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Newsletter No 3

Monday 1 March 2021

Character, Excellence, Community

Term 1 Theme: God is Wise.
Values: Wisdom, Persevering
Threads: Imagining Innovations,
Overcoming Setbacks,
Challenging Distortions,
Discovering Patterns
Key Competencies: Critical thinking, Managing
Self. Relating to others.

Our Mission Statement:

For each learner the school community will provide quality learning opportunities that encourage Christian perspectives and affirm Biblical principles.

Memory Verse for 2021

"In Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Roman 12:5

Principal's Pen

Kia ora Whānau

What a blessing to have had three community events last week. It started on Sunday with a Commissioning Service at Gateway Baptist Church, concluded with a trip to the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and we welcomed a new student and had a Mihi Whakatau in between. We are incredibly grateful we have had these opportunities to gather as a community while we were still in Covid-19 Level 1.

We now move again to Covid-19 Level 2. Attached is our Level 2 systems sheet. Please note there are a few dates that will move due to logistics under Covid-19 Level 2.

Commissioning Service

It is always fantastic to see God being placed first at our Commissioning Service. We thank Gateway Baptist Church for hosting us and wish to acknowledge all the support they give the school (apologies, we overlooked appointing a photographer to capture some memories from this service to include in this newsletter).

New Student



We welcome Samuel and his whanau to Miramar Christian School and ask God's richest blessings on them as they journey with us.

Mihi Whakatau

At the Mihi Whakatau we had a lovely mix of current families and new families. It is always special to welcome our new families and staff.



Thank you to Pastor Phil and the wonderful parents who came to support this event & welcome our new students (taura) & their whanau. Your presence was greatly appreciated and added to the day. Thank

you also to the students. We were very proud of you as you sang with enthusiasm, and the senior students stepped up into leadership roles (Chirag spoke on behalf of the students and our Year 4-7 girl students learnt to Karanga to welcome new families in). This was a special time.



NZSO with Suzy Cato – "Peter and the Wolf"

Students experienced story through music, in the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra's presentation of "Peter and the Wolf".



This was narrated superbly by Suzy Cato, who many of us are familiar with from the television programme 'Suzy's World'.

It was great to have our students experience a large live concert. Thank you to our parents for coming in and helping with transport and joining the fun.



Coming Events

Moving March - WOW Passport Challenge - Starts Today

It is hard to believe but it is again that time of year where we encourage students to walk or ride to school. We know for many of you that you travel to school by car. This does not need to be a barrier to your children taking part in this programme. Not only does walking or wheeling to school reduce congestion and chaos at the



gate, but we also get to slow down and get some quality time with our tamariki. If you live 'too far away' why not park and stride the last 500m or so and you can *still* get your passport stamped.

Mufti Day – Rescheduled to this coming Friday



As we had a trip last Friday and it was supposed to be Mufti Day,

it has been rescheduled for this Friday (5 March 2021). We invite students to where mufti and in return bring a gold coin to support Kaknika from Cambodia, our sponsored 'World Vision' child.

Open Evening - now Thursday 18 March 6-7pm

We are moving the date of the Open Evening due to being in Covid-19 Level 2 this week. We will soon be putting up information and an advert for this on our Facebook page. It would be fabulous if you could share these posts with those you think would be interested. Next week (assuming we are out of Covid-19 Level 2), we will be connecting with preschools and kindergartens to bring them information about our school and Open Evening. If you can help with cutting fliers and/or distributing them to preschools and kindergartens, we would love your help. Please see the Mrs Gillies if you can help.

Goal Setting Interviews Date moved to 9 March

To allow for proper preparation time, we have moved this to the Tuesday 9 March 2021. While we could do goal setting in Covid-19 Level 2, it will be easier if we wait until we're back at Covid-19 Level 1. Research says that when parents/whānau work with the school to support their child's learning, great gains can be made. Consequently, this year, we wish to involve you all in student goal setting. Goal setting interviews start at 1pm and go until 6pm. We are allocating a 15-minute time slot for each student and parent to discuss personalised goals and together consider how to work on these goals at home and school. Students are to attend these interviews with their parents/whānau. Please **book your interview time on Skool Loop**. If you cannot physically get to school to have an interview and would like to have your interview by "Google Meet", please let your child's teacher know so they can set up an interview with you.

