



# Rongomai School

*Empowered to Take Risks; Determined to Succeed*

Tuesday 17th March

Talofa lava fanau,

Many of you would've heard the news by now that the ASB Polyfest has been cancelled which means our school trip to the event will no longer go ahead.

We are all aware of the spread of Coronavirus which is something we must all take seriously. We have received reports about schools in other areas of the world being closed due to the outbreak. Our government has not advised us to do this yet. Our school will remain open until we are told otherwise.

I know parents/families have some real concerns about sending their children to school and understandably so. If your child is sick and has a runny nose/cold/flu, please take them to the doctors and get them checked out. Do not send them to school. If you have a particular concern about your child or yourself, Healthline has a dedicated line for COVID-19 enquiries with translators and interpreters available 24/7 in 150 languages:

- [Free call 0800 358 5453.](tel:08003585453)

At school, we are taking the following precautions and are reminding our staff and students to:

- Wash their hands regularly with water and soap especially before eating and after play time breaks,
- Spray down all surfaces i.e. desks and tables at the end/beginning of each learning block,
- Cough into their arm/elbow,
- Avoid using the drinking fountains at school.

Please send your child to school with their own water bottle that is clearly labelled with their name. This will allow them to remain hydrated at school without having to use the drinking fountains.

During this time, it is important to continue about our normal daily routines in a calm and orderly manner. Children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events such as Coronavirus. Parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers will have a particularly important part to play in reassuring children at this time.

At Rongomai, our staff are committed to doing everything we can to keep your child/ren safe, happy and engaged in their learning. Be good to one another!

Kia manuia,

Whaea Paeariki Johnson  
Principal