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Dear Small World Families~

We assume most all of you were pleased to hear of our state’s mask mandate being lifted on March 25th. It has been a trying couple of years for all of us here at Small World as it has been for our keiki and their families. Small World does **appreciate** those that have continuously complied throughout. With that said and in light of this announcement, we would like to reiterate and clarify our stance.

Because preschool-aged keiki are vulnerable to Covid-19 and its variants, we have decided that we will **not** follow the lifting of this restriction at this time. As such, we will still **require** the following per **our** school policy indefinitely:

* **Masks should always be worn whenever on school property, regardless of vaccination status.** We expect our families to have their masks on **prior** to walking on to the gravel parking area, cement walkway, ramp, and porch. Being that we are not aware of the vaccination status of our families, (along with enacting policy that would require parents to be vaccinated) we know that there are families that will still adhere to the mask wearing policy not only as their choice but for the continued safety and health of themselves and the families that are waiting their turn to bring their child up to the entryway. Not only is this our policy, but it is just out of **common courtesy** to others. **Children are still required to mask up during the school day.**

* Our **travel and visitor policy** will remain the same as it currently stands. Unfortunately, we have recently become aware of a few families traveling to the outer islands and not disclosing to the preschool thereof; enabling them to bypass our requirement of isolation and testing. This is **NOT** acceptable or fair to families that do follow protocol. (We are in no means of suggesting that you not travel; we are just asking for your honesty when you do.) Needless to say, a situation like this could have potentially affected a member of our staff that is scheduled to have knee surgery on Oahu this week. It could also affect our ability to provide our services to you in the event of a shut-down.

If a situation such as this occurs in the future, there will be consequences….we could **potentially** enact a one week shut down (all age groups) and have our facility thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. It is unfortunate that the preschool may have to resort to this type of action, so we ask that our families follow the policies that are set in place for everyone’s continued good health along with minimizing the chances of a school closure. A hard copy of this will be sent home along with the Covid disclosure form and travel information.