

# Houghton Valley School - Home Learning Newsletter 5



**Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together**

*Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou*

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**Week 5 of Term 2**

Kia ora te whanau

We are busy preparing school so that it is ready for our beautiful tamariki. Teachers are excited to be able to return to work and we are working closely with each other (social distancing) to ensure that school is a safe and fun place to be.

For the next few weeks we are going to do things a bit differently so please don't expect things to be just as they were before we entered Level 4. We want to give children time to settle in first. We will use wellbeing strategies like 'circle time' to allow children to express how they are feeling, provide them with tools to self-regulate and to support relationships with peers.

We know for some of our learners this will be a significant change so we ask that you start preparing them for their return. Talk to them about how they feel and to provide them with reassurance. School is safe and we are here to look after one another.

The Ministry of Education has some great resources and this is a useful website  <https://sparklers.org.nz/>. If you are worried or concerned about your child I ask that you contact their classroom teacher asap so that they know and can put some things in place for them on their return. We are here to help all of our tamariki make a successful return to school.



## **Drop Off and Pick Up**

We outlined in our email on Monday the new process for this. It is vital that no students or parents come onsite until 8.30am as staff need to get things setup each morning. Anyone arriving after 9.00am needs to go directly to the office. We ask that unless it is an emergency that all children are at school by 9.00am. If your child doesn't need you to come to the classroom door then please don't. This will help with traffic in and out of the school.

Plan with your child/ren what will happen at pick up time. You might create a visual plan over the next few days so that they know their plan and can ask questions before Monday.



## **Absences**

We ask that you let us know as soon as possible if your child is sick or going to be away. Please use [admin@houghton.school.nz](mailto:admin@houghton.school.nz) or our website <https://houghton.school.nz/report-an-absence/> or phone and leave a message - **04 939 3318**

## **Illness and Symptoms**

If your child is sick or has any symptoms of coughing, running nose, temperature then they need to stay home. Teachers have been asked by MoH to check children on arrival and if they have any symptoms we will ask you to come and collect them asap.



## **Contact Details**

If during the lockdown you have moved or things have changed phone numbers, emergency contacts please email Denise now so that we have these when school starts - [admin@houghton.school.nz](mailto:admin@houghton.school.nz)

## **Evaluation of Learning from Home**

We thought it would be good to hear from you about how Learning from Home went. The good, the bad and the ugly. We have kept it short so if you get a minute we would appreciate hearing your feedback. This would be helpful information to have if we needed to go back to Level 3 or 4 in the future. Fingers crossed this isn't the case!

We haven't got enough words to thank you for your support during this time. We look forward to starting the next phase with our wonderful tamariki on Monday. Until then, stay safe and take care.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the AMAZING team we have here. They have shown their ability to be resilient, flexible, adaptable, collaborative the list goes on. They have done an outstanding job during the past 7 weeks and I know we are ready for the next phase. Ka mau te wehi!



Nga manaakitanga,  
Luana Carroll, Houghton Valley Principal