

## 23 February 2022 Term 1 Week 4

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

With the increase of positive cases in Tauranga, it won't be long before it finds its way to the Vale. In light of this, it is an important reminder to please ensure you keep updated with what is happening at school.

**Red Light Rules.** These are in place to protect us and have been directed by the Ministry of Education. As a government organisation, Merivale School must follow the rules so please do not be offended if asked to abide them. They are as follows:

- Please keep children at home if they are unwell. Should they arrive at school unwell we will be contacting caregivers to collect them.
- Safe hygiene practices must be followed when at school - washing hands regularly, using sanitiser on entry to the school and classes, coughing etiquette and distancing when possible.
- **No one is permitted on to school grounds** with the exception of students and staff OR at the discretion of the Principal.
- **All visitors**, including parents, caregivers and whanau, must check in on arrival.
- **Face masks** are to be worn by **all visitors**.
- Students and staff **may** choose to wear masks when outdoors.
- When dropping off or collecting children, parents/caregivers must wait in vehicles or if on foot, waiting at the front entry of the school **maintaining a safe distance from others AND wearing masks.**
- If you have any concerns in regard to a child's return, we encourage contact with the office.

We have also sent out on our website and Facebook page a guide for parents and caregivers of what to do should your child become a positive case or be exposed to one.

Please read through these carefully as they will give advice on whether your child should attend school or not. These can be activated through the following:

**Merivale School website -**

<https://www.merivale.school.nz/>

**Merivale School Facebook page -**

<https://www.facebook.com/merivaleschool/>

**Uniforms.**

These are compulsory for all students and can be purchased at the office. For an invoice, please ask Whaea Jan in the office. If you have any concerns regarding uniforms, please contact me directly. Students must also wear a school hat on fine days. These are also available to purchase from the office.

**School Stationery Packs.**

All stationery should have been purchased through the office by now. If you have any concerns please contact me directly.

**SENCO Support.**

Whaea Heather is currently on medical leave, recovering from knee surgery. For any concerns regarding your child, please contact the office.

**House Captains.**

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected House Captains for 2022:

**WHAITERE :**

**Azaria Ryder Saeron Ahorimo**

**TOHORA:**

**Te Mero Elder Xzechariah Walker**

**TUATARA**

**Aaliyah Te Miha Kanarahi Poharama**

**RURU**

**'Olita Lafo Te Uira Whangamata-Rawson**

Mauriora!

Matua Tom

ESOL Talanoa

Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Mauri,  
Fakatalofa atu , Ram Ram,  
Tena koutou katoa.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

As you can see our taro is thriving and I'm thankful it survived the very dry conditions over the holidays!

The Breakfast Club is operating every morning from 8am - 9am offering a variety of healthy options and our tamariki have been enjoying scrambled eggs this week! During lunchtimes I will be supervising a quiet room where students can take time out of the playground and relax doing art and craft activities etc.

This term our senior ESOL students will be sharing their cultural knowledge around Pasifika food and we will be making some traditional Pasifika recipes.

Nga mihi Whaea Sandra



Taro



Activities in the quiet room