Dear Parents/Carers,

Please be advised that there has been a student diagnosed with chicken pox in the school. Please read the attached fact sheet carefully.

**Please Note:**
- Chickenpox (varicella) begins with a sudden onset of slight fever, runny nose, feeling generally unwell and a skin rash.
- The rash usually begins as small lumps that turn into blisters and then scabs.
- The rash appears over three to four days. At any one time, the lesions of the rash vary in stages of development.
- Symptoms usually occur two weeks after exposure to the virus.
- Persons who are previously vaccinated can still get chickenpox. If chickenpox occurs in a vaccinated person it is usually mild and less contagious than in an unvaccinated person.
- Pregnant women should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles and should see their doctor if they have been around someone with these illnesses.
- Children with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or who are receiving chemotherapy should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles as the infection can be especially severe.

Please seek timely medical advice if your child is unwell so that they may be appropriately treated by a doctor. Students who present to sick bay with chicken pox symptoms will have their parents/carers contacted so that they can be collected and cared for at home.

Cindy Maruncic – Relieving Deputy Principal