

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers, Students and Whanau.

COVID-19 continues to throw us challenges as we work our way through Red Light Stage 1 to Red Light Stage 2. With the changing of stages and the different restrictions now in place, we need to all work together to keep our community safe.

At the Otahuhu Principals' Association meeting this week we discussed the affect that COVID-19 is having on our staff, students, whanau and the community. We all agreed that we need to do our best to follow the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education health and safety measures to keep everyone as safe as possible. And if we are all consistent with this, we may be able to minimise the COVID-19 spread in Otahuhu.

I would personally like to thank all the parents, caregivers and whanau who are complying with the COVID-19 restrictions and expectations for OIS. It is very much appreciated.

Unfortunately we have had 2 identified positive student results at Otahuhu Intermediate School this week. Both classes received notification letters for parents/caregivers and a school-wide notification letter was sent on Thursday 17 February 2022. We will continue to monitor and inform you of identified cases as we receive them.

The Board, the Leadership Team and Staff are doing everything possible to keep OIS operating during these trying times.

#### What you need to do

- You and your whānau should watch for symptoms
- If any develop, get tested immediately
- Then, stay at home until you receive a negative result
- If your whānau hasn't been vaccinated, please do so as soon as possible. You can book on-line at [bookmyvaccine.nz](http://bookmyvaccine.nz) or by calling 0800 28 29 26. It's free.

#### COVID-19 Symptoms that your child might have

- A new or worsening cough
- Sneezing and runny nose
- A fever
- Temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Less common symptoms include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, or confusion/irritability.

#### What we're doing

- Otahuhu Intermediate School will stay open.
- We have appropriate public health measures and cleaning procedures in place.
- All students are expected to wear masks at all times.

For more information, go to [https://covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing/about-covid-19/covid-19-symptoms/\(external link\)](https://covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing/about-covid-19/covid-19-symptoms/(external link))

#### Reminder:

- If your child is unwell, then they should not be at school.
- If your child is unwell (not COVID related), then they need a medical certificate to return to school.
- If your child attends school with COVID-19 symptoms, you will be called to pick your child up.

Next weeks newsletter will focus on celebrating the teaching and learning that has happened at Otahuhu Intermediate School over the last three weeks.

Stay safe and take care of one another.

Brent Woods  
PRINCIPAL

