



## Learning Together For Life

### SCHOOL EVENTS - DECEMBER 2021

A group of South Otago Principals have met to discuss the regulations for events and activities being held in December 2021.

The Ministry of Education Bulletin dated 2 December 2021, advised that curriculum-related events and activities such as assemblies with students and staff only, physical education classes including swimming and cultural activities during class time, should continue using alert level guidelines until the end of Term 4 2021. **However, as soon as others including parents and caregivers are brought onsite (who are not receiving or providing education services) for curriculum-related events, we need to follow the relevant rules which apply to all events and activities in our region for our traffic light setting.**

Under the Orange setting this means:

- If gatherings are open to the public, including parents and caregivers, we will require all attendees including children over the age of 12 years and 3 months, to have a My Vaccine Pass.
- If no pass is required there can be a maximum of 50 people including all students, in attendance.
- As full primary schools, we have students who are over 12 years and 3 months and do not have a My Vaccine Pass. This will make it challenging to hold large community events.

As a result of the points stated, we cannot go ahead with prize giving's and other large community events in their usual format. We understand that this is disappointing for schools, students, and their families but we need to do our part to ensure community safety.

Taking into account the guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Education, our school has decided that a school mass will be held next week during school hours for children and staff only.

***On Wednesday 15 December the children from Year 0 to Year 3 must be picked up at 12:30. All other children will attend the Year 8 graduation here at school.*** This will start at 1.30pm. Busses will run as normal for these children who finish at 3pm. For us to hold this very important event for our year 8 students we must follow the above guidelines. It is very important all children in year 0-3 must be picked up at 12:30pm. We understand this is a difficult time but it is important we think of the safety of all our students and community.

***Only parents of year 8 students are allowed to attend the year 8 graduation.*** These parents must wear a mask, sign in and follow social distancing guidelines.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Thank you for your support and cooperation

God Bless

Annette O'Mahony