

Queen Elizabeth College



Panui to Parents, Caregivers & Friends of the School

August 2019

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and caregivers

We have certainly had a very busy last month with a lot of sports and activities taking place. This newsletter is packed with stories of involvement and success. A real highlight was the inter-school fixture with Kuranui College, it was great to have the students mix and mingle with the Greytown school. Many other winter sports have either finished or are finishing in the next few weeks. Well done to all those students, parents, teachers and supporters who have helped us through a very successful winter season. You will see in the photos that follow that the teams have done well. Special congratulations should be celebrated with the U15 rugby team, they managed to win the "youth 3" U15 competition in a very close and tense final.

Our Pasifika and Kapa Haka groups performed magnificently at Takaro and Monrad Intermediate. The school promotion was received very well by the audience and many students were able to perform in front of their old schools. If you know of any family that need prompting or are thinking of enrolling at QEC, encourage them to come into school to meet with us.

We were pleased to send a group to Wellington for the white ribbon event and the senior social science group had a great visit to the Whanganui Museum. We also had a leadership group attend the Massey University leadership day. My special thanks to the staff that have supported the students with the administration and supervision.

It is very important that your children continue to attend school regularly and behave well in classes. Whilst all the great trips and sports are reasons for celebration, we also must keep ourselves grounded and ensure we are working hard and attending school on a regular basis. The Ministry of Education states that 90% attendance is deemed regular attendance. I would like to see all the energy and discipline displayed on the sports field being shown in the classroom as enthusiastic and disciplined learning. Senior class teachers are writing full reports now for the end of term three and I would encourage all parents to attend the Poutama meetings on Thursday 26th and Friday the 27th of September.

Measles is circulating in New Zealand, particularly in the Auckland region. As a precaution I have attached an advisory information sheet about Measles on the back of the newsletter.

Kind Regards
Chris Moller



NEWS

White Ribbon

We went to the White Ribbon Ambassador meeting in Wellington with a fantastic group of year 12 students. There were some great speakers there and our students did a fine job.

The next event is our Spoken Word Poetry Competition which will take place on 26th September at Wellington College.

The theme is 'Respectful Relationships' and it's going to be a night of hot poetry, sizzling truths and fiery performances. Deadline for all entries is 16th September 5pm. For more information and rule guidelines please visit: <https://whiteribbon.org.nz/2019/08/07/spoken-word-competition/>



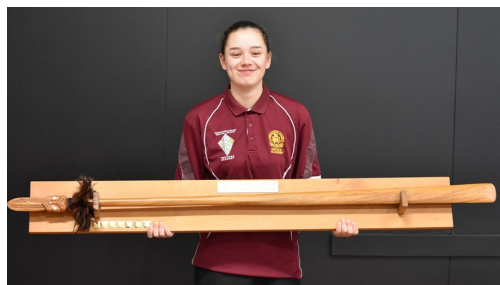
So proud of these amazing emerging leaders that gave up their time to go to a leadership business event at Massey. Our students made me so proud as they engaged, discussed, thought through solutions and gave everything a go.

Well done to Phoenix Collins who ended up being recognised and singled out by Talent Central as being one of two students (out of the whole group of schools that came) for leadership potential.

Lesley Fail



Congratulations

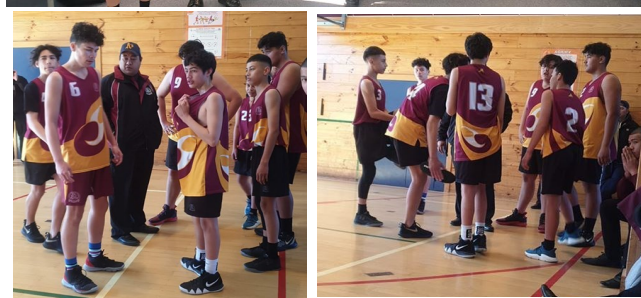


Well done, Paanga Smith, Kiri Pokai and Tanika Jeffery for participating in the Advanced Leadership Course in Lower Hutt. Congratulations, Tanika for receiving the top student award. Well done ladies!

