



Port Moresby Grammar School

an Independent, International School

Diba Amo Aonega
Abia is Motuan
and describes how
we may obtain
truth and wisdom
from education.

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Friday, 8 October 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Temporary School Closure

I mentioned in my previous letter of Tuesday 5 October that all our Staff would be tested so that we could diagnose and contain how far the COVID-19 Virus might have spread.

For most of our Staff the first test was the "COVID-19 ANTIGEN Rapid Test" conducted at the 2K Medical Centre, Boroko. For some Staff, their first Test was the "Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction Test" (RT-PCR) conducted at the Rita Flynn Medical Facility, Bisini Parade, Boroko.

Unfortunately, the results of the COVID-19 ANTIGEN Rapid Test showed 5 more Staff members testing positive, which is devastating news for our School Community.

As the Staff were tested with the ANTIGEN Rapid Test on Wednesday 6 October, the five staff members who have tested positive, have been asked to also have an RT-PCR Test at the Rita Flynn Medical Facility site.

It appears that the spreading of the virus might have emanated from the one staff member as those 5 are considered close contacts in the workplace.

All 5 Staff members and their families have been to the Rita Flynn Medical Facility and all are now awaiting the results of that second Test (the RT-PCR Test) and have been asked to remain in isolation at home while they wait.

In the meantime and on Thursday 7 October 2021, while the campus was closed to staff and students, we engaged ProPest Control Limited to carry out a total Disinfection Service to the entire school buildings and classrooms, under the supervision of the Administrator and one of his colleagues.

As we await the test results of their RT-PCR Test and as a precaution, it is imperative that we keep the students from **Grades Prep to 11** at home for another week and they can commence school **on Monday 18 October** at this point in time.

The Examination Years of Grades 8, 10 and 12 will need to be in school every day from **Monday 11 October**. The Grade 8 students have their Mock Exams to complete on Monday and Tuesday.

We will be uploading the lessons for the rest of the school to the website and the students can complete **Activity 21** whilst at home.

Activity 21 may also be collected from the School on **Monday 11 October** and it will also be emailed to you if you are not able to come to the school.

Please ensure that an adult collects **Activity 21** as the students will not be allowed on the campus at this point in time.

An older sibling in Grade 8, 10 or 12 can also bring the Activity home.

We will limit the number of lessons that we will upload as the lessons should only be used as a reference to their Activity 21 .

The students can keep Activity 20 with them until they return to School on Monday 18 October.

The extra week is a precaution at this stage, and the Students might be called back to School earlier if the results of the RT-PCR Tests of the 5 Staff members are satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

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Mele Olley
PRINCIPAL