



# TE RAPA PRIMARY SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Good Morning to all Te Rapa families

## REMINDER

**School Starts** : Next Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
Classes begin at 9am

## Wearing Masks at Te Rapa Primary School

- **The Ministry of Education has determined that masks are required to be worn by all Year 4 to 8 students while they are indoors.**

This includes Rooms 8, 9, 10 & 11 which are Year 3 – 4 Classrooms

We will adopt a cautious approach given the benefits of wearing masks to reduce risk, so all students and teachers in our Year 3 & 4 syndicate classrooms (Rooms 8, 9, 10 & 11) are to wear masks in an indoor setting as is required by all students and staff in our upper school (Rooms 12 – 21).

***Children attending Year 3 are also required to wear their mask when they are indoors at our school.***

- **The Ministry of Education have advised that the best masks to wear are the medical grade masks, but any mask is better than no mask.**

## Children Must Bring their own Masks to School

Students are to bring their own mask(s) from home, and students are to take responsibility for their own mask(s). Te Rapa staff will be 'coaching' their students on how to wear their masks correctly, and how to "look after" their mask during the school day.

It is suggested that students **name their mask(s)** with their **Room No.** in the same way they would name their sunhat or similar. This ensures a mask can easily be returned to the appropriate person if misplaced.

Students could have 3 or more 'named' masks in total. These could be a combination of different types of masks too. By doing this, a child can have one mask being used at school, while another is being washed at home, another is drying, and potentially another mask is ready for the next day.

## No Masks are Available at School

*The school is unable to supply masks to students.*

**Note - *Bandanas, scarves or t-shirts pulled up over the mouth and nose are not acceptable.***

We are looking to source masks, but currently mask stocks are low and masks are unavailable.

If any parents / carers or friends of our school could source our school any complimentary 'new' masks, then please drop them off at school please. These will be put to good use.

## During the School Day at Te Rapa Primary

Our teachers will do an amazing job to make sure their students get plenty of time outside, without their masks. Beyond just morning tea, lunch break and timetabled swimming, our teachers are sure to plan the school day so their students get some time outside to have a break from wearing masks indoors. This will help our students too.

## Coaching Children at Home

Please help us at home by coaching your children about how to wear their "named" mask correctly, and instruct them that wearing masks indoors is required. All students are asked to be diligent around wearing their masks appropriately.

**Please stay safe and stay healthy.**

## Junior Classrooms : Years 1 – 2 : Rooms 1 – 7

There is no requirement for masks to be worn by persons in our junior school, but anyone who chooses to wear a mask will be supported to do so.

Kind Regards

**V W Franklin – Principal**