



COVID - 19 UPDATE

15th April 2020

Dear Parents and Whanau,

Welcome back to Term Two. I hope your bubbles are going well and that you all had a good easter. Your child's teacher would've had some sort of communication with you by now. It's certainly looking like it will be a different type of term. As I mentioned in Seesaw this morning, the staff have been working hard over the break to get resources together and create programmes of learning that will hopefully meet the diverse needs of the community at this time. Please be patient as this is new territory for all teachers in our country. The most important thing for us, as a staff, is the health and wellbeing of all the Newstead Community, students and whanau. Learning is very individualized and each bubble has their own unique context, so please do what best fits for you and your child. Our main role, as a school, is to support you, as best that we can, in this.

I will continue to update you with relevant and useful information from the Ministry of Education, using a variety of platforms including Seesaw, FaceBook, email and our school website.

Updates and Useful Information from the Ministry of Education:

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV and Māori Television education broadcasting starts 9am 15 April

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will start education broadcasting for early learners and students in Years 1–10 from 9am on Wednesday 15 April, with Māori Television launching te reo educational programmes on the same day.

As a result of negotiations led by Nicholas Pole (Chief Review Officer and Chief Executive of the Education Re Review Office), Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will be

free to air, on TVNZ channel 2+1 and on TVNZ on Demand, as well as on Sky Channel 502. It will run from 9am to 3pm on schooldays with programming for children and young people, as well as for parents.

Content will be grouped for early learners and students by age range, and will include play, literacy, mathematics, science, te reo Māori, physical education and wellbeing. All of the programmes will feature highly experienced teachers and presenters, along with wellbeing and movement experts.

The Minister will be announcing the presenters and programme schedule later today, after which we'll publish the information on our [Learning from Home](#) website. Check the [updates page](#) of the site for daily programming information.

Programme presenters include nine teachers from Christchurch and Auckland. Thank you to those of you who have agreed to release your staff to deliver these lessons – we're very grateful for their willingness to be part of this initiative.

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will be on air for one month with provision to extend beyond that if needed.

We'll be promoting Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV and the Māori Television programmes on television and through social media – please share the information through your own social media, emails to students and whānau, etc. Later this week we'll have resources on the Learning from Home website that you can use to help promote Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV. Keep checking the website for updates and resources.

Free internet safety filter for parents

While children are learning from home, they are away from the online safety and security services provided by Network for Learning (N4L) at school. So together with N4L and Netsafe, we have launched www.switchonsafety.co.nz - a free way to block the worst of the web for students and teachers.

Please share this website with your parent communities so that they can follow the instructions to set up their child's device for safer connectivity while they learn from home.

Remember, no technical solution is a silver bullet. Please remind your parent community to complement this with digital citizenship toolkits provided by Netsafe.

Netsafe

Netsafe provides comprehensive support and information to support everyone to stay safe as they work, learn and play online. Netsafe has new and updated resources for parents, whānau and students at <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/staying-safe/>

Wellbeing for all

Alongside priorities for learning, the wellbeing of students and whānau and supporting them will be front of mind.

We have information also focused on supporting a child's learning at home for parents, caregivers and whānau. It may also be useful for teachers. This resource adds to the information we have previously provided supporting conversations with children about COVID-19 -

<http://education.govt.nz/school/health-safety-and-wellbeing/pastoral-care-and-wellbeing/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-coronavirus/>

From overseas, this [25 Mental Health Wellness Tips during Quarantine from Eileen M Feliciano, Psy.D.](#) is a good list and highlights some things particularly important for children. Remember the rules of New Zealand's level 4 lockdown still apply.

Keep safe and be kind to one another.

Ngā mihi

Drew Campbell - Principal