Little Gardens

Before the Christmas holidays students were given a "Little Garden" and invited to take photos of these to show how their gardens grew. At this stage we have not received any photos but wish to check in to find out how our students got on. Please forward any photos you have via email to Mrs Anderson on bestyanderson@christian.school.nz or bring them in. We would love to know how your "Little Garden" has grown.

Uniform

We will be having a uniform check this week.

Prayer points: -

Thank God:

- For opportunities to gather as a community.
- For new connections and friendships made among parents in our school community.

- For the nine new students welcomed at the Mihi Whakatau.
- For those who are committed to Christian Education and support us faithfully.
- For God's faithfulness to Miramar Christian School for the last 42 years.

Please pray:

- For another wave of new students.
- That Miramar Christian School would be a blessing to the community.
- For a blessing on student focus and learning.
- For a volunteer to complete grant applications on behalf of Miramar Christian School.
- That 2020 would be a year marked with joy in the Miramar Christian Community.
- For God's direction, wisdom, anointing and blessing on the work of our staff (Teachers, Teachers' Aides, Principal, and Office Manager) and families (including our students).
- Those effected in Auckland by Covid-19 Level 3.

Prayer Students

- For our prayer students and their families: -
Week 5: Samuel, Xander, Akachukwu, Anton
Week 6: Jedidah, Tanikah, Jesse, Daniel

I thank you for your on-going support. If you have any questions I can help with, please contact me (Mrs Kaye Gillies) on 021 293 5390.

Shalom and Ngā Mihi
Kaye Gillies
 Principal

SCHOOL DIARY	
Every Mon	Assembly 2:30
Every Wed	Subway ordered lunch (optional)
Every Tues/Fri	Wheels Day / Wear PE Uniform
Every Thurs	Technology (Yrs 7-8) 8.50 pick up
Every Fri	Wheels Day / Wear PE Uniform Music Lessons, 8:30am-10:45am
Every Sun	10am Gateway Baptist – all welcome
MAR	
Mon 1 Mar	2.30pm Assembly
Tues 2 Mar	Kelly Sport p.m.
Thurs 4 Mar	8:50am Technology Bus (Y7-8)
Thurs 4 Mar	Kapa Haka p.m.
Fri 5 Mar	Mufti Day (gold coin donation)
Mon 8 Mar	2:30pm Assembly
Tues 9 Mar	Kelly Sport p.m.
Tues 9 Mar	1-6pm Goal Setting with Parents
Thurs 11 Mar	8:50am Technology Bus (Y7-8)
Thurs 11 Mar	Kapa Haka p.m.
Fri 12 Mar	Heart Foundation a.m.

food & drink videos puzzles lego basketball

Power House Kids Club

For kids 4-12 years old

Fridays 3-5pm

food & drink videos puzzles lego basketball

food & drink videos puzzles lego basketball

Gateway Baptist Church, 33 Park Rd, Miramar | gatewaybaptist.org.nz | families@gatewaybaptist.org.nz | ph 022 401 5720

Fridays 3-5pm
(come straight from school)

12 February
19 February
26 February
5 March
12 March
19 March
26 March

No Kids club on Good Friday 2 April
9 April
Saturday 24 April: Movie & Pizza night

Hey parents, we're keen for you to stay and join in the fun! Tea & coffee available!

This FREE programme is run by **Ben Edwards**
Children, Youth & Families Pastor
Gateway Baptist Church
with the assistance of church volunteers

Any questions? Ring Ben on 022 401 5720

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SONRISE SERVICE

Easter Sunday, 4 April
6:30am
Mt Victoria Lookout

Hosted by
Gateway Baptist Church, Miramar
in conjunction with the
Council of Wellington Churches

 e: cwcl449@gmail.com m: 027 201 8766

Heart Foundation

Summer lunchbox

Wholegrain toastie:
Wholegrain bread, pineapple and cheese

Choose one or more from each group to have on the side:



Grilled courgette and/or cherry tomatoes



Grapes and/or banana



Custard or yoghurt*



Nuts and/or boiled egg

*You may like to put the yoghurt in the freezer overnight to help keep the lunchbox cool.