Mates & Dates



Thanks Kushla and Jacob for presenting Mates & Dates (Healthy Relationships) to our Junior Health classes.



Sports Exchange



RESULTS

Boys Rugby - WON
Girls Netball - WON
Boys Basketball - WON
Debating - 2nd



From the Sports Hub





Badminton



Netball



Basketball



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Find us on
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September 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2 September	3	4 Nga Manu Korero Nationals	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 BOT Student Vote	13	14	15
Maori Language Week						
Senior Exams						
16	17	18	19 BOT Student Count	20 BOT Student Announced	21	22
Forklift Course						
23	24 BOT Meeting	25	26	27	28	29
SAS Adventure Challenge					Holidays	
30	1 October	2	3	4	5	6
Holidays						



TEXT IN ABSENCES

Absences can be texted in using the number (027) 813 8482. Please text <student name> followed by <reason> end with <your name> by 8.30am.

Quick answers to frequent MMR questions during the 2019 measles outbreaks



The Immunisation
Advisory Centre

MMR vaccine is a live attenuated vaccine. Please familiarise yourself with the information in the *Measles, Mumps, and Rubella* chapters in the [Immunisation Handbook 2017 2nd Edition](#), including the contraindications and precautions for this vaccine.

Can we give the MMR vaccine to infants aged under 12 months?

Infants aged 6–11 months can receive their first MMR vaccination:

- » If they are travelling overseas to a country with a measles outbreak.
 - » This dose is a Schedule immunisation and can be administered by an authorised vaccinator without a doctor's prescription.
- » On parental request if there are concerns about a high-risk of exposure to measles and their GP advises administration of MMR.
 - » This dose needs to be prescribed in the infant's medical notes by the doctor.

MMR administered at 6–11 months of age is considered dose zero (MM0)

- » The infant will still require two doses of MMR vaccine from 12 months of age.

PMS entry and claiming for MM0

- » Enter the dose on the NIR using your PMS high-risk MMR vaccine option.
- » Leave the Schedule 15 months and 4 years MMR vaccinations as to be given in the future.
- » The additional vaccination at 6–11 months of age is funded. An Immunisation Subsidy can be claimed.
- » If the high-risk MMR vaccine option or MM0 is not showing in your PMS, contact the PMS provider for advice.

Infants aged under 6 months are too young to receive an MMR vaccination

Can we give the MMR vaccination due at 15 months early?

Yes. Infants living in the Auckland region are advised to receive all four vaccines due at 15 months from 12 months of age. Practices are asked to actively recall infants to receive these vaccines from 12 months of age.

Infants aged 12–14 months living outside the Auckland region but who are travelling to Auckland are advised to receive all four vaccines due at 15 months from 12 months of age.

On-time immunisation at 15 months of age is recommended for all other infants. However, all four vaccines due at 15 months can be given from 12 months of age on parental request.

If we give the 15 months MMR vaccine early, can we give the other 15 months vaccines early as well?

Yes. The 15 months Schedule varicella, pneumococcal and Hib vaccines are considered valid doses when given from 12 months of age.

Why are we focusing on the first MMR vaccine dose for so many people?

Administration of the first documented MMR dose to unvaccinated infants aged 12 months or older, children, adolescents and adults born in 1969 or later who may still be susceptible to measles is critical to reduce the spread of measles in our community. This is especially important when people in our community have immune system dysfunction and cannot receive an MMR vaccination to protect them from the disease.

Can we give the 4 years MMR vaccine early?

The second MMR vaccine dose is recommended to be given on-time at 4 years of age during the current measles outbreaks. After one MMR vaccination 90–95% of people are fully protected from measles. However, the second MMR dose can be given as soon as four weeks after the first dose on parental request.

If the 4 years MMR vaccine dose is given early, does the child need another MMR again at age 4 years?

No. Only two doses of MMR vaccine are required if they are both given from 12 months of age. The second MMR vaccine is a revaccination for the 5–10% of individuals who fail to become protected against measles after the first dose. Nearly all individuals will be protected after the second dose.

If we give the 4 years MMR vaccine dose early, can we give DTaP-IPV early as well?

No. It is important to wait until the child is 4 years of age to give the DTaP-IPV to ensure the child has some protection against pertussis through their primary school years.

