

Semester 2, August 2020

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Term Dates 2020

Term 3: 20 July—25 Sept

Term 4: 12 Oct— 9 Dec

Term Dates 2021

Term 1: 28 Jan —16 April

Term 2: 3 May — 9 July

Term 3: 26 July – 1 Oct

Term 4: 18 Oct – 9 Dec

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2020 IN NEW ZEALAND SCHOOLS

As with you all, New Zealanders are finding the uncertainty around dealing with Covid 19 very challenging and disruptive to their lives. The school community have been very impressed with how our students have managed this year. Teachers have been working hard to assist the students with their assessments and prepare them for NCEA examinations which will be starting in November. Our students have had a lot of support from their homestay families and are all very settled.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC- NEW ZEALAND UPDATE

As we are preparing this newsletter, all of New Zealand, except Auckland region is in alert level 2. We have a cluster of people, mostly in Auckland who have contacted the virus. These people are in managed isolation at hotels. We are encouraged to wear masks when in public places, keep a 2 metre distance from people when possible and stay home if we are unwell. Our schools are able to be open for teaching but we must use hand sanitiser and clean the desks after each change of class. There are no assemblies as we are not allowed to have gatherings of over 100 people. If anyone has symptoms Covid 19 they must go and have a test.

The Auckland region in alert level 3 requires that schools and non essential services remain closed and people are instructed to stay home.

We are now starting to plan the summer holiday break as our long term students are advised to stay in New Zealand instead of returning to their home country due to borders restrictions. Wellington schools are planning some programmes and activities that the students can participate in at the end of the year if they do not have NCEA exams and in January before school recommences.

OUR CURRENT STUDENTS

Many of our students returned to their home countries between April and July as flights became available so that they could be with their families. This was a very stressful time for them, the international department and their parents as there were many delays and cancellations. Currently we have 20 students with us on the ground plus our 9 students still remaining in China. Currently no decision has been made about when the borders will open for international students again.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMME TERM 2

During term 3 our students settled back easily into school after 7 weeks in lockdown. They were pleased to see their friends and the teachers! We had a number of farewells as students slowly returned home and a morning tea at the end of term where we gave 6 leaving students their certificates and some photos of their time with us. We also took them over to Somes Island for a day on the ferry. This is a nature reserve in the middle of Wellington harbour which has some great birdlife.



Hina & Sara



Lara on the ferry!



Our students enrolled in our Outdoor Education course went on their 3 day tramp and had a great time. They stayed in tents one night and spent a day climbing up a local mountain.



CODE OF PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS

The international team continues to work on The Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016 requirements. Our Homestay Manager is busy with homestay visits. Our students are also having interviews with our Director of International Students to check on their academic progress and homestay life. As well we are updating and reviewing all our policies and procedures.

WELLINGTON ACTIVITY PROGRAMME FOR 2020

We are currently organizing activities for the students who were not sitting NCEA examinations in November. These activities begin when the NCEA students went on study leave at the beginning of November. We will combine with other schools a series of indoor and outdoor activities.

ENROLLER MARKETING PLATFORM

Please check out our Marketing platform which went live in the third week of August! This is a new marketing tool for agents who have an account with Enroller to introduce all the schools that they work with in New Zealand within one platform. If you have any feedback, please email Kerry.finnigan@onslow.school.nz

Don't forget you can also submit your application online by setting up an account with Enroller.!

MARKETING MATERIALS UPDATES

We have recently updated our school prospectus and brochure information. Please email us at international@onslow.school.nz if you would like a digital copy. We are currently working on updating our Onslow Strengths and Opportunities flyer as well as planning the filming of a new video showcasing Onslow College.



OUR CHINESE STUDENTS STILL IN CHINA!

Due to the New Zealand borders closing, our 9 students from China are still unable to return to Onslow College. We enrolled them in the Te Kura Online Course and they have completed their first semester's learning. A report on their progress was translated and sent to their parents.

NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievements) CHANGES 2020

To recognise the disruptions caused by the Covid 19, New Zealand Qualifications Authority has made some changes to NCEA and University Entrance. The exams will be postponed from November 6 to November 16 and the last exam will be on December 9. There are also changes to the credits calculations, certificate endorsements and course endorsements. For details of the NCEA changes, you can visit : <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-ncea/changes-to-ncea-and-ue-for-2020/>

MOVING FORWARD 2021

We continue to receive applications for students wanting to come in 2021. However currently we still have no firm confirmation from New Zealand government when our borders will be opening for International Students. If your student has applied to come to Onslow College for 2021, we are happy to issue an acceptance letter (not an Offer of Place) subject New Zealand borders re-opening.