For more information visit heartfoundation.org.nz

WELLINGTON BRICK SHOW

13th - 14th March

Lower Hutt Events Centre
30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt, Wellington

AMAZING LEGO® CREATIONS

9am - 5pm
Saturday and Sunday

\$10 entry per person
Under 3s FREE
\$30 family pass
(2 adults, 3 children)

Presented by **WELL-LUG**
Supporting **Make It! Schools**
Sponsored by **TOYWORLD**

Miramar Rangers AFC 2019 Football Season



Miramar Rangers has a proud and rich football history of 114 years in the Eastern Suburbs. Are you interested in playing junior football this coming season? Registrations remain open for most grades. We cater for boys and girls of all abilities in the following junior age groups:

- First Kicks 4-6 year olds – those born 2015-2017
- Junior 7th-15th Grades – those born 2014-2006
- Girls Only Sunday Leagues 7th-14th Grades

To register please use the following link - <http://miramarrangers.co.nz/registration-1/>
For further information and details on how to register please either see our website www.miramarrangers.co.nz/juniors or contact our administrator Rosie Telford – miramarrangersafc@gmail.com

MIRAMAR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Operations Plan under Alert Level 2,
Active from 1 March 2021



Key Points	Description
Priorities on moving to Alert Level 2	<p>Priority 1 - Safety and Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reassuring students and adults that they are safe at school. ● Focusing on the hygiene routines we need to take to ensure we stay well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regular hand washing/hand sanitizing ○ Coughing and sneezing into elbow ○ No touching other people or their belongings ○ Stay out of other people's moist breath zone ○ Stay home if you are feeling unwell (staff and students)
Alert Level 2 Timetable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drinking fountains will not be operational. Children are to bring their own labelled drink bottles. ● Subway continues at Alert Level 2. ● Pick-up and drop-offs. Be prepared for pick-ups and drop-offs to take longer especially if you want to come into the school grounds. ● Under Alert Level 2 parents and caregivers who enter the gates (even if you are not going into the buildings) will be required to record their names on a contact tracing document. This may involve queuing to complete this. ● Parents, caregivers and visitors are required to be 2 meters apart. Please also respect this distancing with our office and teaching staff. ● Park safely when you arrive to drop-off or and pick up your child, i.e. do not double park, park on yellow lines or over driveways. It is better to take a little longer and park up the road and remain safe. ● As we are a smaller school we will not be staggering starts and finish times at this stage.
Managing Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under Alert Level 2 Miramar Christian School is fully open to receive all current students. ● We will be working towards supporting families who have immune compromised children and family members with strategies that will assist attendance. ● Normal attendance procedures apply. Contact the office via Skool Loop, email or phone if your child will not be attending and give a reason for this absence. ● If your child is going to be late to school, ring and let our Office Manager know. Late students will report to the office as usual. ● Any children and staff who are sick are to stay at home or they will be sent home immediately if they show any cold/flu-like symptoms.
Contact Tracing of every adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under Alert Level 2 rules we are required to keep a contact tracing register of every adult/visitor who comes on to the school site. ● In schools, contact tracing is a combination of timetable, attendance register, visitor register and parent contract tracing register. These provide good information to health authorities if they need to contact people that might be considered a close contact of a confirmed case and determine whether they will need to self-isolate.
Physical Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is no bubble concept at Alert Level 2 so students can mix with others. ● Physical distancing is a good precaution to prevent the spread of disease. ● Students and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other (https://www.healthnavigator.org.nz/videos/c/coronavirus-videos/moist-breath-zone/), coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There does not need to be a specific measurement between children but where practicable 1 metre should be used as a guide, particularly between adult staff. • There are situations where physical distancing is not possible, such as some sporting activities. In these situations, there will be an extra emphasis on handwashing and drying (or cleansing with hand sanitiser) before and after activities. • Parents, caregivers and visitors are required to be 2 meters apart. Please respect this distancing with our office and teaching staff.
<p>School buildings and environment</p>	<p>CLASSROOMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our classes are single cells, and each class has a low number of students. This means our students have less exposure to other students than students in schools with open plan environments and larger class groupings. • Our classes each have their own bathrooms and additional sink areas with soap to use before going out to play, before eating and after using the bathroom. Under Alert Level 2, hand sanitiser will also be provided in every classroom. Hand sanitiser stations will be set up at the designated entry points of each classroom. Students and staff will use this hand sanitiser as they enter the buildings each time. • Additional cleaners and cloths will be available in classrooms for teachers to sanitise spaces throughout the school day as required. Please do not throw out spray 'n' wipe or hand soap pump bottles in the classroom, as these can be