



24 March 2020

Dear Parents and Whanau

Please find below information regarding the ways that we are enabling learning at Reremoana School in the coming weeks.

This week - 23-28th March

Settling into this new situation needs to be the focus for all of us this week, adults and children.

- Teachers are in the process of assigning learning via Reading Eggs/Express and Mathletics/Maths Seeds.
- In addition, a list of optional activities has been posted on facebook groups and sent to parents via email. It can also be found [here](#).
- Work packs are being created for work/book packs for our junior learners and others who may need them. Information regarding the collection of these has been shared via Facebook (see School/Kiwi/Piwakawaka/Pukeko Team FB pages), and Skool Loop, and some families have been emailed.
- From Midnight 25 March, the school grounds are officially closed. We ask that you do not compromise this by entering the grounds for any reason.
- Please do not send children to play on the playgrounds or fields. It will be considered trespass.

Devices

- We were hopeful that we could supply devices to those who need them. We are still waiting on Ministry advice regarding how this will work..
- We are prepared to hand them out if given the go ahead, and if suspension of site closure is lifted to enable this.
- We are also awaiting Ministry advice regarding internet provision for those that do not have it, and will pass on any information as we receive it.

School holidays - 30 March-14 April

- The School holidays are being brought forward so that they fall within the current 4 week lock down period. Holidays will now begin on Monday 30 March and continue to Tuesday 14 April inclusive (a reminder that the Tuesday after Easter Monday is always a closed day for schools).
- There is no expectation that students complete school tasks during the holiday period.
- In addition, teachers are not expected to push out extra learning during this time, respond to learning completed, or to answer emails on a regular basis. If you have an urgent question, please email one of the leadership team.

15th April onwards

- At the end of the school holidays (April 15), we will be open for distance learning but not physically open for staff to work at the schools.
- We will continue to provide distance learning until the government instructs us that schools may reopen. At this stage no one knows exactly when this will be.

How are we supporting distance learning (from April 15th)

- Continue using digital subscriptions such as mathletics, reading eggs for learning at home
- Use of work/book packs for our junior learners and others who may need them
- Online learning environments will be activated by teachers year 3-8. This takes the form of a google classroom that students are shared into. Optional learning tasks will be offered here.
- Online learning for juniors: team google classroom for sharing with parents
- Larger bank of optional activities will be emailed, posted on FB pages
- Posting videos or going live on FB Book packs
- Teachers will be connecting with your child (and you) e.g. via phone or Google meet, where possible to ensure we have ongoing human connections.
- Teachers will be available for support so please email and ask them any questions or use the chat function of the google classroom.
- We are creating a 'one stop shop' section on our website where links to all the information can be found. This will be available by April 15.

Our Expectations of Distance Learning (after April 15)

- **Be Kind to Each Other**
- We are well aware that many of you will be working from home over this period and needing to juggle work commitments with looking after your child/children. You may be feeling stressed and worried. Our children are likely to be feeling worried and maybe scared. We do not want to be putting extra pressure on you or your children.
- Learning doesn't go well when people (child or adult) are stressed. Please don't stress about 'home schooling' or trying to recreate school at home. We all trained for years to become teachers - we don't expect you to have become a teacher overnight!
- We are providing learning opportunities and support, but it is up to you to decide what, when and how much you and your child engage in. Some children will respond well to having a familiar structure or routine to their day, but if that doesn't work for you, don't worry. Others will like having a list of things to work through.
- Over this week consider what might work for you and your child/children. We are available to support you until Friday 26th, so any questions please contact your child's kaitiaki teacher.
- We place no expectation or pressure on you as parents, or your children - right now we all need kindness and understanding. In the coming weeks, use this time to make some precious memories with your children... build forts, have a PJ party, cook together, go for walks, pull out old photo albums from your childhood, and read, read, read to your children (yes even the big ones).

- What our children definitely need is to someone to ask questions, to answer their worries and to feel safe. Children's mental health is more important than academic learning especially at this time. They will remember far more acutely how they felt during this time, than they remember a learning task.

Ministry of Education Support

The Ministry of Education have provided [this website](#) for support (for parents and teachers). They will be continuing to add to it over the coming weeks.

Julie Cowan

Principal

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