

22 March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Following the message in the weekend from our Prime Minister, I'm sure you will all be aware of the rapidly evolving situation in regards to the COVID19 pandemic.

For us at our school, we remain open and are continuing with business as usual until directed by the Ministries of Health and Education to do otherwise. We are aiming to keep routines and continuity for our students. We know that the normality of daily life does much to alleviate anxiety and help with our overall wellbeing. We are also aware that some of you who have children with immune or respiratory issues, or someone older or younger in your household with health challenges, will now need to make decisions based on lessening risks for those you care for. If you do decide to keep your children at home for these reasons then please let us know.

School closure is a possibility but hopefully some time away, and ideally would coincide with the upcoming school holidays! The planned response from the Ministry of Health is that extended (14 days or more) school closures will only happen if there are a number of community transferred cases. If they are regional, then schools in regions will close, if it is national, then all schools will close. If school closure does occur we will implement our home learning plans that staff are working on.

Please look after your children and yourselves. The way we respond to crisis and care for those around us becomes a true reflection of our character and the better people we all strive to be. We are here to help, however we can and do appreciate that many of you also hold key roles in our wider community at a time like this. We are also very aware that economic challenges and hardship are likely to prove challenging too. Please do be in touch with us if we can help you at all, or if you have any questions or concerns.

Ngā mihi nui **Murray Overton** Principal 021 082 50118 principal@kbs.school.nz

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19, FLU AND COLD



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SOURCE: WHO, CDC CC-BY-SA