



Tuesday 24th March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers.

Once again thank you for all your support to our school and community over the last few weeks.

This letter is the initial contact with your class teacher and school around Remote/Digital Learning and how this will look over the next four weeks (and beyond if needed).

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

As you know the school holidays are being brought forward so that they are completed within the 4 week period.

School holidays will now begin from **Monday 30 March to Tuesday 14 April** inclusive (a reminder that the Tuesday after Easter Monday is always a closed day for schools).

SCHOOL AND LEARNING PROGRAMMES START

All Term 2 learning will all start on **Wednesday 15th April**.

Initial one off book pack

All children in the Kowhai Syndicate, Reading Recovery students or specific children from other syndicates will receive an **initial one off book pack** today (unless they are staying non-digital). These packs have books and key resources that these children will need in order to start learning programmes.

Digital learning

This will begin Wednesday 15th April at **9 am**.

Each syndicate will send out a letter with detailed and specific information to their team and parents so you know what to do and expect. From here teachers will send out weekly work on Wednesdays via digital means and daily work at the start of each day.

- Here is a site still in development to support parents and kids with this digital transition. [Digital Online learning help sheets/videos](#) It includes written and video instructions to access digital tools (Seesaw, Google Classroom, popular apps etc).
- It will also include additional links for recommended websites across the curriculum.

Weekly non-digital paper packs

These will be delivered to children of parents that have told us they have no devices and/or limited internet access.

The initial pack will be delivered to your letterbox sometime between **now and Wednesday 15th April**.

After this a new pack will be delivered every Wednesday (unless the pack is for longer) until school returns.

In the pack there may be activities that are too easy or too hard. Adjust these to your child's level and if you need help you can contact your teacher by email.

Until then here are some suggestions from each syndicate team...

Kauri Syndicate:

- Compulsory work if they haven't finished it:
 - Finish off your conflict case study research and information report. Attach these both to Kauri google classroom as soon as you have finished.
 - Finish off your Term 1 maths challenge and turn this in on google classroom.
- Optional:
 - Create a presentation of all that you have learnt about your chosen conflict. Use one of the suggested ways, or a creative way of your own!
 - On Google Classroom there is a topic in Kauri called Optional Adventures for the holidays. Here you will find fun activities that you can do at home, feel free to share any videos etc with us!
 - There are other tasks on google classroom that you will have started. Finish these off (if possible) and hand them in.
 - Read a book for 20 minutes! When finished write a review for your friends/family to tell them why they should/shouldn't read it.

Kahikatea Syndicate:

- Complete any work on Google Classroom
- Complete **one** of the three Colonisation inquiries on Google Classroom (do this digitally and 'turn it in' through Google Classroom)
- Read a book on Epic, or listen to a book on Epic or read your own books at home
- Go on Prodigy or Matific or practice any basic facts off your ladder
- Do Activities around your house to keep yourself entertained and share that through Seesaw/Dojo e.g. Baking, board games, building, constructing, cleaning, playing, gardening
- Learn a new skill and video yourself doing that skill
- Keep a journal of what they do day to day/how they are feeling.
- Create an exercise programme for the week that involves at least 30minutes of daily exercise (you can start slowly and build up)

Kawaka Syndicate:

- [StorylineOnline](#) - Reading (no sign up required).
- Read a book for 20 minutes.
- [Prototec](#) - Maths (no sign up required).
- [Wacky Web](#) - writing fun (parts of speech).
- Writing - Daily Diary Entries or Story Writing.
- [GoNoodle](#) - Fun Fitness (no sign up required).
- Design a Poppy for ANZAC Day. [ANZAC Ted story](#)

Kōwhai Syndicate:

- Write a story, read a book together, count forwards and backwards to 10, 20, 100
- Fun activities
 - Google Pinterest for great
 - Go Noodle
<https://www.google.com/search?q=go+noodle&oq=go+noodle&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i64l2.6569j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>
 - You Tube – Jack Hartman for songs, dances, activities that we use in class
 - Stories to listen to
<https://www.freechildrenstories.com/>
<https://storytime.rnz.co.nz/>

COMMUNICATION WHEN SCHOOL BEGINS

Once learning starts on **Wednesday 15th April** Miss O'Connor is putting in some extra systems and some boundaries for communication for children, staff and parent's wellbeing. These are:

Communication times for **"Class teacher contact time"** are

- Monday to Friday during term time only (no school holidays)
- Starts at 9 am.
- Teachers will have a "lunch break" at 12 pm-1 pm.
- Ends at 3 pm

Teachers will not respond to emails before 9am or if after 3pm they will contact you the next day.

Teachers will be available during "Class digital contact time" using some of the **following communication systems...**

- Primary contacts for daily contact
 - email
 - Seesaw
 - Google Classroom

OR

- Other contacts teachers may use
 - Video (eg: Facetime, Skype, Zoom etc)
 - Phone

Communication for **"Pastoral Care" groups.**

- Each teacher will place your child in a "pastoral care" group within their class.
- Teachers will contact your child personally by phone or by video to have a talk about how they are going in life (not just learning).
- Teachers will talk to parents about what day and when this will happen for your child.

- If parents/caregivers do not want or need this “pastoral care” service let your teacher know.

As stated more specific team letters and further details will come out before we formally start learning on **Wednesday 15th April.**

On behalf of all our staff we wish you all the very best and a safe return.

Thanks

Patrice O'Connor and the Greytown School Teaching Staff.