



Be kind

Update 14 April 2020 - Covid-19 Coronavirus - Letter to families

Kia ora Karāpiro School whānau,

Happy Easter! I hope this letter finds you and your 'bubble' well. Term 2 is almost upon us and tomorrow we are beginning the term in a way that we have never operated before. We are preparing to provide an emergency remote learning programme for Karāpiro School students as we move through this Level 4 phase of the fight against Covid-19.

What our programme is:

- **Teachers maintaining relationships with students and classes**
- **Provision of a variety of learning opportunities and activities suitable for the home**
- **Maintenance of learning links with families and whānau**
- **Consideration of family difficulties and challenges during the lockdown period**

What it isn't:

- **Parents trying to replicate the school learning programme at home**
- **Students staying online between 9:00am and 3:00pm**
- **Teachers being available 24/7**
- **Parents trying to take the role of the teacher all day**

We are very aware that the lockdown will be putting tremendous strain on many of our families and school staff. Our aim is to help relieve the pressure where we can and try to 'normalise' the most challenging time in the recent history of our country, for all our students. 'School at school' will resume again at some point and we are well-placed for that. You may have heard through the media over the weekend that initial proposals are to re-open schools on 29th April. **Please be aware that this is a very TENTATIVE date subject to many constraints and liable for change at any time. Don't plan for it just yet – the lockdown may still be extended and the return to school may be controlled by region or age group.**

In the meantime, we are planning learning blocks of 2, 4 & 6 weeks 'chunks' for the benefit of all our students. All Karāpiro students have a Ministry of Education learning pack ordered for them. On 15 April teachers will email parents with information about online learning. Junior classes will use the 'Seesaw' platform for communication and learning activities. Our middle/senior students will combine and use Google Classroom.

We have also made arrangements for all students to have access to both Reading Eggs and Mathletics. You will receive an email from teachers with all log-in and password information for Seesaw or Google Classroom, Reading Eggs and Mathletics. We understand there is a bit of set up for you to do at home - there is no rush to do this and teachers are available via email to help you. Teachers will email their plans for 'real time' catch ups with students online. You can also select from the range of levelled learning activities and resources at our [Online Learning](#) button on the school website. We have added a link here for you should you wish to make use of the Ministry of Education N4L Network for Learning Internet filtering for families.

To effectively monitor the learning programme we have put in place, we have asked our support staff, Whaea Faye Collier and Margaret Ng, to make 'check in' phone calls to families to find out what is working well for our students and if there are any barriers to learning that we can help with. Your information will be fed back to the teachers and I so that we are able to better understand your reality and help wherever possible.

We wish you and your whanau all the very best at this time. Remember we are here to support you - please get in touch via email if there is anything we can help with. Kia kaha - stay strong.

With kind regards

Tina-Maree & Staff