

# Birdwood School Newsletter Week 6 Term 1, 2020

**WE SHOW RESILIENCE**  
Manauaroa

I WILL:  
NEVER GIVE UP  
KEEP TRYING WHEN IT GETS CHALLENGING  
PERSIST  
BOUNCE BACK QUICKLY

BIRDWOOD SCHOOL VALUES

## Birdwood School PB4L

**WE SHOW RANGATIRA**  
Leadership

I WILL:  
SET AND EXPECT HIGH STANDARDS  
BE A ROLE MODEL FOR THOSE AROUND ME  
LEAD BY EXAMPLE

BIRDWOOD SCHOOL VALUES

**WE SHOW RESPECT**  
Whakauate

I WILL:  
RESPECT MYSELF AND THOSE AROUND ME  
RESPECT MY OWN AND OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY  
RESPECT MY ENVIRONMENT

BIRDWOOD SCHOOL VALUES

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, talofa lava, fakalofa lahi atu. malo e lelei, bula vinaka, naumaste, Ni hao, Ahn nyong ha se yo, Sawasdee, Xin Chao, Malo ni, Fakatalofa atu, Ayubowan & Sawubana, Greetings to you all.

Thursday 12th March 2020



We are coming up to the anniversary of the terrible tragedy which occurred in Christchurch last year on March 15th. It is difficult to comprehend the devastation that happened and we send our blessings to the Muslim community. We particularly keep our Christchurch colleagues, their schools and communities in our thoughts and prayers. It is time for us to show kindness and aroha towards one another.

Whaea Viv took this beautiful photo last week of a couple of our parents relaxing in the fale. The poles of the fale represent the hierarchy of the matai system (Chief). The back poles are for the Taulele'a or the men with no titles. The side poles represent the Ali'i - the matais who have the final say. The front poles are for the Tulafale - the matais that do the talking. This space is available to all our community to come and talanoa and talk or just relax. It's a lovely space and I would encourage all families to use it as a place to gather and talk.

Everywhere I turn there seems to be more and more talk about the Coronavirus. I want to assure our Birdwood community that we are taking this seriously. We know a lot more about the virus today than we did in the early stages. The Report of the WHO-China Joint Mission on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) suggests:

- COVID-19 spreads less efficiently than influenza.
- Disease in children appears to be relatively rare and mild with approximately 2.4% of the total reported cases reported amongst individuals aged under 19 years.

The main way the disease spreads is through respiratory droplets expelled by someone who is coughing. The risk of catching COVID-19 from someone with no symptoms at all is very low. The chance of widespread community outbreak remains low. The Ministry is continuing the actions in the 'Keep it Out' phase and is now undertaking measures from the 'Stamp It Out' phase of our national pandemic response procedures. These procedures focus on effective public health measures based on the phase New Zealand is in. At this stage, instead of things like school closures, current public health measures are focused on border management, early detection and isolation of cases, contact tracing and promotion of the importance of strict personal hygiene. Please refer to the tips from the Ministry of Health regarding the Coronavirus.

You may have noticed there has been a lot of media coverage around attendance. The following results were released to the public recently. This table represents a decline in the number of students who attend school more than 90% of the time. It is alarming that in 2019 57.7% of students attended school - 12% lower than 2015. Children's attendance and punctuality at school is practice for real life success. We encourage students to be at school by 8.40am so they have a chance to catch up with their friends, prepare for the day and be ready for learning at 9.00am. The get ready for learning bell is rung at 8.55am and the roll is called at 9.00am

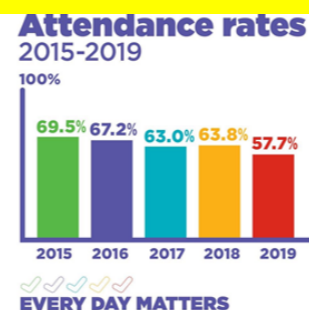
### LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

**Learning Conversations** or student led conferences will be held on **Wednesday 1st April 2020**. This is an opportunity for your children to share with you their goals for the first part of this year. This is also a time for families, children and teachers to have a shared understanding of specifics around where effort and energy needs to be directed in terms of learning. Student led conferences are not the forum for parents to raise issues that are sensitive in nature that potentially should not be discussed with the child present. If there is anything you wish to discuss of a sensitive nature with your classroom teacher please make a separate time to do this away from this triadic interview forum. The learning conversations do not come with a formal report but provide an opportunity for parents and the child to talk with the teacher about their learning, social, cultural and sporting involvement from the start of the year and to consider needs well before the reports in July. Schools legally report to parents in writing twice a year. For most schools that is July and December, hence the name learning conversation. **School will finish early on Wednesday 1st April at 12.50pm.** Forms are being sent home today so you can book your interview. Please return them to school as soon as possible. We will try our very best to accommodate everyone's request

LEARNING CONVERSATIONS 2020



If your child's attendance is of concern, we will be in contact with you



Missing....	Equals.....	Which is....	Over 13 years of schooling your child is missing....
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years of schooling
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Nearly 2.5 years of schooling
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Nearly 5 years of schooling
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of schooling

### ATTENDANCE

At School

On Time

All Day

Everyday

This Fortnight Attendance

88.5%

TARGET—90%

Last Fortnight Attendance

86.9%



### HEALTH TIPS - INFORMATION about CORONAVIRUS from

MINISTRY of HEALTH

*We do know the risk of the virus spreading in New Zealand is very low. How worried should I be?* People will not be moving around the community if they are suspected of having the virus - they will be in isolation. Their family and anyone they may have infected will also be asked to stay at home

*How serious is coronavirus?* People are being infected, mainly in China, but only a small number of those with coronavirus have died. Most people have a mild to moderate illness with flu-like symptoms. People of all ages are being infected, but older people and those with medical conditions seem most likely to get seriously ill.

### 2020 Important Dates

February 25th –28th  
MERC Long Bay Yr7 & 8

3rd March  
Leaders Day

5th March  
Hearing & Vision Testing

24th March  
Yr8 Immunisations

27th March  
Teachers Only Day—NO SCHOOL

1st April  
Learning Conversations

9th April  
Term 1 Ends

### TEACHER ONLY DAY

Last year the NZEI negotiated 8 days for teachers to deal with planning, assessment and workload. Therefore we will be having a **Teacher Only Day on Friday 27th March**. School will be closed on this day.

### CLEANEST CLASS AWARD

WEEK 5—Room

WEEK 6—Room



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Rachael Steiner, Ngarliah Herbert-Simonds, Tyra Talepita Tasmania, Shartiqua Herbert Simonds, Kziah Teikafili, Rosa Milo Tuala, Susan Gafatasimalo Foaga, Evelyn Fruean, Noah Feleti, Armani-Rose Nicholls, Ky-Mani-Noah Hansen-Taumaa, Alaetasi Malupo & Tylar Hunt.

If your child is absent, please remember to call 833 8479 or text 0275694305 or submit on website

School website: [www.birdwood.school.nz](http://www.birdwood.school.nz)