



Monday 21st February 2022

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

Despite starting the year back in uncharted waters, we have managed to maintain a reasonable sense of normality up to this point. Thank you for your patience while we try to work through the ongoing and ever changing directives that we are receiving from the Ministry, advising us of how we need to operate safely and maintain as much of our regular routine as possible.

The Omicron wave is upon us and several of our students are already isolating as a 'close contact'. Today, every student will receive an **Isolation Home Learning Resource Pack**. It is important that you check your child's bag for the brown envelope containing this pack.

Please keep this pack of learning material handy for use, should your child need to isolate for any reason/length of time (we have been extremely lucky to secure these as the nationwide stocks are now depleted). Today a very useful 'Phase 2' question & answer notice will be sent out to you via the school App. Please do read it as it will answer many of your questions about the current Covid situation.

Just a reminder to please download the school APP if you haven't already. With these uncertain times during the pandemic, this is our primary way of letting you know what is happening at school. Please keep your children at home if they are unwell, and remember to encourage good hand washing and hygiene practises at home, just like we do here at school.

I trust that you all joined the '**meet the teacher**' zoom sessions that were held last week. I am sure that these answered some of your questions around how your child's learning will be structured this year. Please email the class teacher if you have any further questions.

We have now held two **online assemblies**, and these seem to be working well. I am pleased to see so many of our diligent, hard working students receiving a weekly award, as well as our special awards. Plume Playground, Sports Star, Magic Person and Creative Kid. Our school leaders have adapted well to the current way of pre-recording the hosting.

Our first **Pizza with the Principal** was held last week. It is so lovely to spend a little time with the recipients. What a great bunch. The Pizza, kindly supplied by Stables Restaurant went down a treat, and was gone in no time. I look forward to holding the next session towards the end of the term. Congratulations to our first group of recipients, awesome effort!

Please note that all events, trips and camps mentioned below are subject to change at short notice. We are planning these based on the current situation as it stands, however please be aware that this may be updated at any time. You will be notified of any changes as they are made.

**Year 5 Camp** is scheduled for the 9th - 11th March at Moirs Point, Mangawhai. I feel sure all the students are really looking forward to it, and we are all crossing our fingers that the plans are not waylaid. Thank you to Miss Edwards and the senior school teachers for their planning so far.

We are underway planning the **Summer Olympiad** that is currently scheduled for the 1st of April. The format worked well last year, however as with most of the events this year we may have to adapt to the ever changing landscape of the 'traffic light system'. Currently with no parents able to come in to watch the race, we may need to look at how this can work best for everyone. The ability to sponsor online via *gogetfunding* will be continued to enable those with overseas families to get additional support for their efforts. Please get behind your children, this is a great event promoting **Health and Wellbeing**, and the first of our big fundraisers for the year. Funds raised from this event will be directed towards the purchase of a much needed automatic chlorine dispenser for the school swimming pool.

Ngā mihi,  
Darrel Goosen  
Principal



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