



Letter #10

Friday 18 March 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou Katoa

This week has been rather busy throughout the school hence this newsletter is being sent to you on Friday. I am pleased to say it has been busy as this means we are continuing with planned activities. Some of the activities and events have been altered but at least we are no longer having to postpone or cancel.

It is nice to have more students are now back at school and attendance is beginning to rise again. As of yesterday we had 85.8% attendance. It has been fantastic to see more parents at special events such as Merit Assemblies and school trips and we are hoping that very soon we will open up our school to parents more as the number of positive cases in the school decreases. Keep an eye out in the emails being sent out.

## HOW OUR SCHOOL IS TRACKING WITH COVID

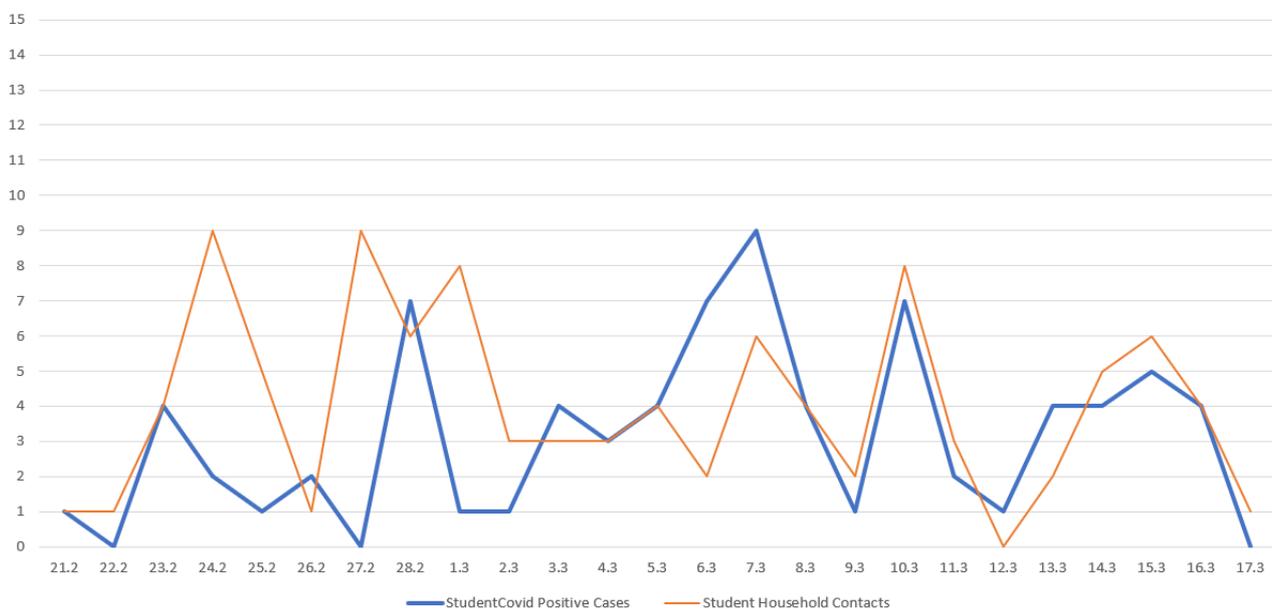
Last night at the board meeting I presented these graphs to the members. You can continue to track new daily cases in the newsletter section of the school website. Some interesting points to note:

- The number of household contacts have been decreasing over the last week and some class sizes are returning to normal
- The number of our children testing positive has been decreasing with only one student on some days
- We are yet to reach a day with 0 new cases
- There have been very few staff who have tested positive
- The number of staff isolating at any one time has been low
- The reduction in the numbers of days one is required to isolate is increasing the speed with which children can return to school
- The symptoms of those testing positive to COVID-19 in general has been worse for adults than it has been for children

### Student Positive Cases and Household Contacts from 21 February to 17 March 2022

(Based on the date the school is notified by home)

TOTAL POSITIVE CASES = 78 HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS = 93 (excludes positive cases)

