



Thursday 9 April

TERM 2 – UPDATE 1

Kia Ora Koutou

I trust you are all well in your bubbles and that yourselves and your families have been able to adjust to a slightly different way of life that this lockdown has brought for us all. Speaking from a personal note, I have found our house moving to some new routines, with one being the start of the day becoming decidedly later as two teenage boys have enjoyed their sleep ins over the school holiday break. Like you, as a parent I have been thinking a lot about what distance learning is going to look like from next week in our house. I'd like to keep some routines going, I know my children need to get outside and be active, and I know that I can motivate them with some parts of their schoolwork but I am not their teacher so will only be able to do the best that I can to understand what is being asked of them, and to juggle their learning, and my work, while maintaining enjoyment for each other's company in what can sometimes be testing times in our house. One thing I do know, is that there is no manual written for how this is all meant to work for any of us, and certainly no 'one size fits all' when it comes to juggling and managing what each of our realities are inside our bubbles. We can only do our best.

As you will be aware, Term 2 begins next Wednesday 15 April via distance learning. Our teachers have been busy over the holidays planning for what the new term will look like.

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced huge support for education during the lockdown:

- **Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV, on TVNZ**
 - 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, covering a broad curriculum that includes movement, music, physical education, wellbeing, numeracy, literacy and science.
- **Access to devices / connectivity:**
 - The ministry is working towards loaning devices to families who don't have one, so that where possible, no one misses out on being able to connect to learning online. Thanks to everyone for replying to my request for information so promptly over the weekend.
- **Hard Packs**
 - For some families, access to devices might be some way off, or they live in a location that won't allow for connectivity. Hard packs are being made up nationally and will be mailed directly to families with activities to support learning at home.

I will share with you all an overview of what learning will look like specifically for our school during lockdown at the beginning of next week. This will involve the above, as well as things planned by your child's teacher. In the meantime, may peace be with you all this Easter. Remember, 'Be kind, keep safe, and look after each other'

Ngā mihi
Michelle Cronin
Principal