

Kia ora koutou Fruitvale Whanau,



We are writing to you following the Government's announcement that plans are underway to support the return to onsite learning for all schools who are in Alert Level 3 areas and to do this in a way that is as safe as possible.

The restrictions of Alert Level 3 and 4 have been a real challenge to the wellbeing of our tamariki and whānau and we have heard from many of you that your tamariki are keen to see their friends and teachers kanoahi ki te kanoahi.(face to face)

You can be reassured that any decisions about bringing more children and staff on-site will be done in accordance with strict public health guidance – so what on-site learning will look like will be different than Alert Level 2 or Alert Level 1 settings. For example, this might mean attending school two days a week and learning from home for the other three.

The earliest a return to school will happen is 15 November, and we will provide more information about this closer to the time.

In the meantime, vaccination and testing remains the best thing we can do to keep whānau and our community as safe as possible. COVID-19 is finding those who are unvaccinated in this outbreak.

For this current outbreak (as at 25 October), 224 people have been hospitalised with only 6 (3%) of these people fully vaccinated. Of the 2,681 cases in the outbreak, 1,984 (74%) had not received one dose of the vaccine (541 were not eligible for vaccination as they were under 12).

We need to look after our most vulnerable people *which includes our under 12 year olds*, and it is great to see our community vaccination rates continue to go up. There are also now three million New Zealanders fully vaccinated – which is fantastic news!

Please do encourage your friends and whānau who might be worried about the vaccine to seek good information from health practitioners, so they can make a well-informed decision.

See you all at the School ZOOM at 12pm tomorrow, Friday 29 October

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa

*Donal McLean*  
*Principal*

*Poata Eruera*  
*BOT chairperson*