

Monday 23 March, 2020

Dear Parents and Whanau,

With so much information and misinformation going around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what would happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this, and are in a position to respond quickly.

As soon as a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (e.g. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Education will inform me about this, and we will work together to get quick and clear messaging out to you. This will be done through our **web site** www.fairburn.school.nz and our **school text messaging system**.

If there was a case confirmed in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.

If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan to put in place to support each student's learning. Tomorrow all students will be given a **Home Learning Book** with some activities already prepared that are suitable for home learning. Please keep the **Home Learning Book**, to have ready in case the school is closed temporarily. Each student will also be given some readers to use while the school is closed. If school needs to stay closed longer than a week, then online learning will be provided. Instructions for this are also included in the **Home Learning Book**.

We know that COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with no confirmed case confirmed in our school, your children are safe here.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practising good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Kind regards,

Paula Passfield
PRINCIPAL