

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

While today's announcement would have come as no surprise, it's still takes time to process the implications of disrupted plans that come with the lockdown extension. It's been almost a year and a half since we were last at Alert Level 4, and while Aucklanders are now seasoned when it comes to working and learning remotely, it's not a situation any of us would choose to be in.

I hope you and your whānau are keeping safe, accomplishing what needs to be done, and able to enjoy some fun and creative time together.

As with previous lockdowns, after each Government announcement, our Senior Leadership Team assess the situation and makes decisions with guidance from the Ministry of Education. We will notify you, and our students, as soon as any decisions are made around up-coming events and activities. In the meantime, it's business-as-usual - as best we can!

I know it will be very disappointing for Cantare and Choralation choir members not being able to attend The Big Sing this week, and we have also received confirmation from School Sport NZ that all sanctioned events on its calendar through to Monday 6 September 2021 have been cancelled. This unfortunately includes all events scheduled within the Winter Tournament Week.

If your daughter has achieved significant success in a sport or club outside of Westlake, she is able to self-nominate for a Sporting Excellence Achievement Award at our Sports Awards in October. You can find the qualification criteria and form [HERE](#), and I have also sent it to students this afternoon.

Finally, a quick reminder that your daughter's teachers, deans and our counsellors are all available to assist if you have any questions or concerns about your daughter's online learning or coping mechanisms during this lockdown. No query is too small or too big, so please do contact us – we can only help if we are aware of a situation.

We do know from our experience in 2020, that despite an incredibly disruptive year, our students' 2020 academic results were very pleasing. I'm confident that our 2021 results will again reflect the hard-working determination of our students – not-with-standing the inevitable days where motivation is low. We all experience that, and it's to be expected. Staying connected with friends is extremely important at this time.

I will be in touch if there is any further news, and don't forget that all of our emails to parents and students are available on our website – along with any updates under "Notices" on the homepage.

Kindest regards

Jane Stanley
Principal