



Waimate Centennial School

School closure Newsletter Two

Karakia

In light of everything we are experiencing at this time, here is a karakia that was composed by Scotty Morrison

Āio ana te rangi,
Āio ana te whenua,
Āio ana te ao katoa,
Āio ana te moe a te whānau,
I roto i te māi,
Te matihere,
Me te māoriori e,
Kia au, kia au, kia au te moe.

"The sky is tranquil, the earth is still, everything is calm, our whānau sleeps peacefully, immersed in deep love and contentment, sleep well."

KEY MESSAGES FOR PARENTS

KEY DATES

28 March School holidays begin

10 - 14 April Easter including the Tuesday after Easter

15 April Term 2 begins (through at home learning)

27 April ANZAC Day observed

MEDIA

I have made a conscious decision to listen to less media content for the next few weeks. I usually listen to the national programme during term time. This keeps me informed and helps me to be ready for the things I might have to deal with in education.

I now choose the time I listen and look very carefully. I only want to hear the facts. I am not interested in hearing what everyone thinks about the facts because that is sometimes misleading.

Since making this choice I have felt a lot more at ease. I am not constantly listening to bad news about the economy and peoples who have the virus.

It is easy to forget that most people will survive Covid19 and many people will only experience mild symptoms when they get it. The economy will also eventually get back on track.

WELLBEING

I can appreciate that many children may be experiencing mixed emotions. To support their wellbeing, talk to them about how they are feeling. Keep it simple but make time to listen and have the following messages ready.

1. You are safe;
2. The world will go on;
3. I love and believe in you.

You can get more information from:

- Sparklers - Bringing Sparklers Home to the Living Room or Lawn
- Ministry of Education - Talking to Children about COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

FOR PARENTS

We are all thinking about the children and how we can maintain their learning and how can we keep their mental well-being on an even keel? I am now asking everyone to think about the parents and whanau as well. There will not be many times in our lives when parents are expected to be the only adults that their children will interact with for a month in a row. This is bound to add pressure to an already pressurised time. The following message About caring for our-selves as parents came from one of the many e-mails I have been getting over the last week.

SELF CARE

Why is it important? Self-care encourages you to maintain a healthy relationship with yourself so that you can transmit the good feelings to others. You cannot give to others what you don't have yourself. While some may misconstrue self-care as selfish, it's far from that. When you pay adequate attention to your well-being, you're not considering your needs alone. You're reinvigorating yourself so that you can be the best version of yourself for the people around you. Everyone around you also benefits from the renewed energy and joy you exhibit.

Take care of yourselves, people.

TERM TWO AND ONLINE LEARNING

When we begin term two the students will not be able to return to school. They must remain at home. Teachers will provide assistance for them to continue their learning. This has begun already with all teachers setting up activities for students to carry out on their own or with the parents helping them. From the beginning of term two all learning will be set up using online learning. At Centennial this will begin with the use of Seesaw.

Teachers are currently thinking very hard about what learning will look like and I think there will be some really new and unusual opportunities for learning that our students have not been involved with yet.

There are lots of places on the internet families can go to to find extra resources. We will only provide you with ones that the Ministry of Education say are suitable.

This website contains advice and resources for parents and whānau, teachers and leaders

[://learningfromhome.govt.nz](https://learningfromhome.govt.nz)

CHILDREN STAYING SAFE ONLINE

As students are getting involved in online learning everyone needs to be watching to make sure they stay safe. This will be one of our priorities, but it must also be something parents and families focus carefully on. Be aware of what they are doing when they are online. Once again there are a lot of people giving advice about what to do and we will only give you information from people we are sure about. Netsafe and the NZ Police are two of these suitable organisations. The following message is from Netsafe.

KEEPING ON-LINE SAFE

Parents, caregivers and whānau need to discuss internet safety with their children - of all ages. They should agree with their children what they can do online including sites they can visit and appropriate behaviours including:

- reviewing and approving games and apps before they are downloaded
- reviewing privacy settings of sites and applications
- checking children's profiles and what they are posting online
- check the sites your child is accessing
- reminding children that anything that is posted online will be permanently on the internet
- taking the time to understand what sites they are visiting and who they are talking with and check in regularly
- some social media sites have age restrictions to join, check these before letting your child use them or join them

- monitoring a child's use of the internet and consider having them use it in an open, common area of the house
- making sure your children know to report any activity they don't feel comfortable with to parents and caregivers straight away.

If we all work together to make sure children are safe online, we can make the internet a great tool for people of all ages.

