

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia Ora Katoa

Thank you for your support this week as we navigated our way through our first positive COVID cases at school, our numbers are still low. As part of our process, I sent a letter out to the whole school community explaining that we had positive COVID cases in the school. In the future we will be informing parents and caregivers of students from the class concerned. *Please be assured we will inform you if there has been a positive case in your child's class.*

To date, it is unlikely that we have had any cases that have resulted from transmission within our school setting. This is an endorsement of the health measures adopted by the school and is ensuring our school continues to be a safe place for both staff and students.

We are now following a plan based on PHASE 3.

The Graphic Chart provides a guide for parents at Phase 3. The Graphic Chart also contains links to Google forms that we would like parents to complete to assist our management of students not attending school. The links are on the <u>Browns Bay</u> <u>School ABSENCE</u> page. (See also attached PDF).

The key information for Phase 3 is:

- Only household contacts of a case must isolate.
- All other contacts should continue to monitor for symptoms. If any arise, they should stay home from school and get a test.
- Staff, parents and caregivers should notify Browns Bay School if they or their child was positive while at school.
- A case will need to isolate at home for 10 days, as will anyone else in the household.



- Anyone who tests positive with a RAT test will need to report this to the Ministry of Health and then isolate for 10 days. There is no longer a need to follow up with a PCR test to confirm that result.
- Students who are currently self-isolating as close contacts and **are not household contacts** can stop isolating and return to school if they are asymptomatic. They are not required to produce a negative test result.

CHILD ABSENCES

I realise some parents are making the decision to keep children home who are **not** Household Close Contacts. I would encourage you to send your child to school as we have put in place a number of safe practices to reduce the spread of Covid 19. At Browns Bay School we have well ventilated rooms, sanitisers, regular cleaning, regular breaks throughout the day, and designated playground zones. Year 4 to 6 students are wearing masks, and we are keeping the children in their class groups.

We are also aware that students need to have contact with their peers and a structured learning programme. We are not providing a teacher supported programme for students who do not have to self-isolate for health or family reasons.

Close Contacts of a Covid positive family member or a student with health concerns are the only students eligible for the Distance Learning programme with Teacher support. If you choose to keep your child at home and they are only a Casual Contact or you have concerns about Covid-19 then this is an "explained yet unjustified" absence.

If you are choosing to do this then please complete an absence form on the <u>Browns Bay School</u> website or email <u>hollyh@brownsbay.school.nz</u>.

MASKS

We would appreciate parents discussing with Year 4 to 6 children the appropriate way to wear and manage a mask.

FUTURE PLANNING

It is likely, at some stage in the near future, we may have to make adjustments to our school programme that may result in students learning from home. This will possibly occur if our teaching staff need to isolate or become positive cases. I will be sharing with you our planning around that possibility soon.

Thank you all for the respectful and kind way you have responded to our recent positive cases. I will continue to update you as the situation evolves.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

Stacey Strang was nominated and selected as the Browns Bay School Board's Presiding Member (Chair) at our first meeting of 2022. Stacey can be contacted through the <u>bbs@brownsbay.school.nz</u> email.



The Board have decided to select a school community member to complete Daniel Smith's remaining term of office until the Board Elections in September this year. To begin this process the Board is required to publish the Notice:

New Zealand Government

Browns Bay School Board

Casual vacancy for a parent representative

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to Stacey Strang <u>bbs@brownsbay.school.nz</u> before 25 March 2022. This year is an election year for Board members and if you are interested in becoming a Board member, the <u>NZSTA</u> <u>website</u> has a lot of good information.

TRIMPER

Our banner photograph shows TRIMPER our school and Travelwise mascot. TRIMPER stands for our school values:

- T Taking
- R Responsibility
- I Inquiring
- M Minds
- P Personal
- E Excellence
- R Respect

Trimper helps our students remember the Travelwise plan and our school values. In the School Notices section of the newsletter, we have outlined the Travelwise road plan and procedures for road safety.



Peter Mulcahy PRINCIPAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

A full schedule of events for Term 1 2022 is available on our website calendar with the most current events included in each newsletter.

Wednesday 02 March – Level 5 Waterwise	Wednesday 02 March – FOTS Meeting – 7pm - Zoom
Monday 07 March – Year 3 Outdoor Education Day	Tuesday 08 March – Year 3 Outdoor Education Day
Wednesday 09 March – Level 5 Waterwise	Friday 11 March – Junior Outdoor Education Day
Wednesday 13 April – Last day of Term 1	Thursday 14 April - Teacher Only Day (school closed)
Monday 02 May – Term 2 Starts	

SCHOOL EVENTS

MILLENIUM CENTRE

We were very pleased to be able to take our Level 4 Waterwise students to the Millennium Centre on Wednesday this week for their programme. Approximately 80 students attended, split into a morning and afternoon session. The children took part in 5 activities:

- Deep water boat drills
- Opti capsize drill
- Swimming
- Survival and Endurance skills
- Underwater Skills

Those children that were successful have been invited to take part in the Sailing Programme beginning next Wednesday at Waiake Beach.









