



Marymount Secondary School

123 Blue Pool Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong

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25th June 2009

Dear Parents,

Arrangements in view of the Latest Development of Human Swine Influenza

Based on the assessment of the Department of Health (DH) on the latest development of Human Swine Influenza (HSI), although the HSI virus has caused outbreaks in individual schools, the situation is similar to what has been anticipated. Moreover, the symptoms in secondary school students who contracted HSI are no different from that caused by seasonal influenza, and they are less likely to develop complications when comparing with younger children. Under such circumstances, it is not necessary to implement territory-wide class suspension for secondary schools at this stage.

As the Education Bureau (EDB) recommended, our school has cut down as far as possible the post-examination activities (PEAs) to allow an advancement of the summer vacation for students. Our summer vacation will formally commence according to the original schedule, that is, from 9th July 2009.

Parents are advised to note that cancellation and postponement of our PEAs is a mitigation measure aimed at reducing social contact to minimize the chance of HSI infection. Therefore, parents should avoid letting their children go to crowded places or visiting places being affected by HSI with their children during the vacation.

Before the commencement date of the summer vacation, the school will arrange for an appropriate number of staff to meet practical needs, such as answering parents' enquiries and cleaning and disinfecting the school premises.

The results of the 2009 Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) and the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) will be released as scheduled. Form 7 and 5 students will report to school for collection of result slips and participating in S6 Admission as follows:

Class Level	Public Exam	Date	Time	Venue
Form 7	HKALE	30 th June 2009	8:30 a.m.	4 th Floor Hall
Form 5	HKCEE	5 th August 2009	8:00 a.m.	

Students are reminded to take appropriate precautionary measures when they report to school, such as showing their temperature record slip (see attachment) with parent's signature to their Homeroom Teacher and wearing masks if there are influenza-like symptoms. Students with a temperature higher than 37.2°C / 99°F should avoid coming to school. They should ask their parent or a representative to collect the result slip on their behalf.



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To inform parents and students of end-of-year directives and to minimize the effect on student learning, school documents as well as learning materials and assignments have been prepared for distribution:

Class Level	Report Card & ECAS Report (Copy)	Letter to Parents	Textbook List for Individual Levels & Pre-order Form	Chinese/French Assignment	English Assignment	Mathematics Assignment
Form 1	By mail (F. 3 parents will also be informed of Allocation of S4 Subject Choices)	By mail	By mail (The full booklist will be uploaded to the School Website; No pre-order form for F. 6)	By mail		
Form 2						
Form 3						
Form 4						
Form 6						
				To be distributed on 26 th / 29 th June when Forms 3, 4 & 6 come to school for Return of Final Exam Scripts		

If any of the following occurs during the summer vacation, please inform our office staff Mrs. Eve Ko or Mrs. Peggy Choi at 25728221 immediately to facilitate our adoption of contingency measures and notifying the DH and the EDB:

- Your child is confirmed/suspected of having contracted HSI; and/or
- Any person in close contact* with your child is confirmed/suspected of having contracted HSI.

* "Close contact" means having cared for, having lived with, or having had direct contact with respiratory secretions and body fluids of a person with HSI.

Parents should inform us if their children have visited places with HSI cases. The students concerned should wear masks for 7 consecutive days, avoid going to school and pay attention to their health. We will take temperature of these students to double-check the temperature taken by parents for safety when the next school year begins. If students have influenza-like symptoms during this period, medical advice should be sought promptly. Parents should notify the school and the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) (Tel. No.: 21251111) of the case immediately and take the preventive and control measures as required by the CHP.

To safeguard your children and family members from HSI infection, please take appropriate preventive measures at home according to the guidelines in the pamphlet on "Human Swine Influenza" prepared by DH uploaded to our website. If you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Veronica Ma
Principal