



## An outline of our response to Omicron

Dear all,

We would like to update you on how school will look in term one while we are under the Red setting. Things will be different but we hope that providing this information now, you can prepare your child for school life as we see it at the moment:

- **Assemblies** will not take place under the Red setting.
- **After School Care** will be operating. Please text/call Donna to confirm your child's booking. Parents must collect their child from the library gate so again a quick text to Donna and she can bring your child out to you.
- **Attendance** is required. School is open for on site learning for all students. If your child is showing any cold/flu symptoms or generally unwell, please keep them at home. Please let the office know if your child is going to be away – we have lots of options to get in touch: email, phone, text (021 026 34461), website or Skool Loop app.
- **Classrooms** will be ventilated throughout the day to ensure good airflow. Hand sanitiser will be provided.
- **CO2 monitoring in classrooms.** The Ministry of Education has promised to support schools with technology that may assist class safety. No dates for delivery have been provided.
- **Concerns about Omicron.** If you have a concern, please let us know as we may be able to adapt or assist. Be aware though, that our pandemic response as a school is legally bound by government regulation.
- **Drink bottles** must be brought to school. Last year we were providing cups however, under the Red setting this is not viable. Please name the drink bottle. Water fountains are turned off. The Board of Trustees are looking into bottle fillers.
- **Early pick-ups/late drop offs/dropping off lunches** must be arranged by calling the office on 868 6504.
- **Early Words** programme will be on hold until further notice.
- **Family fun night** will not go ahead this term.
- **Kitchen & garden activities** will go ahead this term in a slightly different format.
- **Library books** will be delivered to classes for use during school hours.
- **Masks** must be worn by all students in Years 4 and up when indoors and in close contact with others. Not mandatory for year 1 – 3. All staff teaching and supporting children in Years 4 and up will wear a face mask.
- **Ministry of Education & Health.** If an Omicron situation does emerge within the school we will be taking advice from them. We will let you know what to do next, should this arise.
- **New entrant visits** will need to be booked via the office.

- **No parents on school grounds.** If you need to see a member of staff, please give us a call to arrange an appointment.
- **Other teacher aide programmes** will resume in the next couple of weeks.
- **Play areas** will be separated into cohorts. Rooms four & five will play in the Room four playground. They can also play on the junior playground and field behind the caretaker's shed with Room three students. Rooms six, seven, eight & nine can use the courts and main field. A weekly roster will be set up for the senior playground. The quad area will not be used.
- **Reports and parent/caregiver interviews** are due to go ahead as planned. Reports will be issued later this term with parent/caregiver appointments planned to go ahead. We will need to make some alterations to the appointment format but will provide details closer to the date.
- **Scanning.** Please scan in if you have an appointment. Alternatively sign in. This ensures that we have a viable tracking system.
- **Swimming** will take place this term. Please name all swimming items and uniform. A decision on swimming sports will be decided closer to the time. Class swimming has started today.
- **Tech** will start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February for our senior students (Rooms six & seven). Please ensure closed in shoes are worn. Students will need to wear their mask on the bus.
- **Vaccination Passports** There are likely to be some school events that we run that will require these.

We are doing our very best to keep on top of things as they evolve and when messages are issued from the Ministry of Education. We will keep you updated regularly and as information comes to hand.

Yours sincerely

David Brock

Moanataiari Principal