

Friday 10th April

Kia ora te Whanau o Te Kura o Haewai,

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.

Over the past month our staff have been working on ways to provide learning opportunities for your children to do at home as part of what we are calling Phase 1 which starts on **Wednesday 15th April**. We think we will need to constantly review and evaluate how things are going and adjust as we receive more information. I need to be clear this will not be teaching as normal and we won't be running programmes from 9.00-3.00pm. We also don't expect our parents to become teachers.

We received 95% response rate to our survey and the messages were clear:

- Allow our children time to play
- We don't want all of the learning to be on digital devices
- We will need to share devices, internet and support as we are all using the devices in the house
- Most of our parents are working so the work needs to be mostly independent
- We want our children to have fun in this health emergency, especially as their world is very different at the moment
- Keep us connected

We have taken this on board with our planning. We have looked at ways we can meet the needs of all but also offer ways for children to do as much as they can possibly manage.

We are using our school vision to keep us grounded and focused in the right areas so the work and communications we share will follow this:

***Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou - Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together***

We see our role during this time as a way to provide appropriate learning tasks, a variety of activities(online and offline), a way for our students and whanau to connect and to ensure that the well-being of our tamariki and their whanau is at the fore of everything we do.

Teachers will ensure connections are made with each student or whanau at least once a week through the different platforms we are using. Year 1 and 2 are using Seesaw, Years 3 to 6 are using Google. Year 3 and 4 students will communicate with their teacher through their school gmail accounts. We are trialling Google Meets for Years 5 and 6. Teachers will give students a day for them to join a session so that this can be done in small groups.

We won't be running normal classroom hours for students. We want them to complete as many tasks and activities as they can manage. Teachers will be available via email from 9.00am - 3.00pm Monday to Friday. They will be completing other work outside of these hours.

On Wednesday 8th April the Minister of Education made an announcement about devices, hard materials, TV channels and websites that learners could access. Due to the feedback from parents in our survey we haven't requested any digital devices but we have asked for some packs, especially for our whanau who were away at the end and we couldn't get their school packs to them. We have not seen any of the resources as yet but feel free to use what you see as appropriate. As time progresses you may see us link in some of these activities into our weekly plans.

Each week we will email out a school newsletter. This will focus on connecting our community and the learning our tamariki are doing from home. It will also include any updates we might have for the whole school community.

Teams will email, google or Seesaw the work for the week to students. There will be an email from each team on Tuesday that will give you specific details for your child's learning.

At the bottom of this email you will find some tips and advice from Netsafe on how to manage Digital Devices at home.

We hope that you are all able to remain safe and well. We are looking forward to reconnecting with our tamariki and whanau.

Nga manaakitanga

Luana Carroll

### Cyber Guidelines and Useful tips for Whanau

Netsafe has put these tips together to help parents and whānau talk to their young people about online safety. These will be important to think about and put into action with our distance learning plan. We want all our children to be safe and responsible internet users.

## SEVEN TIPS TO HELP YOU

The following tips are designed to enhance your digital parenting knowledge and have been developed with parents in mind.

1. **Understand:** Read about the potential online risks, challenges and sometimes illegal behaviour young people face to understand what may happen
2. **Learn:** Ask your child about what they do, how they use devices and who they talk to learn about their activities. Check in regularly to see what has changed
3. **Explore:** Take the time yourself to explore the sites, apps and technologies your child uses to improve your knowledge and understand their experience
4. **Agree:** Create a family code with your child to agree on what they can do online including sites to visit, appropriate behaviours, privacy settings and limits
5. **Start:** Recognise each child has unique needs, but some online safety concepts are universal. Start by teaching yours the Five tips to help your child thrive
6. **Model:** Be a good example to your child. Make sure you role model the sort of behaviours you want to see your child use online and offline
7. **Plan:** Make a plan so everybody knows what to do if something goes wrong and where you will be able to get advice and support in challenging times

For further information - [Netsafe](#)

What School is doing:

- Teachers will be only setting work in apps and/or programmes that we would use at school so we know the content and security is safe to use at home.
- Teachers will be able to monitor all the work they have set for students through each child's individual google account.
- Teachers have been over the Digital Citizenship agreements each child signed at the beginning of the year.
- Students have the option of using paper-based tools to work and then photos of work samples can be shared via email