

Dear Parents

As the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak is an emergent situation, the advice we receive is actively reviewed and added to by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education as more information comes to hand. The Ministry of Health website remains the best source of information on COVID-19 for New Zealand

### **Events, handshakes, hongi and hugging**

The Prime Minister has advised that we should stop handshakes, hongi and hugging.

### **Prevention remains a priority**

Our students, staff and community still have a very large role in preventing the spread of COVID-19 through:

- Awareness – knowing the symptoms and where to get good information
- Vigilance - stay away if you are ill
- Good hygiene – hand washing and drying, good cough and sneeze etiquette will prevent spread of a range of ills as we move into cold and flu season
- The situation is rapidly evolving so being careful and aware

### **Good Hygiene**

We are encouraging good hygiene at all times – hand washing, coughing etiquette etc. We know you will support this at home.

The Government announcement in the weekend requires all arrivals from overseas to self-isolate. It is important to note we continue to have no confirmed cases in schools or early learning services.

Here are two links from Nano girl that you might like to look at.

Hand washing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eqhw6yZk-c&t=71s>

This one is what the virus is, and how it spreads: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPsY-jLqaXM>

### **What if a student or staff member is confirmed with COVID-19?**

The Health Department may require a school to close for a day or two, to undertake tracking and tracing of close contacts. A reminder that a close contact is generally described as someone who was in near proximity (1.5 metres) of a person confirmed with the virus for 15 or more minutes. For those with compromised immunity that is 2 metres.

### **Assemblies**

We have split our all our whole school assemblies until further notice.

### **Classrooms**

The teachers will continue to remind children regarding prevention and best hygiene practice. If you have any concerns please talk to any member of staff and they will refer you to the right person for information or help.

### **Toilets**

**If you need to use the toilets please use the adults toilets by the office block do not use the children's toilets at all. Children are not to use these toilets.**

Thank you for your support