

NEWSLETTER

9 April 2020

From the Principal

Kia ora tātou

What an astonishing time we are living through. Hoping you and your whānau are well and are making the most of the 'bubble' time together. For those of you who are working with the public in essential services, we cannot thank you enough. By now you have probably developed a daily 'bubble rhythm'. Working from home brings its own challenges and benefits! I hope you are making the most of family time and are enjoying time to slow the pace of life.

Staff are regularly meeting, remotely, and we aim to get a new set of learning ready for everyone for the start of Term 2 on Wednesday, 15th April. The school site IS NOT OPEN, we are still subject to lockdown conditions, so staff are also working from home.

Please feel free to email teachers along the way to give feedback and ask questions. We are all learning and we will be adjusting things as we go to make the best of this!

Home Learning

Each kete sent out some home learning activities in the last week before the holidays. I know some children will have been carrying on this learning through the school holiday period and others will have had a break and put them aside until after Easter. How you organise your days and the learning is completely up to you and your family.

Teachers will be using email and a range of other platforms to communicate with you and engage students in learning.

TKW, TKP and TKM will be using **Seesaw**. TKT and TKA will be using **Google Classroom and Google Meet**. Teachers will be sending out additional information about using these different platforms (if they haven't already) over the coming weeks.

Learning at Home

Children will not come to any harm if they have a break from formal learning for a while. I am sure many of the experiences they are having at home with you at this time will be creating special bonds and memories for life. Please do not feel any guilt over unfinished tasks.

There are some amazing online learning opportunities available. Try some out; I am sure the links you have been given and others you have found will engage students in many rich learning activities. The Ministry of Education are adding to their bank of online resource links so do try some of these:

<https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/home>

We have tried hard to find out if you have access to the internet at home and have a device for your child to use. The Ministry of Education is trying to help with these issues and we have passed the information you gave us onto them. The Ministry is targeting NCEA level students and those in disadvantaged areas first.

Home learning television

The MOE wants to ensure that every learner and ākonga has at least one channel for accessing educational content from 15 April – either through this package or through their school or kura.

So, they have been working with teachers and leaders, alongside staff from ERO and Te Kura to develop Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV, on TVNZ, which will run from 9am to 3pm on school days on TVNZ2+1 and Sky channel 502. Some lessons will also be available on TVNZ On Demand.

There will be content for parents and whānau with preschool children and tamariki, and lessons for those aged 5 to 15 years of age will cover a broad curriculum that includes movement, music, physical education, wellbeing, numeracy, literacy and science through an integrated approach to curriculum. There's already a lot of good education video content available, and the Ministry will be working with experts and educators to refine and further develop it.

This is a whole new experience for all of us and we don't want it to be overwhelming for anyone. So please remember that wellbeing comes first, then learning.

Ngā mihi nui
Lin Dixon

WHILE YOU ARE IN SELF ISOLATION IN YOUR BUBBLE DID YOU KNOW THAT:

Your school Public Health Nurse Service is still available.

If you have any concerns about your child's health and wellbeing or if you are currently using the service and have not been in contact with the nurse for a while feel free to call.

The nurses can provide support and advice over the phone and are also available to assist with medications for some conditions.

They are contactable via 0800 153 042.

schoolhlth@midcentraldhb.govt.nz

