

# Botany Downs Primary School

Monday 1 March 2021

***Our BEST - Always***



***Kia ora koutou,***

Thank you once again for being so supportive during these changing times. The events planned this week for our children have only been postponed, not cancelled, and we are aiming to continue with them when we are out of Alert Level 3. More information will be sent out when we are able to let you know the confirmed dates and times.

Last week we were aware that a very small number of our school community were being asked to isolate for a period of time as a precaution. We would like to thank those families who informed the school of the situation and strictly followed the ministry of health guidelines.

Please be reassured we have good systems in place with our cleaning, good hand hygiene practices and contact tracing systems in place. We take the health and wellbeing of our community very seriously. We will continue to follow all public health advice and ask you to do the same.

## **An Update on Information from the Ministry of Health**

With further cases confirmed, the Government announced that the whole of Auckland will move from Alert Level 1 to Alert Level 3 for 7 days hours from 6am Sunday morning.

This decision was taken for two reasons – first it is not immediately clear how the latest person to test positive got infected and second, that person has visited several large sites while potentially infectious and it will take some time to identify and track down what could be a large number of people.

Level 3 means stay home to protect your household bubble and if you do have to go out, keep a 2-metre distance from people you don't know. Where possible you should keep your children home from school for this period.

We have opened for those of you who have no other options but to send your children to school and we will have safety precautions in place to look after them.

We have activated our distance learning plan. Our priority is to stay connected to you and your tamariki. We will do everything we need to for your children and your whānau.

For all of our community, we need to keep ourselves, family and whānau safe. It's important we follow the rules.

If you aren't sure if you have been to a place where someone with COVID has visited – please go to the [Ministry of Health website for the 'Locations of Interest'](#). Check the date and time of each location listed in the table and if you were there at the same time, go to the right column on the right to see what you need to do.

COVID-19 symptoms can vary a lot with each person, so while we are familiar with the following symptoms:

- a new or worsening cough
- fever (at least 38°C)
- shortness of breath
- a sore throat
- sneezing and runny nose
- temporary loss of smell.



Some people may present with less typical symptoms such as only one of the following:

- muscle pain
- fever
- diarrhoea
- headache
- nausea/vomiting
- confusion/irritability.

**If you or your whānau experience any of these symptoms, please contact your GP or Healthline (0800 358 5453) for advice and get tested if advised to do so.**

As the team at [All Right?](#) say: *It's all right to feel over this right now but we all know what to do, we have done this before and we will do it again, together.*

Thank you all for doing the right thing in our community. Please do not hesitate to make contact if you have any concerns or questions.

We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

**Ngā mihi**  
**Vicki Parkins (Principal)**

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### **School Board of Trustees Election**

Nominations are open for the election of two parent representatives to the board of trustees.

All eligible voters will receive a nomination form and a notice calling for nominations – you can use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community.

If you need more nomination forms, contact the school office.

Nominations close at noon on Sunday 7 March 2021. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination.

The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day, which you can view.

Voting closes at 4pm on Friday 9 April 2021.

**Steph Elder, Returning Officer**

