

28 April 2022

Kia ora koutou

***Moving to Orange***

Welcome back to school for Term 2 (next week). We hope you all are still enjoying a well-deserved break.

You'll be aware that Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins, has announced that New Zealand has now moved to Orange. The decision to move to Orange has been made on public health advice.

We'd like to thank you for supporting us in Term 1 where we managed to keep our school open, and our students focussed on their learning. It is our intention to continue to have our school operational over Term 2 and again, we thank you in advance for sending your children to school daily (provided they are not sick). It is important that we continue our children's learning journey and their socialising with peers, they have missed far too much. We would like to see all of our children return to school for Term 2, this will not only be beneficial to our school as a whole but will also aid in everyone's well-being. Please continue to let us know of positive cases within your household, even if they have occurred during the school holidays.

Attached please find the Parent/Caregiver Protocols effective Monday 2 May, giving an update on what the move to Orange means for our school.

At Orange, face masks are no longer required at school however, public health advice is that face masks continue to be strongly encouraged when indoors. Wearing a face mask is a key health measure that slows the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings.

We strongly encourage your child (if they are Year 4 to 8) to bring a face mask to school every day. There may be times that we'll ask them to wear their face mask – for example, if we are having an assembly in the hall. If there are a high number of cases at school or in the community, we may ask that face masks continue to be worn in classrooms for a time.

We strongly encourage all visitors, including parents and whānau, to wear a face mask whenever they are on our school grounds, keeping us all safe.

We will continue to keep all the other health measures in place at school that we know will slow the spread of COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated using our new CO2 monitors supplied by MoE, daily classroom cleaning and cleaning of high touch surfaces, teaching, promoting and maintaining good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette, appropriate physical distancing whenever we can and, most importantly, asking you to keep your child at home if they are sick.

We are looking forward to a few less restrictions and returning to school life that is a bit closer to normal.

Ngā mihi

He whānau kotahi tātou - We are one family



Anand Muthoo

***Principal***

**Green Bay School**