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Dear Parents and Whanau

CALF and PET DAY 2018: No Calves due to Mycoplasma Bovis

Due to the recent concerning spread of Mycoplasma Bovis there will be NO calves at Pet Day in 2018.

Mycoplasma bovis is a bacterium that can cause a range of quite serious conditions in cattle. For the first time it has been found in New Zealand. The bacteria is an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993. The Government along with the dairy and beef industries have agreed that an attempt will be made to eradicate Mycoplasma bovis.

The disease is spread by close contact, and the farming community is being advised that any non-business critical stock movement should be cancelled.

Although Mycoplasma bovis has not yet reached the Western Bay of Plenty, in support of the government's attempt to eradicate this disease, Oropi school, along with a number of other schools in the Western Bay of Plenty and the Tauranga Group day, have decided NOT to have calves at the 2018 Calf and pet day.

For those children that were looking forward to having a calf this year, we would hope you can bring a lamb, goat or chicken instead and we really do hope that 2019 and beyond will see calves featuring again at our annual Calf and Pet day.

Thank you for your support and understanding in this matter

Andrew King and the Calf and Pet Day Committee