (Number) for the Year 1-3 Students

Turn to a Sports Page with scores and ask:

Can we spot any numbers bigger than 5/10/100? Let's circle them with a pen;

Can you find any numbers less than 5/10/100? Use a different colour and circle those.



Careers Corner

Do you need a CV? If so try the **Careers NZ CV Builder Tool**:

<https://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/cv-builder/build-a-great-cv/>

CV Builder guides you through all the important sections every CV needs, with handy tips and advice throughout. Simply enter your details step by step and CV Builder will create an eye-catching CV ready to send to employers.



Once you are signed in to **My Career Portfolio** you can start your CV, and finish later if you need to. You can save, email, and download your CV straight from CV Builder.

The **Career NZ Advice Team** is also on hand if you need extra support. Call **Advice Line** on **0800 222 733**.

Need to Talk?

Need to Talk? Free call, or text 1737, any time to speak to a trained Counsellor, for any reason.

- **Lifeline:** 0800 543 354;
- **Suicide Crisis Helpline:** 0508 828 865 / 0508 TAUTOKO (24/7). This is a service for people who may be thinking about suicide, or those who are concerned about family, or friends;
- **Depression Helpline:** 0800 111 757 (24/7);
- **Samaritans:** 0800 726 666 (24/7);
- **Youthline:** 0800 376 633 (24/7) or free text 234 (8am-12am), or email talk@youthline.co.nz;
- What's Up: **online chat** (7pm-10pm) or 0800 WHATSUP/ 0800 9428 787 children's helpline (1pm-10pm weekdays, 3pm-10pm weekends);
- **Kidsline** (ages 5-18): 0800 543 754 (24/7);
- **Rural Support Trust Helpline:** 0800 787 254;
- **Healthline:** 0800 611 116;
- **Rainbow Youth:** (09) 376 4155.

If it is an emergency and you feel like you, or someone else is at risk, call 111.

Manaakitanga Mokai Patea

Education Strategy



The Board of Trustees has a Community Goal to enhance the partnership between the School, whanau, families, and the wider community. Over a period of many years the Iwi of Mokai Patea have developed an **Education Strategy**.

The vision of this strategy is "*Mokai Patea enjoying educational success as Mokai Patea*" through his/her (the learners) language, culture, and identity.

We would like to acknowledge whanau and the contribution they made to the development of the School Values – **Rangatiratanga, Whanaungatanga, Wairuatanga,** and **Manaakitanga**.

These values are encompassed within the School (including PB4L Behaviour Expectations), and the Mokai Patea Education Strategy, to create a strong Mokai Patea Learner.

This is our 6th Year implementing the **PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Framework**. **PB4L** is a Ministry of Education evidence based programme and initiative to support parents, whanau, teachers, schools, and early childhood centres to improve the behaviour of children and young people. Improving learner behaviour in their Home and School Environments leads to improved learner engagement and achievements.

PB4L School-Wide is based on the Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework developed at the University of Oregon in the 1990s. PBIS is now in thousands of Schools across the US, and there are over 800 PB4L School-Wide Schools in New Zealand. The framework looks at behaviour and learning from a whole-of-school, as well as an individual child, perspective.

PB4L School-Wide has been tailored to the Taihape Area School environment and cultural needs, with a focus on the Values of **Rangatiratanga, Whanaungatanga, Wairuatanga,** and **Manaakitanga.**

PBAL

Positive Behaviour For Learning

Wood Raffles

We have 2 Wood Raffles on the go at the moment. The Wood on offer is beautiful bone dry sycamore.

Tickets are available from the School Office - \$5.



10 Study Tips that will Boost Your Results

1. Set Study Goals

There is lots of credible research suggesting that goal setting can be used as part of a strategy to help people successfully effect positive changes in their lives, so never underestimate the power of identifying to yourself the things you want to achieve. Just make sure to **ask yourself some key questions:** Am I setting realistic goals? Will I need to work harder to achieve those goals? If you're happy with the goals you've set then you should aim to develop your study plan for the year ahead with your goals in mind. Which, as it happens, leads us to Tip #2!



Get New Effective Study Tips for 2020!

Join GoConqr now and you'll have access to Study Groups and Resources that we'll provide you with a stream of study tips for exams and ideas to improve your studying. All for free!

2. Make a Study Plan

Time is precious. Nobody is more aware of this than the poor student who hasn't studied a thing until the night before an exam. By then, of course, it's too late. The key to breaking the cycle of cramming for tests is to think ahead and [create an effective study plan](#). Not only will this help you get organised and make the most of your time, it'll also put your mind at ease and eliminate that nasty feeling you get when you walk into an exam knowing that you're not at all prepared. As the old saying goes, fail to prepare and be prepared to fail.

