

Bruce McLaren Intermediate School

Principal's Update: 3 November 2021

For Bruce McLaren Intermediate School Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora koutou katoa

I hope that you are staying well in your bubble and making the most of the sunshine when you can.

It is disappointing that we already have high schools closing after 3 days of being open – which is of concern.

At BMIS our commitment is to have everyone as safe as possible. Having the 15th November indicated to us by the government as a day of possible re-opening for Auckland primary schools certainly provides more questions than answers. As soon as I know more I will certainly be updating our community.

Having received information from the MOH and MOE that vaccinations are available for 12yrs and over, I encourage everyone to kōrero and mobilize. There are some great resources for our adolescent to check out. One of these, I suggest you check out first, is <https://gotyadot.co.nz/>, instagram, tik tok, facebook - @gotadot and #GotYaDot where there are many prizes, activities, merchandise, kākahu, device giveaways and spaces for discussion. GotYaDot is about rangatahi mobilizing rangatahi; youth mobilizing youth for better health outcomes. (Your child has probably already seen GotYaDot – my child is usually two steps ahead of me with anything 'online'!).



Unfortunately, due to uncertainty with how schooling will look for the last 26 school days of Term 4, many hard decisions have been made with extremely heavy hearts – going against what our BMIS kaupapa is about. Consideration of Alert Levels, Stages in Alert Levels, on site learning v off site learning, students and numbers of students returning to school, movement in learning spaces, singing, dancing, performing, mixing and mingling, cost and additional pressure of families so close to Christmas and the Summer break while still nested in this time of uncertainty were just a few of the deciders rigourously discussed. Calendar casualties have been FiaFia night, onsite Year 8 Graduation, end of year offsite class/whanau trips and Service Prizegiving. Formal Prize Giving will take a different shape this year also due to COVID-19. However, our staff are working hard to ensure that there is something special for our resiliently fabulous students, in particular, our Year 8 students who are heading off to a high school – watch this space.

To keep you abreast of where BMIS is at with the End Of Year Report, you will receive your child's report by Week 7, Term 4 (by email). The report will be the same format as the Mid Year Report. As you can appreciate, the content will look different due to programmes disrupted by COVID-19.

Interestingly, student engagement is soaring with distance learning. This is a comparison from Week 9 & 10 Term 3 with Week 2, Term 4. Well done to our students for their effort and engagement. Your children know that at BMIS, effort + engagement = achievement. If you get a moment, please check out their classwork and Specialist tasks. Keep those recipes rolling in. There are so many deliberate acts of teaching and learning that are genius – I am rapt!

You are your child's parent/caregiver. If the 15th November becomes the date confirmed for Auckland primary schools to re-open, I want to express to you that if you are wanting to keep your child at home, we at BMIS will provide some classroom work for them to do. BMIS will always be observing MOH & MOE directives and guidelines.

Shortly before we went into lockdown, Eat My Lunch started helping us out with some school lunches for our students. They are an amazing company and we are so grateful for everything they do. They are currently running a competition for students with some great prizes up for grabs! Check out the competition info [HERE](#).

May you be able to enjoy the sunshine while staying in your bubble.

Kia kaha. Kia maia. Kia manawanui.

Ngā mihi

Liz Wood – Principal