YEAR 1 CHILDREN IN ACTION

Our Year 1 children have been learning about our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Personal Excellence and using our Inquiring Minds during Te Matai. They have also been painting outside on sunny days, enjoying time in the Studio, playing on the playground and reading in the library.





ICAS MEDAL WINNERS

We are extremely proud to be able to announce that three of our students achieved **top marks** in last year's ICAS exams and will be awarded a medal. It is not very often that we have a medal winner, and to have three students in one year is a first! We will award the medals in person at a later date and share



photos in the newsletter but for now, here is a sneak preview of the actual medals. Jonathan, Olivia and Blair, huge congratulations to you all on such a significant achievement.

JONATHAN XU

Year 5 in 2021 - ICAS Medal Winner for MATHEMATICS

OLIVIA CHEN Year 4 in 2021 - ICAS Medal Winner for SCIENCE

BLAIR YAN

Year 4 in 2021 - ICAS Medal Winner for SCIENCE











SCHOOL NOTICES

SCHOOL DONATIONS

I would like to acknowledge the payment of donations recently. They have a direct impact on the quality of education we can offer your children. Although our school is funded through an Operation Grant which covers fixed running costs, we are very reliant on donations to maintain the standard we expect with extra Teacher hours, Teacher Aides, professional development for staff, computer equipment and new classroom resources.

Please note that there are various ways to pay this donation and it can be claimed as a tax rebate at the end of the financial year (March 31, 2022). Tax receipts are available from Kindo, while cash/eftpos payments will receive an emailed Tax Receipt from the school.

TRAVELWISE PLAN AND PROCEDURES

The roads around the school are getting busy in the mornings and afternoons. We have several processes in place to ensure the safety of the children, yet this relies on adults modelling the correct behaviours. I would ask that everyone be mindful of the message they are sending to their children when around roads. The processes we ask that you support us with are:



Pedestrian Crossings

We have two Pedestrian crossings in operation in the morning and afternoon and we ask that you please use them with your children. These crossings are controlled by teachers with students from Year 5 and 6. We ask that you cross when the students call out: **CROSS NOW** – this means they have looked for traffic, put the barrier arms out and have decided it is safe to cross.

Drop Off Bay

The drop off/pick up zone is on Masterton Road and is patrolled by Mr Mulcahy, Mr Miller or Mr Cebalo in the morning and afternoon. This is not a place that cars can wait – please move on if your child is not waiting for you. Parents are reminded to stay in the car and children can get in or out by themselves. Queues of cars waiting to get into the pick-up area cause a huge amount of traffic congestion on both Masterton Road and Browns Bay Road. It is often a good idea to wait until around 3.10pm to pick up your child from the pick-up zone.

Road Markings

Please remember to obey the road markings (e.g., broken yellow lines mean NO PARKING).

Bikes and Scooters

Year 5 and Year 6 children, with a signed 'Application for Approval to ride a Bicycle to School' licence may ride their bikes or scooters to school without adult supervision. The form is available from the school office.





FOTS – Friends of the School

FOTS MEETING

Friends of the School (Parent group supporting Browns Bay School).

Our first meeting for 2022 will be a zoom meeting on Wednesday 02 March at 7.00 p.m. If you would like to attend this meeting to find out about FOTS please email us to let us know at <u>fots@my.school.nz</u>.

FOTS will then send you a link to the meeting.

CONTACT FOTS

If you'd like to subscribe to our volunteer's mailing list, or if you wish to learn more, please email fots@my.brownsbayschool.nz, or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/Browns-Bay-School-Friends-of-the-School.

FACEBOOK

Did you know we share a Facebook page with Browns Bay School? For news, photos, updates and event information, search <u>www.facebook.com/Browns-Bay-School-Friends-of-the-School</u>.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



F.O.T.S BROWING BAY SCHOOL



HOW TO REDEEM

ONLINE: enter "F587EF895" in the promo code field during checkout at WWW.TORPEDO7.CO.NZ - remember you can select click and collect to skip the queues and pick up local

INSTORE: show this fiver printed or on your device to one of our great instore staff



The Deal: Save up to 50% off Valid Dates: 16 February – 1 March 2022

Please see the PDF flyer attached in this link: T7 Flyer Download, along with a JPG version for social media groups and/or newsletters. Feel free to share this deal with your community, friends and family :)

How to redeem: In store - Show the attached flyer. Store staff to scan the barcode Online - See the promo code on flyer to use at the online checkout: **F587EF895**

Terms and Conditions: Discounts are off RRP. If the product is already on promotion customer will receive the lower of offer or promo pricing. Not all products are eligible for a discount. Variations in the regional COVID-19 alert levels may cause a delay in non-essential orders being shipped. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Excludes Bikes and Frames, Electronics, Freight, Gift Cards and Workshop Services. Valid from 16/02/2022 to 01/03/2022.

