



St. Mary's School Blenheim

Te Kura O Hato Mere

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COVID-19 Update

From this point forward

March 23, 2020

Kia ora te whanau,

Thank you for the positive responses from the earlier email. The whole staff here at Te Kura O Hato Mere are with you all during this time. Our prayers and thoughts go out to you all. Now is also a good time to reconnect with your children and really bond as a whanau. Isolation as a family can be a lot of fun and really build on the strong foundations you already have.

We had a staff meeting this afternoon to discuss the continued education and learning for your children while they are away from school over this period of time. We as teachers are very aware that you as parents are not teachers and that it is at times difficult to support the learning of your children so have modified the learning opportunities to suit.

One of the major factors discussed today was 'reading mileage' for your children. That is reading high-interest articles, books, magazines and newspapers with, and alongside your children. Reading mileage as it has always been an essential tool in the progression of your child's learning.

Each classroom teacher discussed how they will be sharing this work with their children today. Below is how this will look for your child's class:

Room 1 - Miss Lunt will be sharing her learning through 'Google Classroom' (all of the children can access this).

Room 2 - Miss Bamford will be emailing all parents.

Room 3 - Mrs Lamian will be emailing and providing physical resources for those children who did not attend today. (Pick up from Room 5 Tuesday 24 March 9:00am - 3:00pm)

Room 4 - Miss McCone will be emailing and providing physical resources for those children who did not attend today. (Pick up from Room 5 Tuesday 24 March 9:00am - 3:00pm)

In Christ's Light

Room 6 - Mrs Lee has already sent the children home with readers and will further support their learning through emails she will send out to all of the parents in Room 6.

Room 7 - I will be sending through work that Mrs Leov is setting up for the class.

Room 8 - Mrs Sloan has work organised and will be available to be picked up from the classroom foyer tomorrow. (Pick up from Room 7/8 foyer Tuesday 24 March 9:00am - 3:00pm)

Room 9 - Mrs Lormans will be emailing and providing physical resources for the students tomorrow. (Pick up from Room 5 Tuesday 24 March 9:00am - 3:00pm)

For those parents who are picking up physical resources for their children as noted above, The rooms will only be opened from 9:00am tomorrow through till 3:00pm. After 3:00pm tomorrow the classes will be locked and will not reopen until the period of 'Self Isolation' has been lifted by the government.

Please all take care of yourselves and whanau. We are all looking forward to having your amazing children back in our community as soon as possible.

God Bless to you all.

Yours 'In Christ's Light'

Paddy Dowling