



School Newsletter

4 November 2021

Kia ora e te whānau

I'm sure you are as concerned as I am about the recent Covid-19 cases being detected in Christchurch. This is a reminder of the need to continue to comply with Alert Level 2 requirements. Just to remind you, these are:

- Please wear masks.
- Please use the NZ COVID Tracer App.
- Remember physical distancing and try to stay at least 2 metres from others.
- We still prefer that parents do not enter any classrooms or buildings, including the office, during Level 2. Please call (03 348 7492) or email (admin@ilam.school.nz) with any queries.

Some parents may be concerned about the safety of children being at school during this time, which is understandable. Please know that we follow every precaution provided by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, including ventilating rooms and regular washing of hands and using sanitiser. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to give me a call to discuss your situation. As you will be aware, we have had to cancel, postpone or change various events in the first half of this term. If this current alert level remains, it will affect many of our traditional end-of-year gatherings and assemblies. I will update you as the term progresses of what the impact of this will be.

The rest of this email contains information regarding:

- **School Investment Package**
- **School Travel Plan**
- **Consultation on Ilam School Education Plan**
- **Teacher Only Day - Monday 15 November**
- **Hats**
- **Health Information Slideshow on our website**
- **Schooldocs Policies**
- **Weetbix Tryathlon**
- **Upcoming Assemblies**

School Investment Package (SIP) Spending

You may recall that at the end of 2019, the government announced that each school in NZ would receive money to be spent, by the end of 2021, on property enhancement projects. With the installation of the new basketball hoops in the senior school, we have now completed these. The following projects were completed as a result of the SIP funding:

- New playground in the Junior School
- Sound 'buffers' in the Staffroom.
- Heat pumps in Rooms 1-12 & ESOL Rooms
- Football goals x 8 - field
- Netball posts x 4 - Middle and Junior school
- Basketball hoops x 2 - Senior school
- New crossbars for the rugby posts - field
- Bark for the Middle and Senior School Playground

Teacher Only Day - Monday 15 November

Our final Teacher Only Day of the year will be held on the Monday following Show Weekend - 15 November. Ilam OSCAR will be open on this day. Please visit this [link](#) to make your bookings.

School Travel Plan

Our school and the Christchurch City Council are working together to review our School Travel Plan. The information gained from the survey will help to identify what should be included in a school travel plan that addresses the needs and concerns of our school community, **including getting the 3-minute parking times on Kirkwood Avenue extended**. Please click [here](#) to complete the survey .

Consultation on Ilam School Education Plan

Hopefully you are aware that we are working with the Ministry of Education to modernise our school buildings in a Redevelopment Project. Much of Ilam School is over 70 years old, and while this is not a full rebuild of our buildings, we have an opportunity to shape our school in a way that meets what we need for teaching and learning now and into the future.

We would like to gain your thoughts and ideas to help guide this project. **Please note there is no pre-determined Ministry of Education design for this project. In order to shape the design, we would really appreciate it if you can please answer some questions [here](#) to help us with this work.** We encourage you to discuss these questions with your children to hear their thoughts about Ilam School. **Alternatively, fill in, and return the booklet that was sent home two weeks ago to your child's classroom teacher.** We had hoped to hold some drop-in community sessions to hear your thoughts, however these have been placed on hold due to the current COVID restrictions. We are aiming to complete consultation this term to keep the project moving forwards.

Once we have received your thoughts, the Board of Trustees will work in partnership with the school leadership team and Ministry of Education to deliver the project over the next two years. We have a limited budget, however we also want to use this opportunity to make a good plan for the future. To balance our needs and the budget, we want to present a full picture of teaching and learning activities that our community, whānau and children/tamariki experience and expect at our school. We also want Ilam School and our facilities to reflect our unique community.

Thank you for your time and contribution to this important project.

Sean Barnes - Board of Trustees

Hats

A reminder that Term 4 sees hats needing to be worn as part of the school uniform. If children forget their hats or have misplaced them they will be required to play in a shady area of the grounds until they have been reunited with their hat. It is vital that hats are clearly named so they can be easily identifiable.

Health Information - Relationships & Sexuality Education Slideshare:

Please find the Health Curriculum Information Slideshare on our website. Located [here](#). This Slideshare replaces the parent evening we intended to have on Thursday 21 October. While we understand that this is less than ideal, we hope that once you have viewed the Slideshare you will be provided with enough information to understand our whole school delivery regarding Relationships and Sexuality Education. This builds into our wider approach to the Health and Physical Education Curriculum at Ilam School. If you have any questions or queries relating to the information shared please contact your child's class teacher, or us and we will do our best to answer your questions.

Belinda Kennedy and Tanya Kenworthy - Curriculum Leaders of Health and Wellbeing

Weet-Bix TRYathlon

Interested in your child entering next year's Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon? It will be held on Sunday 6th March at Jellie Park. Ilam School has registered for the morning event. To register click [here](#). Registrations for this event fill up very quickly so please make sure that you enter as soon as possible.

Linda Ewen - Sport Coordinator

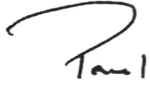
Upcoming Assemblies

At the upcoming assemblies we will be acknowledging some of our school leaders and learners. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions we will not be able to hold these assemblies as planned. Instead we will acknowledge these achievements in small groups led by teams.

- Week 4 Assembly - Librarians, Enviro Team and Creative Writers
- Week 6 Assembly - Road Patrollers

It is likely that we will need to make adjustments to our end of year Excellence and Leadership Assembly as well as the Final Assembly, if we are still in Alert Level 2. We will keep you informed as to how we will proceed with these assemblies in the coming weeks.

Noho ora mai (All the best)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul', written in a cursive style.

Paul Dolan
Tumuaki/Principal