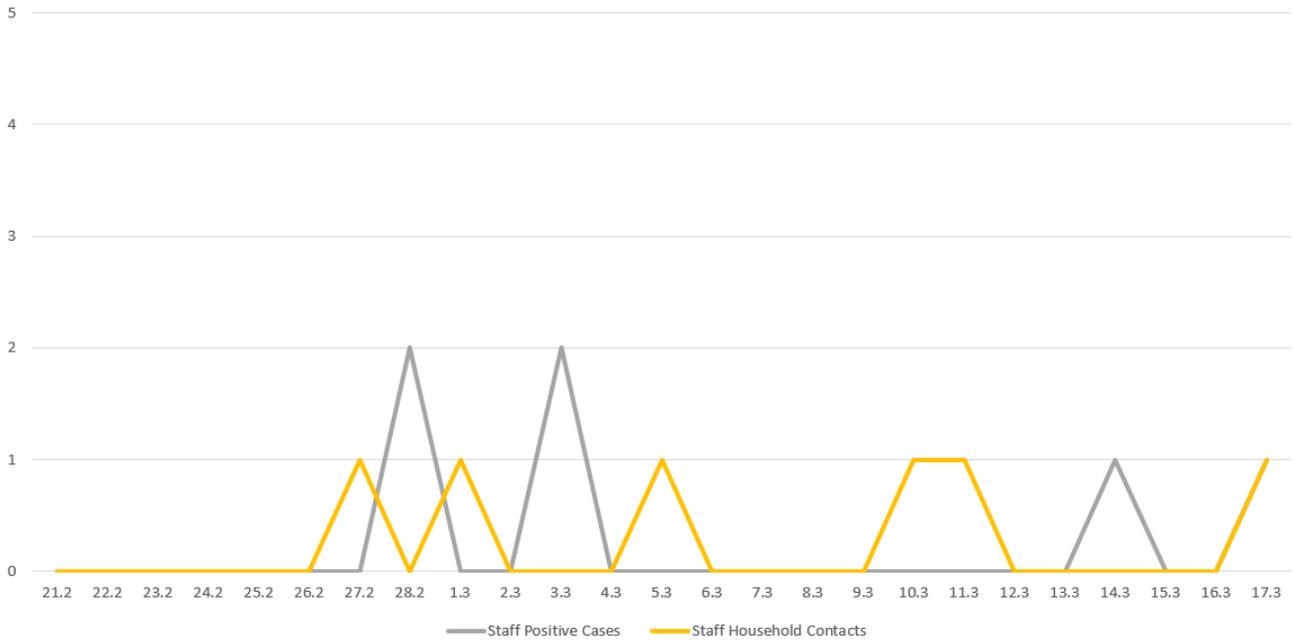


### Staff Positive Cases and Household Contacts from 21 February to 17 March 2022

(Based on the date the Ministry of Education is notified)

TOTAL STAFF CASES = 6

TOTAL STAFF HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS = 6 (excludes positive cases)



## MERIT CERTIFICATES Y1, Y3, Y6, Y8

It was fantastic see children receive Merit certificates this week. This, being my first time, I was so impressed by some of the comments written by the teachers regarding their students' effort and attitude to learning. It was also nice that parents could share in their child's achievements.

Next week will be the turn of Year 2, 4, 5 and 7





Yr	Rm	Name
1	2	Mason B
1	2	Ava O'G
1	2	Valentina K
1	2	Thomas N
1	7	Mack J
1	7	Levi E
1	7	Sam C
1	8	Thomas G
1	8	Dante M
1	8	Charlotte P
1	8	Harrison W
3	11	Lachlan H
3	11	Lera N
3	11	Finn N
3	11	Olivia M
3	12	Delilah T
3	12	Maddie C
3	12	Zach A
3	12	Yijun P
3	13	Nikki G
3	13	Adriana J
3	13	Caspar J B
3	13	Tyler Y

Yr	Rm	Name
6	21	Luke M
6	21	Spencer L
6	21	Lily A
6	21	Ruby M
6	22	Matty G
6	22	Zak A
6	22	Emma D
6	22	Leo H
6	23	Livia P
6	23	Ira P
6	23	Jack S
6	23	Reid S
8	14	Zack H
8	14	Charlotte M
8	14	Eline P
8	14	Myra P
8	14	William L
8	15	Blake S
8	15	Shara L
8	15	Cleo L
8	15	Seb C
8	15	Marin S
8	19	Alyssa S
8	19	Napatsakorn M
8	19	Chad F
8	19	Lucas P
8	19	Kate Y

## MISSING LIBRARY BOOKS

With all the disruptions due to COVID last year, quite a few of our library books are missing from the shelves in the library. We would appreciate if you could have a look around your home for any books which may have been mislaid or forgotten about during the upheaval of lockdowns.

