



TĒNĀ KOUTOU KATOĀ,

Nga mihi o te ra (Greetings of the day)

Greetings to you all. I hope this week's newsletter finds you safe and well in your bubbles as we count down to today's Government announcement of what life will look like for us all over the coming weeks.

While the announcement may affect many families in multiple ways, it will also be interesting what the requirements will be from the school perspective, what the learning landscape will look like and how we can continue to preserve and maintain the health and well-being of the students, staff and whanau moving forward in learning.

Ngakau Pono - Trust, Loyalty and Honesty

Thank you to all of you who have completed the online survey in respect of your present intentions should we move to Alert Level 3. A phrase I've been using a lot lately is 'crystal-ball gazing' and I am conscious of the fact that there is little in the way of solid information against which to assess your position until such time as formal communiques from the Government are received.

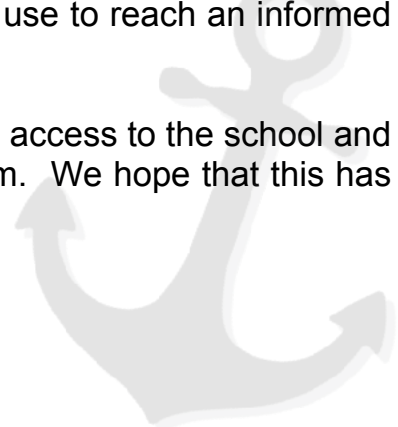
What I can say is that the overriding preference from nearly all of the survey respondents is to maintain your children in home learning either until a move to level 2 or until further clarity around level 3 is provided. It has certainly given us a good feel for the school community view and when we have more information it will inform our decisions around the school plan.

Awhina - Helping others to be the best they can be

Thank you to all of you who have supported and encouraged the home learning of students. There are high levels of engagement with all families accounted for. The teachers remain enthusiastic and active in the provision of the learning tasks and report that they are enjoying the process although the virtual classroom is a long way short of the physical classroom. Fingers crossed we will be through this soon.

As far as a timeline goes, following the announcement this afternoon, I will receive a formal direction from the Ministry of Education. Tania and I, in consultation with the school leaders, will plan the school response and consult with the BoT chairperson before advising the teachers and then the community. I would predict this will happen before Wednesday afternoon and I will share with you all the information you can then use to reach an informed decision around school for your child(ren).

Last Friday I gained (with much complication) Ministry of Education access to the school and we were able to provide more devices to families that required them. We hope that this has assisted in making the learning at home stress free.

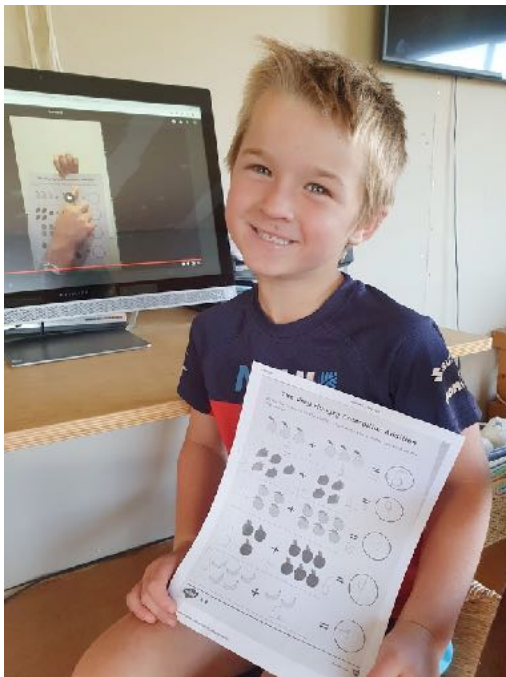


Ako- Learning together

Some images sent in from home learning:

This is a variation of some cube art that Room 1 has been doing.

Below is Lochie from Room 11 happily completing his online maths learning. Well done, Lochie.



If you are looking for some ideas to keep physical, here is a video from Project Energise on balance at home. <https://youtu.be/3JaVWevhDzE>

I reflected this morning that our students will look back on this time as a landmark event in their lives. The nature of those memories will be very much informed by their experiences and how safe and supported they felt during this time. My own father recounted to me recently how he started school during the Polio epidemic in New Zealand and was sent promptly home. At 90 years of age it endures in his memory as a landmark in his life. We commit to working together to ensure our own tamariki have positive memories of this time.

Until I am able to provide you with more detailed information, please keep safe and well and happy. Be kind to one another and stay positive.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāianeī (That's all for now).

Keith O'Donnell, Principal



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