Teenaa koutou e te whaanau Dear Parents / Caregivers

It has been great to get the life of the school back again. We have had an average of 80% at school this week and the students are really enjoying being around CHS again. There are a few things to share with you today:

- Last week of term
- Y10 trips
- What happens if we get a case?
- Student vaccination status register

**Last week of term.** On the 13<sup>th</sup> December we will celebrate the end of the year with our Year 9s. We will run a series of great activities in the morning, followed by a celebration of a range of student success and achievement. The senior leaders from 2021 and 2022 will then join us to run an activity. The day will finish at approximately 1:30pm. This will be the last day for the Year 9s.

The Year 10s will be involved in trips. We will have a celebration of student success and achievement on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.

**Year 10 trips.** With the surprise announcement that we were going to Level 2 we were able to re-imagine the Year 10 trips going ahead. These are a huge highlight for our students, and we know they would really value finishing their seriously disrupted year in such a positive way. In running these trips there are a few things that are essential for us to enable the trips to go ahead:

- There will be a range of trips available for **all** Year 10 students to choose from.
- Families are empowered to make the decision they are comfortable with:
  - We will offer some trips with no cost to families, so that there is an engaging and free option.
  - We will ensure there is a range of local and travelling options so you can select your level of risk exposure.
  - COVID safety concerns are addressed on each trip (this is particular to the nature of the trip and details will be shared by the trip leader). We will adhere to all COVID requirements and ensure that all providers we use meet the expectations of the Ministry of Health, including vaccination expectations. By participating in the trip, students agree to abide by all the expectations of the trip leader, including, for example, the use of face masks as necessary. Some of these measure may be in excess of the minimum Level 2 requirements as we intend to take extra precautions when travelling.
- We have chosen trips that we know well and have run before. This means we know how to amend safety plans to account for new risk factors.
  - Costs for the trips are being recalculated and we will be in touch with details on Tuesday.
- Tuesday 23/11 at 8:40am we will have a Year 10 Trips meeting in the new gym. This is important for all students to attend.
- Other outcomes we have considered.
  - o If we get a confirmed case at CHS and the school is closed all trips will be cancelled.
  - If we get a case or outbreak that directly affects one of the trips that trip will be cancelled.
     Students on this trip will take part in a local option.
  - If we move back to Level 3 but we anticipate that school will be open in the final week we will
    enact our original plan. This is a day of activities outside and onsite at CHS, with a celebration
    assembly on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.
  - All payments from families need to be made in advance of the trip going ahead. We will hold this
    money and only pay the providers once the trip has been completed.

What happens if we get a case in CHS? We have had a couple of parents contact us about what happens if we get a case at CHS. The Ministry of Health will take control of the situation and guide the school and our community through the safe management of the testing, communication and cleaning required. I have been in touch with principals in Auckland who have undergone this process and it is well-managed and very supportive.

**Student vaccination status register.** As with other communicable diseases, such as measles, we need to ask for health information to help us manage the school in the case of an outbreak of the disease. We are legally required to now do this for COVID-19. I need to be clear here, there is not a requirement for you to share this information with us, but it would greatly assist us in our planning and the safety of our students and staff if we do have this information. If you do not share this information, we will need to assume that your child has not been vaccinated when planning and managing events.

How does it work? When you next login to KAMAR through the <u>parent portal</u> you will be prompted to update the vaccine information. You will need to enter the details of the vaccines and submit an image of the supporting evidence, such as a vaccine passport.

Enjoy the sunshine this weekend and the relative freedom of Level 2. Kia pai oo koutou raa whakataa.

**Greg Thornton**