

22 July 2022

Kia ora koutou

***Staying in Orange and Masking Up***

Welcome back to school for Term 3 (next week). We hope you all are still enjoying a well-deserved break.

In previous years we have found there is an increase in winter illnesses in schools at the start of Term 3 as students bring back infections after travelling and socialising during the holidays. This year cases of COVID-19 are increasing in most parts of the country, and we are also seeing high numbers of other winter illnesses.

For the start of Term 3, 2022, the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health strongly recommend that all schools and kura amend their mask protocols for the first four weeks of term to require mask wearing in all indoor settings for students in Years 4 and above.

This recommendation does not include any situation where mask wearing might not be practicable, such as while eating and drinking, playing certain musical instruments, indoor sport, where it will have a significant impact on teaching and learning (for example, students with particular learning needs), certain activities such as singing or drama performance on stage, and PE. In these situations, particular attention will be paid to ensuring there is good ventilation during the activity, and physical distancing where practicable.

Please make sure that tamariki/ākonga come to school ready to wear masks. Students should bring masks from home. If students cannot bring masks from home, they will be supplied one from school. We know that some of our tamariki/ākonga are exempt from wearing a mask. If they have an exemption card or a letter from their health provider, we will support them to not wear a mask. **Apply for a face mask exemption pass – Unite Against COVID-19**

Thank you for your support in protecting our school community.

Ngā mihi

He whānau kotahi tātou - We are one family



Anand Muthoo

***Principal***

**Green Bay School**