

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

We are living through changing times at present and I thank you for your patience and co-operation as changes take place. The board are keeping up to date with information as it becomes available and we will continue to keep you informed as we get any new information. Take care of each other and continue to enjoy this beautiful environment we live in.

Covid-19

We continue to follow advice which is coming in regularly from the Ministry of Education. You are no doubt following the news as it evolves as well. We have had to make some decisions in light of the updates we have been receiving.

- **School Camp:** These were planned for next week (year 4) and the following week (year 5 & 6). They have been cancelled. A newsletter went out yesterday with this information. We hope to plan something at a later date, but this may not eventuate. We will keep you updated.
- **School Assembly:** We will not hold school assemblies until further notice. We will still present the PRIDE certificates in each class as the children have worked hard to achieve these.
- **Swimming:** We will close the pool tomorrow as it is getting a bit cooler and we do not want children to get a chill or sick from this.
- **Communication:** We now have a school app and we will be using this to get information to you regularly. This is free to download and we encourage you to download this to your phone please. We are also using the school Facebook page, the website and bulk emails.
- **Survey:** If you have not completed the online survey about internet access and device access we ask that you do this please. The board will make use of this information as we make preparations for the future. The survey link was emailed out yesterday.
- **Sports:** At this stage we have been advised that Netball is postponed until Saturday 2nd May. All sports fixtures organised for schools, by Sport Bay of Plenty, have been cancelled until further notice.
- **EPRO8:** The semi-final and finals of this event have been cancelled.

Attendance at School:

If your child is unwell, we ask that you do not send them to school. Please make contact with the school office (and class teacher) to let us know your child is unwell.

If, for any reason, you have chosen to self-isolate please let us know.

At this stage we have not been advised that schools will close, and we will continue to provide for the social and educational needs of your child/children.

Important Dates:

25th-27th March – Year 4 camp - Cancelled

1st – 3rd April – Y5 & 6 camp- Cancelled

9th April – Last day of term 1

28th April – First day of term 2

How to help your child at home:

In response to the Ministry of Education preparing for possible school closure we want to share some ways you can help your child with their learning at home. This is not an exhaustive list, just some suggestions to think about.

- Free play, plays a vital role in child development especially if you join in and provide oral language modelling.
 - Baking with your child brings in math concepts along with reading and following instructions.
 - Playing board games provides opportunities for children to develop their social skills of taking turns, following instructions, problem solving and developing strategies for winning or losing a game.
 - Reading together, sharing a picture book, poem book, nursery rhymes or an ongoing chapter book will help develop oral language. Your child will also hear rhythm and rhyme in nursery rhymes and poems along with new language.
 - Reading together will also model writing forms that the children can make use of in their own writing. Use expression and intonation as you read so children become engaged and make it fun.
 - Playing card games assists with math and social skills. Children get to recognise numbers and number patterns, encourage discussion as you play.
 - Setting up a garden for the children to tend develops science skills along with sustainability concepts.
- Next week the staff will be working on the preparation of resources, online resourcing and various ways we can continue your child's education if we had to close.

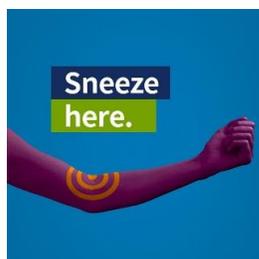
Workshops:

Next week our Learning Support Coordinator, Angela Gouk, will run a series of workshops for any family member who wishes to attend. They will focus on how you can help your child at home and are relevant whether school closes or not.

- Reading at Home focus: Monday 23rd March - 8.30am and again at 5.00pm
- Learning through Play focus: Thursday 26th March - 8.30am and again at 5.00pm

COVID 19 - Focus on prevention - the best preventative steps for any communicable disease include simple but important measures to practice as part of your daily routine, but especially during flu season:

- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and dry thoroughly
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



- avoid sharing anything that has come in contact with saliva, whether in your living or social environments
- stay home when you are sick and seek medical attention
- cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the rubbish
- get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system

Further information can be found on the Ministry of Health website. If you have been traveling or intend to travel you should check the latest information on their website.



Congratulations:

Well done to the two EPRO8 teams who competed in Rotorua last week. Two teams competed and gained 1st place and 3rd place results. Well done to Marcus, Oliver, Tracey and Annabel who placed first and Benjamin, Jayden, Daniel and Alexander who placed third. Thank you to Mr McDonald who has been working with the teams in preparation and to the parents who assisted with transport. We look forward to next year's competition.

Working Bee:

Thank you to the community members who turned up to help us last Saturday. We managed to get a coat of paint on the inside and outside of the children's sports shed and cleaned out the performing arts room and the computer room. The team achieved a lot from 9.00am to 1.00pm. and we thank you for your time.

Scabies:

Scabies is a contagious skin disease caused by a barely-visible parasite called the scabies mite. Symptoms include itchy skin and rash. Prompt diagnosis and treatment is required to deal with the condition, and to prevent serious skin infections and the scabies mites spreading to other people. Please check your child/children for any signs of this. If you think your child may have this be sure to see your doctor and get the appropriate treatment.

School App: See below for instructions on how to download the app. All notices will be put on this App. The following link will show a video of how to download the app:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45QOeaaORFc>

Nga mihi
Cathryn Naera - Principal

School App:

Currently there are a number of communication tools in use for the school. We have now set up a school app which you will be able to download and have access to school information on your phone.



You can download the app by searching for SchoolAppsNZ. This is the logo you need to be looking for. Once you have downloaded this app you will be prompted to search for the School.



You will be asked to select groups you wish to receive alerts from. At this stage groups are not yet set up but will be a feature of the app as we move forward.

You will be able to notify the school of student absences via the app either by phone or email. Other features will evolve over time.

We look forward to keeping our communication with parents as accessible as possible.

PRIDE VALUES

P – Positivity - We participate in all activities with enthusiasm. We say kind and positive words.

R – Respect - We listen and use our manners. We care for ourselves, our belongings, the environment and each other.

I – Integrity - We make the right choices and do as we say. We are trustworthy.

D – Diligence - We try our best in all activities and take on challenges. We work hard to achieve our goals.

E – Empathy - We think about others and their feelings before we act.

This term we are focusing on a different **PRIDE** value each week. This week is **Diligence**.

Each week 2 to 3 children from each learning space are the Pride time winners and they have an extra 30 minutes of special time on Friday.

All those with PRIDE tickets go in a weekly draw where 3 names are pulled out as are 3 bus pride tickets. These children receive a special treat.



Holiday Programme

First week of school holidays

Tuesday 14th – Friday 17th April

8am – 5:30pm, \$5 per hour

Payment in advance Please

Timetable in next week's newsletter



SOCCER REGISTRATIONS

We're looking for kids under 13 years to join our teams playing club football on Saturdays.

There are no trials. just register to play!

WWW.SPORTY.CO.NZ/OHOPESOCCER

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This is separate to Aims & will not affect your chances to play in that competition

Scholastic Book orders – Order close tomorrow – Friday 20th March. Orders can be made online using the Scholastic Loop App.