The New Zealand Police

Houseparty has become one of the most widely used apps since lockdown, especially by young people. However, whilst there's lots of fun to be had with Houseparty, it can present some potential risks that people should be aware of. Here is the latest advice from Netsafe about **using Houseparty safely**:

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/houseparty/>

POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

Flava cancelled this year. While we are still planning to run the Matariki festival this year. I am not sure that it will be on the original date of July the 3rd. We are monitoring the situation carefully and will let parents know about any changes to this date or the event

Jump Jam is likely to be postponed or cancelled and we are waiting to hear more about this.

The South Canterbury Primary School Swimming Sports has been postponed. It does however unfortunately seem unlikely that this event will take place this year. In the event this event does take place, Sean has selected a team and we will be ready to go.

SOUTH CANTERBURY PRIMARY SCHOOLS SWIMMING SPORTS

While it appears at this stage the chances of this event taking place seem fairly unlikely, I have selected a Waimate Centennial team and I feel it is extremely important to acknowledge these children and congratulate them for their excellent achievements.

Therefore a huge well done to: Georgia O'Sullivan, Sophie Herbert, Briar Craig, Cameron Lane, Maddy Smith, Rachael Hodder, Joel Roberts, Zaylee Davis and Milla Mackenzie. - Sean Burt

KEA NEWS

We are really enjoying the photos children have been posting on Seesaw showing the activities they have been doing. The Mystery Science clips and Kiwi Kids News Daily have produced some great responses and due to more than half of the class requesting it children can now view each other's posts. There are lots of holiday challenges they can choose from on the Kiwi Kids News Bingo Board of Awesomeness and the Creative Home Learning Grid. I am sure those parents who have been given breakfast in bed, had housework done and cakes baked have appreciated it!

We hope you are enjoying spending time together and coping in your bubbles.

Sue Albrey and Jeanette Pinches

PUKEKO UPDATES

There have been some busy Pukekos over the last week, lots of tens frames Maths happening, shape finding and Go Noodle being done! It is so lovely being able to see our wee Pukekos through the great photos parents are helping post online for us to see. This connection we can maintain is invaluable at this time, and we have learnt so much about the "family life" our lucky Pukekos are part of. A huge shout out to the amazing parents who are getting involved in their child's learning-not necessarily by following activities we might post, but through questioning, including and talking with your children! Thank you!!

Keep safe, sane and in touch!!

Mrs M & Mrs B

TUI UPDATES

It has been great to see the Tuis taking part in challenges and fun activities that Mrs Paul and I have put up over the last week. Thank you to the parents for their support during this time and for getting involved in your child's learning in lots of ways. We especially love seeing the smiles from the Tui children as they complete activities and challenges.

Stay strong, stay safe, stay in touch

Mrs Soper and Mrs Paul

PIWAKAWAKA UPDATES

Kia Ora from Morven where we are very lucky to have a few acres to puddle around on. Lots of wood cutting and splitting going on here.

Thank you to those children who are staying in touch by continuing to do some of the set activities at their own pace, keep connecting. I love hearing from you. Thank you also to those children who are doing their own learning and sharing it with me. Some lovely home baking and cooking going on with lots of weighing and measuring happening. Well done guys it all looks beautiful.

There will be a new Easter Egg decorating activity being posted on Monday. Enjoy. I know it won't make up for the lovely chocolate eggs but I'm sure it will make us all smile seeing everyones creations. Looking forward to seeing what you create. Meanwhile, take care, look after your family and keep being grateful for the things we have every day.

Congratulations from Piwakawaka to Georgia O'Sullivan, Sophie Herbert, Briar Craig, Cameron Lane, Maddy Smith, Rachael Hodder, Joel Roberts, Zaylee Davis and Milla Mackenzie for making the South Canterbury Swimming Sports.

Nga Mihi - Mrs C

WEKA UPDATES

The school holidays have arrived and it is certainly a holiday unlike any we have experienced before! Let's just hope the sun keeps us company. It makes such a difference!

To help with keeping the children busy at times during the holidays, Mrs Waller has recently placed a variety of sites on Seesaw for the children to visit, while Mr Burt has emailed home to all the Weka families a new selection of activities that can also be worked on during the holidays. Most of these activities have some neat youtube clips to watch which makes carrying out the activities fun.

"Bad Jelly the Witch," a very funny story, is one of the youtube clips Mr Burt sent that the children can visit. This story has always been one of Mr Burt's favourites, so check it out and see what you think. :)

Thank you to all the children who are sending their completed activities to Mrs Waller and Mr Burt through google docs and also for completing the activities on Seesaw. It is extremely enjoyable reading all the fantastic work being produced by the children and we can't wait to see work from all the children very soon.

Remember if you have any questions or problems, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Burt or Mrs Waller. We are both here to help.

Stay safe and keep smiling :)

Mr Burt and Mrs Waller