

Nurturing Our Future - Growing Together Kia atawhai aa mua - Kia tipu ngatahi

25th February 2022

Our first Positive COVID Cases - Phase 3

Kia ora koutou,

Our school has been very lucky so far with the outbreak of COVID in the community. Until today cases have been skirting us with no actual cases who have been attending school. There have been a number of casual contacts and family contacts.

Today we have been notified of two children who have returned a positive result. Yesterday, had we been under Phase 2, the whole of Kauri 2 would have been sent home as Close Contacts to isolate along with our Year 3 & 4 After School Care group. Today though, under Phase 3 we are letting everyone know that we have a positive case and all of Kauri 2 and the middle school group at After School Care, are considered close contacts. Under Phase 3 however only those living in the same household as the positive case need to isolate. The children were at school yesterday and a few others in that class have notified us of being unwell today and are away.

What next? Please keep monitoring your children for any signs of COVID as outlined in the newsletter yesterday and on the Ministry of Health websites. We will continue to keep up hygiene and follow guidelines at school trying to minimise and slow the spread.

We encourage any child not already wearing a mask to do so if you feel they can. Our Year 3's in particular, as they are in classes with Year 4's who are wearing masks, this helps to give them another level of safety.

If your child has been away sick - wearing a mask can help keep others safe around them.

As always, we ask that no child who is sick or showing any signs of illness come to school. Please let us know how you are getting on. We are required to notify the Ministry of cases within our school. <u>Please click here</u> for the MOE letter template, for everyone's information. Please note, it is just Kauri 2 and the Year 3 & 4 Group at After School Care, who would be considered Close Contacts but no longer required to isolate. The parents and whanau involved in these groups - we are sorry to notify you that your class and group has the first cases but speaking with the local Ministry they feel it will be inundating us all soon.

Isolation period for confirmed cases and household contacts = A case will need to isolate at home for **10 days**, as will anyone else in the household. **Rapid antigen tests will now be used as a diagnostic tool.** We have been lucky to have a great start to the school year with little disruption up to this point. I hope you can all have a happy weekend. We hope you and your families are healthy or wish you a speedy recovery and a restful isolation.

Take care out there.

Kia kaha

Ngā mihi nui

Waveney Parker Principal

Tamahere Model Country School 37 Devine Road R.D.3. Hamilton 3283

Ph: 07 856 9238

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