

4th February 2022

Kia ora koutou

What a busy day at GIS with our parent interviews today. It is so nice to see the students and their parents at school to begin the year. The purpose of this letter is a few reminders for next week.

### **First Day - 8th February Mihi Whakatau**

Unfortunately with the public health guidance and restrictions on numbers, we will not be able to proceed with our mihi whakatau scheduled for Tuesday 8th February. This event would have over 500 people (students, staff and families) in attendance and the risk is too great to proceed in the usual way. To keep everyone safe in these challenging times, we ask that parents do not come onsite without an appointment or calling the office first.

Revised details as follows:

- Year 8 students will start at 8.45am
- Year 7 students will start at 10am. We ask parents to drop your child off at the main gate and they make their way to the top court area. Please wear a MASK.
  - Rooms 1-4 (Main entrance)
  - Rooms 5-10 ( Pedestrian Crossing entrance)
  - Rooms 11-13 (Dental Clinic end)
- We will have staff in fluoro vests at the main gates along Chivalry Rd to escort the new students into the school grounds.
- Each class will have their own mihi whakatau. This will be pre recorded and shared with parents after the event.

### **School Uniform**

We are aware that there have been some stock issues at the uniform shop with these items (boys shirt, girls blouse, polar fleece and PE top). This has resulted in a few students not having all the necessary uniform items. The office has had several calls about what to do as some students are anxious about not having the full uniform. The most important thing is that the students get back to school next week with or without the full uniform. Please see the instructions below:

- Students that do not have the formal shirt will be allowed to wear their PE top until the new stock arrives.
- Unfortunately, the uniform shop now also has limited supply of PE tops due to the shipment being delayed because of COVID.
- If your child has neither the formal or PE shirt, please get them to wear a shirt that matches our school colours (white, grey or navy blue).
- I am working on the problem with the uniform shop to find a solution. I appreciate your patience with this matter.

Please get in touch if you have any concerns or need help in any way.

Ngā mihi



Mark Whitford  
Principal / Tumuaki