3. Take Regular Study Breaks

None of us are superhuman, so it's important to realise that you can't maintain an optimum level of concentration without giving yourself some time to recover from the work you've put in. This can take the form of a ten-minute walk, a trip to the gym, having a chat with a friend or simply fixing yourself a hot drink. If it feels like procrastination, then rest assured that it's not: taking regular short breaks not only help improve your focus, they can boost your productivity too.



4. Embrace New Technologies

Studying no longer means jotting things down with a pen on a scrap of paper. The old handwritten method still has its place of course, it's just that now there are more options for personalising study that ever before. Whether it's through online tools, social media, blogs, videos or mobile apps, learning has become more fluid and user-centred. If you want to try a new learning technology, [GoConqr's free platform](#) is a great place to start, even if we do say so ourselves!



5. Test Yourself

It's a strange thing, but sometimes simply entering an exam environment is enough to make you forget some of the things you've learned. The solution is to mentally prepare for the pressure of having to remember key dates, facts, names, formulas and so on.

Testing yourself with regular quizzes is a great way of doing this. And don't worry if you don't perform brilliantly at first – the more you practice, the better you'll become. Don't believe us? Then just take a peek at what the [experts have to say](#).

6. Find a Healthy Balance

Take this opportunity to evaluate yourself both physically and mentally. Is your engine running on low? Instead of complaining “I never get enough sleep” or “I'm eating too much convenience food” take control and do something about it! **Make the change** and see how it positively affects your attitude and study routine. This should motivate you to maintain a healthy balance in the future.



7. Be Positive

Your attitude has a big impact on the level of study that you get done and the effectiveness of your learning process. If you keep saying that you can't do it and won't commit to the idea of learning, attempting to study is only likely to become more difficult. Instead, **focus your mind on positive outcomes and on how you can use your own individual strengths to achieve them**. When you think positively, the reward centres in your brain show greater activity, thereby making you feel less anxious and more open to new study tips.



8. Collaborate with Study Partners

At this stage of the school year, you should know your classmates pretty well. This is a good point in time to select a couple of study partners who **you know you work well with** and are motivated to achieve good grades also. Don't worry if you can't meet up too often, you can use online tools such as [GoConqr's Groups](#) tool to communicate and share study notes with one another.

9. Turn Lessons into Stories

Everybody likes to read or listen to a good story, and with good reason – not only do stories entertain us, they help us to understand and memorise key details too. You can apply this to your studies by weaving important details or facts into a story – the more outlandish and ridiculous you can make it, **the better** (since you'll be more likely to remember a particularly crazy story).



10. Establish a Study Routine

Your study routine is comprised of more than planning what to learn and when. One of the main concerns is your **study environment**.

Find a place to study that is quiet and with few distractions. Alternatively, you could also try switching it up by sitting in a different place in your school library every day and seeing how this works for you.

11. Mark Small Challenges

When you have to face very long and dense subjects, you can set small challenges to keep your spirits high; a good way to **focus on the day-to-day and find motivations while you study**. According to scientific analysis, the more motivated and excited we are, the better our brain performs.

12. Consult Teachers

Any questions you have about the exam, the best you can do is go to the teacher of the subject and expose your doubts. Not only is the person best suited to solve your questions, but your **initiative will be well received and you'll show good attitude** by demonstrating that you're interested in his subject.



There really aren't any hard and fast rules to play by when it comes to best times for studying or how long you should work for. Everybody is different, so the best way to establish a routine is to **try different things and see what works best for you**, then modify your routine for maximum learning effectiveness.

This is an update of a blog post that was originally published in January 2015.

How are they Sleeping?

