



"Realising individual potential"

# ELMWOOD NORMAL SCHOOL

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To parents/caregivers of children at Elmwood Normal School

## **H1N1- End of Term 2 Notice**

With term holidays approaching and a number of families planning to travel, both overseas and around New Zealand, Elmwood Normal School is aware of the threat posed by the swine flu epidemic, particularly the risk posed by travellers returning as potential carriers.

At this stage, the Ministry of Health's advice is that if staff and students are well and symptom free after returning from an affected area overseas they can return to school and do not need to remain at home for any period after arriving back in the country, or back to the home city. However, this may change in the coming weeks and families need to plan for this possibility.

The risk is that if an infected student returns to school and is in contact with other students and staff for even a day, the whole school could be closed for a week.

The school board asks you to carefully monitor your family's health closely whether you have been at home for the holiday period, or are returning from overseas or returning from your trip within New Zealand. If there are even the slightest flu symptoms, do not send your son or daughter back to school until you have first telephoned to check with your doctor, or alternatively checked through the MOH Healthline 0800 611 116 or the Canterbury Flu Centre 0800 37 30 37.

We will continue to keep you informed through our school website, as information comes to hand.

I wish you good health and happy holidays.

Kevin Gooch  
PRINICIPAL