



# Term 2 Newsletter

Week 7

26<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

*Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Faka alofa lati ahu, Bula, Namaste, Ni Hao and Hello to everyone*

Dear parents, caregivers and whanau,

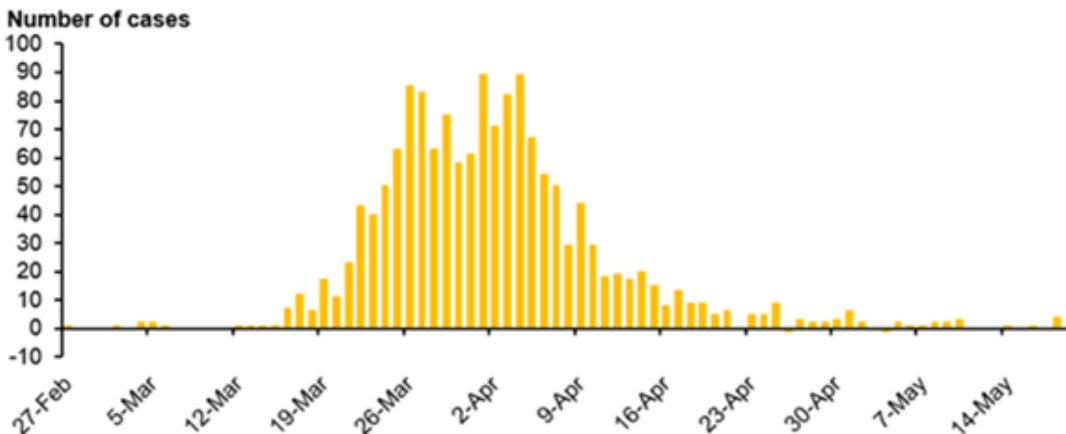
***Talofa Lava – This week is Samoan Language week. We will still celebrate this event and remind children of how important it is to be proud of their heritage and treasure their languages.***

The return to school has gone really smoothly. It was wonderful to see children and staff returning last week, finding their friends and getting learning underway again. Thank you parents, for following our hygiene rules and signing in at the office. We will continue to keep up our hygiene practices and public health measures as an extra precaution to make sure our school is safe and we comply with Alert Level 2.

We know some of our families are still feeling a bit anxious about sending their children back to school, which is understandable given everything we have been through in these past 2 months. However now that New Zealand has flattened the virus, it is really important that children return to school, not just for their education but also their health and wellbeing. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school this week.

Best wishes,  
Shirley Hardcastle

Daily confirmed and probable cases



**Talofa lava ile mamalu o matua, aiga fa’apea le mafutaga aoao ale ao’ga malosi o Viscount School. Talofa, Talofa Lava!**

Last night, the Board of Trustees had it’s first meeting since February. It was great to be able to come together as a board again and we are most looking forward to working with the principal and the school for the remainder of the year.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Principal Mrs Hardcastle and her staff for all their hard work during the lockdown. And I know you all appreciate the hard work that they are continuing under Level 2 conditions to keep the school safe for our

## KEY DATES

**June 1st**  
Queen’s birthday

**June 15- July 3**  
LIFE EDUCATION

**June 29-July 2**  
Parent- student- teacher conferences

## SCHOOL TERMS 2020

**15<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

**20 July – 25<sup>th</sup> Sept**

**12<sup>th</sup> Oct – 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**

Sport will remain in-house for the next few weeks but we expect inter-school competition to start again in Term 3.

children and making sure that their learning continues. As a parent, I am most confident and pleased with how Viscount school is managing and applying health and safety systems for our children's wellbeing and their learning especially during such a difficult time as this. It is really important that all our children return to school now so that the gains they made at the beginning of the year are not lost and they can get back to connect with their friends.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Samoan Language Week this week. It is my privilege and honour to share with you a little something from my heritage. The theme for this year is "Tapena sou oso ma lou malaga" – "Prepare yourself a gift for your travels". We are all going through our own journeys, some more challenging than others. This theme reminds me of the journey we have been facing during the Covid-19. To have your "aiga" or your family and community is a gift that helps us through that. Your Viscount School Community is also your "aiga". Ia manuia le Vaiaso ole Gagana Samoa

Fa'afetai Lava  
Tinei Tagaloa-Leniu  
**Board Chairperson**

## Viscount app

One of the things we found out during lockdown was that it was hard to get in touch with some of you because our records had an old address or an old phone number. We will be seeking to update our contact list over the next few weeks.

Many parents found this app helpful. It is free.

<https://viscountschool.apps.school.nz/install/>

This app works on Android and Apple devices and

is an easy way to get your newsletter or any important alerts. You can also send absence notices through this ap.



## Modems

We understand that Chorus is planning to install fibre in the Mangere area soon to ensure families can access the internet at home. This will come with 6 months free data. If you prefer, you can contact Leilani Glassie [leilani@digitalinclusionalliance.nz](mailto:leilani@digitalinclusionalliance.nz) to discuss a wireless Skinny Jump modem. This modem requires you to top it up once you have used the first lot of data.

## New Technology room

The old staff room has been converted into a technology room. This will be available to classes for cooking, building models, art and many other activities. The staff room has moved downstairs next to the office.

## ESOL and learning support coordinator

It is exciting to be able to be able to tell you that Moetagi Fakaalofa [moetagil@viscount.school.nz](mailto:moetagil@viscount.school.nz) has taken up the challenge of working across the school with students who need extra support with English. She is also working with the y7/8 students promoting bilingualism.

Helen Autavaga [HelenA@viscount.school.nz](mailto:HelenA@viscount.school.nz) has taken up the role of Learning support coordinator. She will oversee special needs and work with the health team and specialist agencies to support children if and when they need extra help.

You are welcome to contact these staff if you want to talk to them about your child.

## SKIDS

This wonderful before and after school service is fully back in operation.

**Before School Care 7:30 to 8 :30 am**  
**After School Care from 3 pm to 6 pm Monday to Friday.**  
**We offer fun and exciting activities daily.**



Winz Subsidies are available for working parents or if you are on a sickness benefit or studying. Solo parents who are working /Studying can qualify. WINZ terms and conditions will apply.

**Please call Ferdilin on 0210356547 for more information.**