

Dear students,

You will have already heard the announcement that we are to go into lockdown effective from midnight tonight. We have been so lucky for so long and all we can do is hope we get on top of things quickly.

This is an unsettling time for all of us, however, we have done this before and we know a lot more about what worked well and where to access support if you need it.

I have suggested to your teachers that they post a message to you on your Google Classroom just to connect – while they take time to attend to their own family matters and prepare before setting up lessons. Most of you will have things to go on with in the meantime or you can spend time getting your time planner and weekly schedule in place.

As with other lockdowns, you should expect to have an opportunity to connect with each class teacher a minimum of 1 x per week (a maximum of 2 depending on the work you are doing). In between these times, teachers are available to answer queries and give feedback. You should connect with them directly by email. They may not be able to respond immediately but will do so as soon as they are able.

Our Counsellors are available, and you can find their email details on the school website under Notices on the homepage (www.westlakegirls.school.nz) Your Dean is also available to answer queries. Please don't be afraid to make contact with any of the staff at Westlake if you are concerned about your online learning, or any aspect of lockdown, over the next week.

Just remember, we have all done this before and we did a great job – we can do it again!

Don't forget to turn your cameras on when you have Google Meets 😊

Take care
Mrs Stanley