refilled. We have a large bottle of sanitiser to refill pump bottles. • Students have their own stationery, supplies and devices and will be encouraged not to share these items. • Students will work for most of the time at their own desks. • Teaching groups can still be taken but be mindful of spacing students appropriately and not breathing across a narrow table at one another. If they work on a shared teaching table this will be wiped down after each group (this is an extra precautionary measure which is not required by the Ministry.) • COVID 19 posters promoting good cough and sneeze etiquette will be on display in all classes. • Hand sanitiser will be available in all rooms - if you run out please let the office know as soon as possible. • Paper hand towels will also be available for classroom use (talk to the students about being careful not to use wads of paper towels). Paper towels will be discarded in the general waste bins not in our paper recycling bins. <p>ADMIN AREA/OFFICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred parent contact with the school office will be via phone and email. If parents need to enter the office area (e.g., to collect an injured child) they will be asked to social distance. • Office staff may wish to wear disposable gloves for handling payments, paperwork, lost property over the counter. • Wash your hands or use wet wipes before using the photocopier keypad. <p>STAFFROOM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are expected to always maintain a minimum of 1m physical distance including in the staffroom. • You can use crockery in the staffroom. Please do not leave food lying around or dishes/cups in the sink or your classrooms. Cups, spoons, etc. to be personally handled into the dishwasher. • Liquid soap and paper towels (not tea towels) are provided for handwashing. <p>HALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school hall can be used by one class at a time. <p>PLAYGROUNDS AND COURTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All playgrounds will be open for student use. • PE and break time activities can include access to sports equipment including playgrounds, but hygiene practices should be observed before and after playing with equipment. • Wheels days will continue on Tuesdays and Fridays. However, scooters are not to be shared. <p>BATHROOMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can use their classroom bathrooms only.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning of bathroom will be done with hospital grade disinfectant and as per the Ministry of Health guidelines. <p>WATER FOUNTAINS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will not be available for use. Students are to bring their own named water bottle.
Behaviour Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character, Excellence and Community values and usual behaviour expectations apply at MCS. Due to higher-than-normal anxiety levels, students who purposely cough, breathe, or pretend to sneeze or constantly break touching rules will have their parents contacted.
Staff Interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers/staff are not restricted to one group. This means teachers/ adults from other classes/relievers/specialists etc. can work in rooms. Any external providers e.g., RTLB, RTLit, visiting need to sign the contact tracing register at the office. Staff meeting can be held onsite.
Playtimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There does not need to be a measurable physical distance between children or children and staff. Teachers should try where possible to keep students apart to some degree, but also realise that despite your best efforts that this may not be possible. However, staff should where practicable use 1m as a guide between themselves and other adults. On wet days teachers are encouraged to put out equipment that can be wiped down easily.
Learning from home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Alert Level 2 the primary focus for our classroom teachers and teacher aides will be their in-school programmes. There may be a small number of exceptional cases where students must learn from home, however teachers <u>cannot</u> offer both a comprehensive in-school classroom programme and online learning programmes. This means teachers will not be available during the day to respond to students on Google Classroom or able to provide Google Meets. If students do not complete programmes offered, teachers will not provide a new online programme until all work in the current programme is complete. In exceptional cases, where children have medical reasons keeping them at home/in isolation, staff will discuss how we can cater for their learning needs. If a child is away sick, then they will be marked as sick (not learning from home).
School Cleaning	<p>Cleanliness is going to be a significant focus over the coming weeks/months.</p> <p>Crest and their cleaning team continue to follow the Ministry of Health guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our cleaning team will receive extra instruction about cleaning under Alert Level 2. Our cleaners will focus on toilets and hard surfaces such as tables/desks, door handles, light switches, tapware, benches etc. Cleaners will only vacuum if it looks necessary. However, there is a vacuum cleaner in the storeroom so staff can vacuum if urgent. <p>Do not put classroom chairs up at the end of the day to allow for the cleaning of tabletops.</p>
Assemblies	As this is a 3-day Alert Level 2 event we will not have an assembly on Monday. Should Alert Level 2 continue beyond the three days announced we will introduce google meet assemblies.
Buddy Reading	There will be no buddy reading during Alert Level 2.
Tech Centre	Technology does not fit in the 3-day Alert Level 2 period.
Sports providers	Kelly Sports will continue on Tuesdays at Alert Level 2.
After School Care Providers	If your child uses an after-school care provider, you will need to contact them about their arrangements under Alert Level 2.