

Chelsea School Newsletter

End of Term 3, October 2021



Message from The Principal

Kia ora whānau

Here we are at the end of an incredibly different Term 3. A huge thanks to all of you for your hard work and engagement in our programmes over the past 6 weeks. We appreciate you! Thanks for the lovely emails of support, I know these have meant a lot to our team.

There are no success criteria to coping in a pandemic, no right or wrong way of managing. Just one common goal - to survive!

For some, this time at home has been a chance to slow down a bit and reconnect, and for others, it has been incredibly stressful and uncertain. It's important to acknowledge this too. We all have different challenges and one family's experience cannot and should not be compared to another's. Throughout the lockdown, I hope you have managed to find some joy, even the little things, which in my experience are sometimes, on reflection, the big things.

Over the past six weeks, our teachers/staff have;

- hosted over 600 zoom learning sessions
- posted over 78,951 SeeSaw posts
- made over 59,149 comments on SeeSaw posts
- had over 130,890 Family visits to SeeSaw
- delivered hundreds of devices and learning packs.

I feel very proud of the learning that our team has put together over the past 6 weeks and the connections that they have continued to build with their learners. A special thanks must go to the staff

who have come onsite to run the bubble classrooms over the past couple of weeks. You have done an amazing job of settling these groups of children back into school!

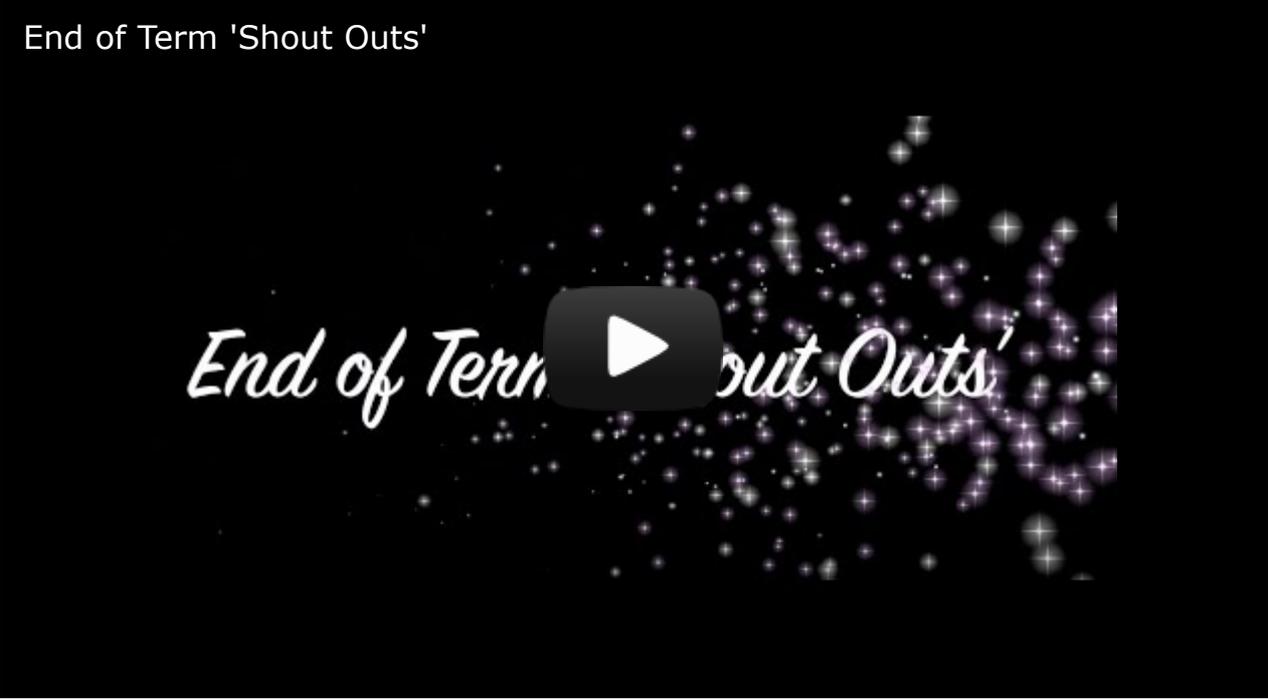
I am also incredibly proud of our learners. There may have been a few wobbles along the way, but the resilience they have shown needs to be celebrated.

My fingers and toes are crossed for a return to school at Alert Level 2. We shall wait and see. I have added some general information about Alert Level 2 and what this looks like at school for you to have a read of. I will send more specific information once we know a timeline for Alert Level changes.

One of the key differences at Level 2, is that our community is not able to come onto the site, except in certain situations. The key to Level 2 is to keep our learners as safe as possible, and this means that the grounds are effectively closed to parents and families.

We have quite a few events that are sitting in the wings to consider once we have some clarity about Alert Levels. We will be keeping you in the loop with these, but it may be that events such as Cross Country will be run in different ways. We will make these decisions in the coming weeks.

End of Term 'Shout Outs'



End of Term Shout Outs

Alert Level 2 Information

Under Alert Level 2 anyone showing any sign of being unwell **must be kept at home**.

Entering and Exiting the School Grounds

At Alert Level 2, we will be moving back to drop-offs at the gate and encouraging parents not to come onto our school site unless there is a specific need to do so. Some reasons that parents may choose to come onsite, might be around children who are experiencing anxiety or settling brand new learners into their classrooms. It is critical that contact tracing procedures are tight, so anyone who enters the grounds will be asked to sign in. This also means that gates will be locked until 8.30 am and again after 3.15 pm.

Every visitor (anyone who is not a staff member or a student) must sign in and out when they enter and leave the grounds (using the same gate). We would ask please, that if your child is confident and capable of getting to their classroom, that you say your goodbyes at the gates. Older siblings could also be an amazing support here.

Arrival to School

Drop-off in the morning will happen between 8.30-9.00am as usual. Drop-off is easier to organise because of the staggered nature of arrival to school.

The pedestrian gates that we will be opening are

- Gate A: Chelsea View Entrance
- Gate B: Kindy Gate
- Gate C: Driveway Gate (top court by the swimming pool)
- Gate D: Gate by Mr Maddock's shed

Any parents coming onsite from these gates will need to sign in and out on our registers. We will have a member of staff at each gate to help with this.

The main driveway gate (drop-off) will be open for parents to drive through and drop their children in the mornings.

At Alert Level 2, there is no outside play before school. Learners will need to head straight to their classrooms.

Leaving the grounds in the afternoon (3 pm)

Our Y0-2 learners (who don't have siblings to collect them) will be taken to your preferred gate by Kākano and Pakiaka teachers ready to be picked up at 3 pm. **(We will be sending a separate survey to parents of Y0-2 learners asking for the gate you will be using for pick up and drop off)**

Older siblings will be released from class at 2.50 pm so that they can collect younger brothers and sisters and then move as a family group to the gate you have indicated.

Have a Wonderful, Safe Break

With the 'holidays' upon us, I want to wish you all a safe break. We hope that two weeks of not needing to fit school into your home schedule may give you a bit more downtime.

It goes without saying that we cannot wait to welcome our kids back onsite. We miss them!

I will be in touch following any government announcements next week.

Ngā mihi

Amanda Douglas