Should older children and adults who have missed one or both doses of the MMR vaccine receive catch-up MMR vaccination?

Yes. Administration of the first documented MMR vaccine dose is really important to reduce the spread of measles in our community. The second catch-up MMR vaccine dose can be administered more than 4 weeks after the first dose.

While the priority is currently on the administration of the first MMR vaccine dose, to be considered up-to-date with MMR vaccination a total of two documented doses are required for all children and adults born in 1969 or later.

Do adults who are sure they were vaccinated but have no records receive catch-up MMR vaccination?

Yes. Only documented MMR vaccine doses can be considered when planning catch-up immunisation for adults born in 1969 or later. It is safer to potentially repeat vaccine doses than rely on a person's memory and potentially leave them susceptible to diseases.

It is appropriate to vaccinate if the person cannot easily locate immunisation records.

Which adults are expected to be immune?

Generally, adults born before 1969 in New Zealand and overseas are considered to be immune to measles. No measles vaccine was available in New Zealand until 1969 and measles is so infectious that people born before this were highly likely to be exposed. For those born overseas, it is fairly similar as most countries introduced a measles vaccine in the late 1960s, 1970s or later.

Can adults born in 1969 or later who are not eligible to receive publicly funded healthcare buy MMR vaccine?

No. All MMR vaccine stock is supplied by ProPharma and cannot be sold. However, during the current measles outbreaks no opportunity to administer the MMR vaccine to these adults should be missed when it is prescribed in their medical notes by their doctor.

Do adults born before 1969 need MMR vaccination if they have had chemotherapy or radiotherapy for cancer?

No. Chemotherapy and radiotherapy for cancer does not remove immune system memory cells.

Only pre-HSCT (stem cell or bone marrow transplant) conditioning completely remove a person's immune system including memory cells. Re-vaccination with MMR vaccine usually occurs 2 years post-HSCT.

Continued on page 2 ...

GET THE FACTS ON IMMUNISATION



Fact sheet 4 September 2019

Quick answers to frequent MMR questions during the 2019 measles outbreaks



The Immunisation
Advisory Centre

Should we order serology to check for measles immunity?

No. Evidence of immunity for adults born prior to 1969, except those born and raised in the U.S.A. (as above), is simply being born before 1969. Evidence of immunity for adults born in 1969 or later is two documented doses of MMR vaccine.

Do children who received a measles only or measles/rubella vaccine overseas need MMR vaccination?

Yes. Two doses of the MMR vaccine given from 12 months of age are recommended irrespective of previous measles vaccination.

Do children who have had measles still need to receive the MMR vaccine?

Yes. Two doses of MMR vaccine are recommended to protect the child from mumps and rubella.

How long after having measles can a child receive vaccines?

A child can receive Schedule vaccines, including varicella vaccine, as soon as they are due if the child is not acutely unwell.

Can a person with an egg allergy receive the MMR vaccine?

Yes. Neither egg allergy nor anaphylaxis are contraindications for receipt of the MMR vaccine.

Can a close contact of a woman who is pregnant or someone who is immunocompromised receive the MMR vaccine?

Yes. MMR vaccine viruses are considered to be non-transmissible. It is also important to reduce the risk of the mother and those who are immunocompromised being exposed to measles disease.

Can a pregnant woman receive the MMR vaccine?

No. Live vaccines are not be given to pregnant women.

Can a breastfeeding woman receive the MMR vaccine?

Yes. There is no risk to the mother or child from giving MMR to breastfeeding women.

Can a person who is immunocompromised receive the MMR vaccine?

No. If your patient has a medical condition or is on a treatment that affects their immune system, refer to sections 4.3.2, 4.3.3 and 22.6.2, and table 22.2 in the Immunisation Handbook 2017 2nd Edition for more information on treatments and timing of vaccination.

Is there a single antigen measles vaccine available in New Zealand?

No. The measles vaccine is only available as one of the components of the MMR vaccine in New Zealand.

Are M-M-R II® and Priorix® interchangeable?

Yes. M-M-R II and Priorix are fully interchangeable. The doses must be given a minimum of four weeks apart.