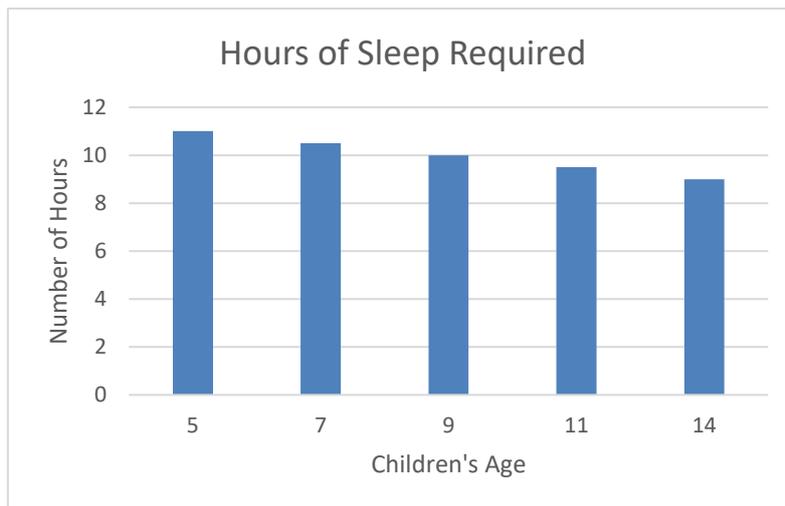
There is a direct link between lack of sleep and behaviour problems – one study in Israel showed that losing just one hour a night can lower a child's IQ. Many School Age Children, especially teenagers, are sleep deprived; a US Study showed they get at least one hour less per night than 10 years ago.

Millpond Children's Sleep Clinic founder Mandy Gurney says children need: -

- 11 hours sleep @ age five years;
- 10 and a half hours sleep @ 7;
- 10 hours sleep @ 9;
- 9 and a half hours sleep @ 11;
- 9 hours sleep @ 14.



Hours of Sleep Guide:



Primary Hockey

Primary Practices began last Wednesday, and are now weekly on the Turf, here at TAS:-

Year 5/6 [3.00pm](#)

Year 7/8 [4.00pm](#)

Competition begins at the start of next Term.

Games are on Fridays:-

Year 5/6 @ Marton

Year 7/8 @ Fielding

Hockey sticks are provided - children require mouth-guards and sneakers



Beautiful Pumpkins for Sale

A variety of pumpkins and squash grown on the School Farm are for sale - gold coin donation. These were planted by Children who were in Room 4 last Year.



Skool Loop App

We are now using only the **Skool Loop App**. All-important notices and instant communications will be done via this, and /or Facebook. If you haven't done so please download now.

What Skool Loop is used for:

- Notifying Amber-Lee of **absences** – a very, very easy process – by email or phone. All you do is tap on Absentee icon, then either call direct, or tap on send email (your gmail address will be displayed automatically), enter child's name and reason, push send!!
- Access to any **Notices**;
- Access to **Calendar** (will take some time to set up properly);
- Access to the Weekly **Newsletter**.

How to Download the TAS Skool Loop App

1. From your Mobile Device go to App Store (iPhone/iPad), or Google Play (Android), search for Skool Loop - download the App to your phone;
2. Make sure you agree to **push notifications**;
3. Once the Skool Loop App has finished installing, open the App, choose your region (Manawatu), and then choose Taihape Area School;
4. You can then choose the group/s to which you want to belong (see below).



GOLDEN RULES OF ALERT LEVEL 2

- ✓ **Most businesses can open** if they can do it safely. **Be kind and be patient.**
- ✓ We can go **in-store** at local businesses. There **may be some restrictions.**
- ✓ Tertiary **education facilities**, schools and early learning centres **will be open.**
- ✓ We can **travel between regions.**
- ✓ Initially **gatherings** like weddings, funerals, tangihanga, religious ceremonies and social gatherings can have **up to 10 people.**
- ✓ We can safely **connect and socialise** with close friends and family, **in groups of 10.**
- ✓ We can **visit local cafes and restaurants**, bars and pubs **to have a meal.**
- ✓ We can **return** to our regular **recreation activities**, at first **keeping to 10 people.**
- ✓ Public spaces like playgrounds, parks, gyms and swimming pools will be open (not all facilities will open immediately, ring first). Please be careful as contact tracing will not be easy. Always wash your hands thoroughly when you leave these places.

For more in depth information go to: www.covid19.govt.nz

Protect yourself and others from COVID-19



Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds). Then dry.



Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.



Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.



Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately.



Stay home if you feel unwell.

For updates and more information on keeping yourself safe, visit [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

New Zealand Government

**Unite
against
COVID-19**

TAS Behaviour Expectation

Wairuatanga

We put plans in place to have better outcomes in learning and behaviour. This looks like:-

- . We set goals to achieve;
- . We learn from our mistakes;
- . We reflect on our learning.

Support Staff Week

This is Support Staff Week. We are indebted to the wonderful Support Staff we have here at TAS – Jenny Pearce (Executive Officer) , Robyn Somerville (Librarian), Tui Bolger, Tracey Murrell, Bronwyn Troon (all Teaching Assistants), and Ambler-Lee Collings (Office Manager). They are all very capable people in their own right, and add a real mix of skills and talents to the TAS Team.

We thank them for the great work they do for us.