We would be grateful if you could return any found books either to the school office or your child can return them to the library during their class library time.

Your help is greatly appreciated in maintaining the wonderful resource our school library provides for everyone to enjoy.

## WRITING FOR A PURPOSE

The students in Room 18 have been learning to write letters. For their unit of work, 'Writing for a Purpose' they decided to write to the residents at Ryman Healthcare's Grace Joel Village. They were very excited to receive the children's letters, so much so that the letters from the children featured in their newsletter which goes out to 12,000 residents in 43 retirement villages.

Well done to all the young writers in Room 18 and Miss Mill for encouraging her class to become excited about writing.

<https://bit.ly/Rm18Letters>



## STEPPING OUT WITH CONSTABLE GORDAN



**Stepping Out** has been developed by the NZ Police because they are concerned about the safety of young children on our roads. The sad fact is that children aged 5-9 years are our highest casualty group. For this reason, and because the road safety skills of these children are undeveloped, the NZ Police recommend that children aged five or six do not cross the road on their own and where possible walk to school with someone older.

Stepping Out is taught by Year 1 teachers with the support of our Police Education officer Constable Gordan.

Throughout the week, Constable Gordan assisted teachers with the practical component of the programme where the children were learning to use the crossing safely. Year 1 teachers would like to thank Constable Gordan for his support.



Research shows that children learn best about road safety when they are taken out for practical activities with a responsible adult. We encourage parents to take every opportunity they can to take their child out and ask them about safe road practices. Parents should also be aware of the importance of modelling safe road safety practices.



## ST PATRICK'S DAY

Yesterday the school celebrated St Patrick's Day. The children could add to their uniform by wearing something green. We are lucky enough to have two staff members from Ireland. Mr Shoer, our wonderful caretaker and Miss Kennedy, our fabulous teacher in Room 26. I know a lot of our families have close ties to Ireland. The staff had a lovely morning tea in the staffroom which was decorated with lots of green.



## TWO IMPORTANT NOTICES

### Accord Teacher Only Day

We would like to give you advanced notice of a Teacher Only Day on **Tuesday 7 June**. This is the day after Queen's Birthday. The school will be closed to all students on that day.

The teachers collective agreement allowed 8 Teacher Only days to be held from mid 2019 to 2022. We have two days left, the 7th of June is the first of these two days.

These days are to provide teachers and principals additional time to :

- Deepen their knowledge and practice around the local curriculum (within the context of the removal of national standards)
- Strengthen their understanding of the use of assessment tools for learning and teaching
- Respond to the recommendations of the education work programme in the Curriculum, Progress and Achievement (CPA) Report
- Familiarise themselves with curriculum work changes that will become available over the term of the collective agreements.

### Out-of-Zone Places

There will be 5 places for students who live outside the school enrolment zone who turn 5 after 1 May 2022 and before 8 June 2022.

There will be 10 places for students who live outside the school enrolment zone who turn 5 after June 7 2022 and before 18 October 2022.

Applications **open on Wednesday 23 March**, when the ad appears in The East and Bays Courier, and **close at 3pm, Thursday 5 May 2022**. If a ballot is required this will be held on Friday 6 May 2022.

We will also send the ad out to you via eTAP next Wednesday.

Out-of-Zone Applications for 2023 will be advertised to the community in August this year.

Please contact the office for further information.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 22 March	Year 2 Merit Certificate Assembly
Wednesday 23 March	Year 7 Merit Certificate Assembly Swimming Sports—Year 5 and Year 8 Out-of-Zone Applications open
Thursday 24 March	Year 4 Merit Certificate Assembly
Friday 25 March	Year 5 Merit Certificate Assembly Swimming Sports—Year 6 and Year 7
Tuesday 29 March	Excellence Awards Year 1/2
Wednesday 30 March	Excellence Awards Year 7/8
Thursday 31 March	Excellence Awards Year 3/4
Friday 1 April	Excellence Awards Year 5/6

NB: The Student Leaders for 2022 will be announced at a special assembly on Friday 8 April at 2pm.

Next week I will be sharing all the reports and photos from the Year 7 team about Challenges Week. Enjoy your weekend and take care of yourself and your family.

Noho ora mai

Sean Valvoi  
Principal