



6th April 2022

Kia ora koutou,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and gently transitioning into winter like we are here in Nelson. It's been a beautiful autumn and we have fingers crossed winter will follow suit.

Covid-19

Thank you all for your support over what has been a very long and disrupted term. We thank you especially for working with us in managing our boys who have needed to return home to isolate and/ or recover from Covid-19.

50% of our boarders have now had Covid-19 and their experiences have all ranged widely from displaying no symptoms to feeling very unwell. We have continued to keep an eye on the energy levels and coping ability of our boys as they have returned back to us from isolation.

Staff continue to wear masks while on duty in the houses and everyone still wears masks in the dining room when not seated. Our hygiene and cleaning measures continue to be elevated and visitors entering the houses are still kept at a minimum.

Activities

Despite not being able to host our beginning of the year BBQs, Sports Weekend, or enjoy our traditional Kaiteriteri Beach day, our boarding community has still had a busy term with activities. Flip Out, Laser Tag, hydro sliding and river swims have all featured. Boys and staff have also enjoyed numerous Mt biking rides throughout the term.

Boarding Open Day

This term we have been unable to complete our boarding marketing trips, but we are still planning for Saturday 7th May as our Boarding Open Day. The day will run from 10am to 1pm and it is an opportunity for interested families to come along, meet with us, see our facilities, and get a sense of whether we are a 'fit' for their son. If you have a son in Year 7 or 8, and/or you know of anybody who might be interested in attending this open day, can you please pass on these details. We'd love to meet them.

Attendance System

A reminder that the school emails out attendance concerns to day parents directly to make them aware of any patterns of concern as they develop. In boarding, these emails go to Housemasters in the first instance, who follow up concerns directly with students. Parents are informed about attendance concerns by Housemasters if a pattern develops and persists.

Vehicles

Thank you to all parents who have completed our vehicle permission process for boarders to have a car or motorbike in boarding. We appreciate your support with this. For those parents who wish their Year 12 or 13 son to begin to have a vehicle in Term 2, please follow this link and complete.

[Boarding Vehicle Permission Online Form](#)

Medical

House staff are managing the medical needs of boys within the houses this year in the first instance. Whether it's Covid-19 related or general illness, our houses have procedures and sick rooms for this purpose. Where possible, if boys are unwell, we continue to ask parents of domestic boarders to organise for them to return home.

With flu season approaching, we encourage you to organise for your son(s) to receive the flu vaccine. Please remember to inform the school immediately if there are any changes to your son's health and especially if there are new issues that have developed. It is important that we have accurate and up-to-date information on your son(s) at all times.

Winter Uniform

Please ensure that when your son returns from the April holidays, he has sufficient warm clothing and uniform for winter. Please make sure this is all named.

Finally

Boarding closes this term on Thursday 14th April at 5pm. Please organise for your son to be collected by this time. We reopen on Sunday 1st May from lunchtime.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday.

Ngā mihi,

Samme Hippolite
Director of Boarding