



## **PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL**

27<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Kia Ora Whanau

### **Coronavirus notification**

With a number of our families returning from overseas, the following is information for anyone who has travelled or is going to travel overseas for business or pleasure.

We would like to keep a record of families who have travelled to countries effected by the Coronavirus, particularly China in the holiday break or intend travelling there in the next few weeks. Please advise the school by emailing [office@parnell.school.nz](mailto:office@parnell.school.nz) with dates of travel and your destination in China.

As you will be aware there is a developing situation with a new coronavirus originating in Wuhan, Capital of Central China's Hubei Province, with confirmed cases now in Hong Kong, France, the United States, Malaysia, and Australia. The reason for this notification is to provide you with information so you can be better prepared when travelling overseas or coming into contact with people from the areas that have reported cases. The Ministry of Education will be issuing guidance for schools to ensure the safety of all children, and any appropriate information will be passed on to our families.

We have to recommend caution in this time to ensure the safety of all our community, including our staff. If you or close family members have recently returned from an area effected by the Coronavirus, we recommend you stay home for at least 7 days until you are confident that you are free of the virus. Any children reporting to the sick bay displaying symptoms will be sent home immediately.

The following fact sheet from the Ministry of Health may also be helpful.

[https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/novel-coronavirus-information-for-travellers-arriving-to-new-zealand\\_0.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/novel-coronavirus-information-for-travellers-arriving-to-new-zealand_0.pdf)

Coronaviruses are a large and diverse family of viruses which include viruses that are known to cause illness in animals and humans, including the common cold, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

Signs and Symptoms?

The signs and symptoms reported are mainly fever, with a few cases having difficulty breathing.

The virus is an invasive pneumonic which infiltrates both lungs.

*Where is it found?*

The coronavirus was initially reported in the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan, China. There are no cases of 2019-nCoV in New Zealand to date. The risk of an outbreak in New Zealand is low, but the Ministry of Health is monitoring the situation closely. If any public health measures are needed for this virus, they will advise.

### *What do I need to know?*

WHO advises the following basic principles to reduce the general risk of acute respiratory infections:

- Avoid close contact with people suffering acute respiratory infections;
- Frequently wash hands, especially after contact with ill people or their environment;
- Avoid close contact with sick live farm animals or wild animals;
- People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs/sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands).
- As always, travellers who become sick within a month of their arrival are encouraged to seek medical advice.
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If you are returning to your home country and feel unwell you should contact either your country's Healthline or your doctor. For further information please visit the WHO website <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus> "

Thank you for your support in keeping our community safe

Kind Regards

Richard George

## A note from the PTA

Have you ordered your sunscreen from good give? As well as keeping your child safe in the sun, you will be supporting Parnell District School's PTA.

Register at <https://goodgive.netlify.com/shop>

You'll be assigned your own code to use to identify your child

Your sunscreen is delivered to school and will be given to your child in class