



Bathgate Park School

Te Mea Nui, He Tangata

Term 1 Week 4

Kia ora koutou, Mālō e lelei, Talofa, Bula, Ola, Namaste, Kamusta, Bonjour, Ni hau, Greetings to you all.

If you are like me, you are thinking that this term is speeding by. I can't believe that the end of Week 4 is already upon us. Classes have settled in nicely and have made a successful start to understanding and following routines and expectations. It is lovely to see the older tamariki in the class act as tuakana and support the new and / or younger members of the class. Ka rawe!

COVID is something that is on everyone's mind at the moment. You may well have seen the headlines in the media about the numbers of cases being seen in schools. Please don't be alarmed by this. It is only natural as cases in our community increase, they will appear in our school. We have really good systems in place to respond to this and to keep any spread of the virus - should it appear - to a minimum. I wanted to assure you we are as ready as we can be for this to happen.

You may have seen Dr Jin Russell in the media noting [research from New South Wales about their recent Omicron outbreak](#) showing that spread within the school setting is very low (less than 4% of cases at school infected someone else when at school). We have seen that in New Zealand too.

This is why we remain open at Red. It's great for a child's wellbeing and learning to be at school with their friends and school staff, and we have very good systems in place to keep everyone as safe as possible

We are now moving from RED Phase 2 to RED Phase 3 of the Omicron response, and this again sees the steps and categories change. With Phase 3 of the Omicron response, the key change is that it is only confirmed cases and their household contacts need to self-isolate. Everyone else, including those who may have had close contact with the case but aren't in the household, must continue to monitor really closely for any symptoms of COVID-19.

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are now being used to diagnose COVID-19 as well as PCR tests. This means that you will get an almost immediate test result back if a RAT is used.

If anyone in your family is confirmed as having COVID-19, you will be asked to notify your

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ACT	RESPECT	OWN	HAVE	ALWAYS
Kindly and gently	Yourself, others and the environment	Your actions	A positive attitude	Do your best



Sun Hats

A reminder that sun hats are compulsory for Term 1.



Otago Anniversary Day

School will be closed for Otago Anniversary Day on Monday 21 March.



AROHA Certificates

Congratulations to the following people who have been spotted consistently displaying AROHA at BGP.



close contacts yourself. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can if your child has tested positive for COVID-19.

Transmission of COVID-19 is still most likely to happen in your home – so please keep doing all those good things to keep your whānau safe. Wash your hands, get lots of fresh air, cover any coughs and sneezes, clean surfaces regularly, and seek advice if anyone is not feeling well. And please wear a mask when you are out and about. There is information online to help your family [prepare to isolate](#) if you need to.

Please think about who you visit and what health measures you can put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Finally, we know how hard the impacts on COVID-19 have been for many families in New Zealand. If you know of a family in your community who is struggling, please encourage them to reach out for support for example to access food, medicine, or access financial support: [Help is available – COVID-19 Health Hub](#).

At school we continue to review and revise the steps taken to maximise safety but should your child need to self isolate because they are COVID positive, or are a household member of someone else in the family, then we are ready to support with hard material distance learning packs and /or our digital remote learning site.

If any one has any concerns or worries, please email me at katrina@bathgatepark.school.nz and I will respond as soon as I am able. If the matter is time sensitive please phone the office and leave a message and I will respond that day.

This year we have split our classes into teams which we have named. We have the Kākano team which is made up of Rehua, Tāne Mahuta and Haumia. Kākano means seed = it conveys growth, development and expansion. We have the Pūawai team which is made up of Uenuku, Rūaumoko and Tāwhaki. Pūawai means bloom = it conveys growth, coming to fruition and flourishing. You may receive notices which reference these new names.

PB4L

Week 5's focus setting is **All Settings**

The expectations being taught, reinforced and acknowledged are:

- Keep hands and feet to yourself.

Tidiest Class Room

Term 1 Week 2: Tāwhaki

Term 1 Week 3: Tāne Mahuta

2022 Dates

First day of Term 1 - Monday 31 January 2022

Otago Anniversary Day - Monday 21 March 2022= SCHOOL CLOSED

Last day of Term 1 - Thursday 14 April

Last day of School Year - Wednesday 14 December 2022



Dress Red for Tonga Mufti day

Pictured are some of the classes dressed in red to raise money in support of Tonga.



Duffy Caught Being Good

Congratulations to the following people for the wonderful work and AROHA



Complaints Policy

Being emailed alongside this week's newsletter is a copy of the school's 'Concerns and Complaints' procedures. This is printed annually and handed out early to ensure all members of our school community are aware of the correct process to follow if an issue or concern needs to be addressed. We do appreciate discussing and resolving matters early. This is always available on the school website.

If you want a chat, have questions or a small concern please don't hesitate to contact your children's classroom teacher first then team leader or myself. Issues that are small are so much easier to deal with rather than waiting. If we don't know about them, we are unable to work towards finding a possible solution. We can't guarantee to solve everything, but we are here to listen and work with you.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The next Board meeting is taking place Wednesday 2 March 6.30pm via zoom. Please find attached the link if you would like to attend.

<https://zoom.us/j/96332462779?pwd=ME0zSkhwTmc3cldLT2NTM2xEdGhIU09>

