

## Kia Ora Tātou Katoa

### COVID Omicron Response Changes

The Omicron landscape has changed yet again. For positive cases and household contacts, the isolation period has now been reduced to seven full days. Please see the attached chart for more information.

We are following all the recommended protocols to minimise exposure. Please do not keep your kid home “just in case” they get exposed to Omicron. It is in our community and your child will likely be exposed to it somewhere, at some point. Keeping your child at home unnecessarily simply delays the inevitable. Then, since they will genuinely need to isolate when they do get COVID, they will end up missing twice as much school as everyone else.

### Afternoon Pick-Ups & Parking

When you pick up your child at the Alfred Street entrance in the afternoon, please make sure you don't park in the two PSV parking spaces. These are strictly reserved for the accessibility bus and the children riding the bus cannot get on the bus unless it is parked in that space. Afternoon pick-up times are:

- Kākano classroom afternoon pick-up is between 2:45 and 2:55pm
- Koru classroom afternoon pick-up is between 2:55 and 3pm
- Rito and Harakeke classrooms (Years 3-6) pick-up is after 3pm

Kākano and Koru students will be brought to the front entrance to the school (on Alfred St) at the times noted; siblings from older classes can leave at these times as well.

### Contacting the School

If you are trying to contact the school, these are the numbers:

Office: 03 577 5542 (OK to leave a message)

Cell phone: 022 313 9985 (please do NOT leave a message)

If the office is closed or the phone is not picked up, this could indicate we are short staffed. If you can't get through and it is urgent, please call 029 577 9442.

## Important Dates & Events

### School Swimming

School swimming is officially finished but please continue to send your child's swimsuit as we will swim on warm days.

## NO Teacher-Only Day Tomorrow

The Teacher-Only Day scheduled for Friday, March 11 has been **postponed**. We will see your child at school tomorrow. It is now scheduled for **Thursday, April 14**. Your child cannot be on the school grounds that day.

## Staff Development Day

The staff development session scheduled for 2pm on **March 30th** is still going ahead. You will need to pick up your child **at 2pm on this date**. If your child attends OSCAR after school, they can remain at school until the OSCAR programme starts at 3pm.

## Year 5-6 Whānau Survey

If your child is in Year 5-6 (Harakeke) you will receive a survey with this newsletter. It is about Blenheim School adding Year 7-8 classes. Please return it to school as soon as possible. If you are isolating at home, please phone the school to give us your response.

## Breakfast Club Temporarily Suspended

There will be no Breakfast Club until further notice due to the prevalence of Omicron in the community.

## New Whānau Survey

If your child is new to the school this year, you will receive a survey with this newsletter. It is about Blenheim School adding Year 7-8 classes. Please return it to school as soon as possible. If you are isolating at home, please phone the school to give us your response.

## Phase 3 Omicron (COVID) Response – Updated Mar 10, 2022

### Does Your Child or Someone in your Household Have COVID

