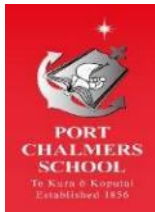


Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o Koputai – greetings to all families of Koputai (Port Chalmers) School.



TUMUAKI NEWS

COVID -19 Alert Level 3

The announcement that the country will be moving to COVID-19 Alert Level 3 at 11:59 pm on Monday 27 April has been welcome news for many businesses and to accommodate people returning to work, school will be opening on Wednesday 29 April for people who need somewhere for children to go. The advice from the Government under Alert Level 3 is for people to continue to work and learn from home, if at all possible. You should only send children to school if you need to because you or someone else cannot look after them during the day.

I thank everyone who responded to our request for information regarding attendance at school next week. We require this information for planning and for the Ministry of Education.

The school will be operating with strict enforcement of health and safety measures. We are expected to maintain physical distancing on site and so we needed information from you in order to plan for this. All children, whether they are at home or school, will continue to learn in the same ways we've been using since the start of term 2. Children attending school will not experience classes and a school environment that they are used to, but rather they will be supervised to safely do the same work as their peers who are learning at home.

Families who have indicated that their children will be attending school will get detailed information about how to drop off and pick up their children and at what times. If you need to come to school, you will not be able to just walk into the grounds. You will need to ring the Office and then wait at the middle gate on Albertson Ave, where someone will come and meet you. We have to manage all visitors to our site. This is not quite the open and inviting environment we cherish at Port Chalmers School, but one I'm sure you understand is vital to maintain the gains that have been made while we were at Level 4 Lockdown.

If you have borrowed a school device and your child will be returning to school next Wednesday we ask that they bring the device with them. This will enable them to continue with the online learning that our teachers are facilitating for all learners, and will continue to do so until we move into COVID-19 Alert Level 2.

ANZAC Day

Saturday 25 April 2020, will be a very different ANZAC Day. There will be no dawn services or any ANZAC services. Since dawn on the 25th April 1916 people in communities across New Zealand and overseas have gathered to mark the first anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. What can you do in your family bubble to remember the sacrifices made?

Flexible learning Activities

I wish to thank all the teachers who have moved very quickly into managing learning from a distance. This has been a new way of working for them and for our learners. Who knew that we would become experts in google classroom, Zoom and Seesaw. Nothing like jumping in boots and all.

The home learning TV channels which are available live Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 3:00 on Freeview 7, Sky 502, Vodafone TV 502 and simulcast on TVNZ on demand have a mixture of programmes to support learning from home. It has been lovely to see Suzy Cato returning to our screens.

On our Home Learning Hub (accessed from our school website home page) there are several websites offering ideas also for learning from home.

There are so many things for our tamariki to do at home. Learning to make their beds, help in the kitchen, explore the garden. All valid learning experiences.

Have fun and do some reading every day.

I do miss everyone at school. While next week allows some contact, it will not be school as we know it! Please stay at home if you can. This is still the paramount advice. 2020 will be a year remembered for how we acted, this is what our children will remember.

Take care

Ka kite ano, mā te wā

FREE N4L safety filter for all students

While children are learning from home, they are away from the school's online safety and security services provided by Network for Learning (N4L). The Ministry of Education together with N4L and Netsafe, have launched www.switchonsafety.co.nz - a free way to block the worst of the web for students. You can follow the instructions provided online to set up your child's device for safer connectivity. Please remember, no technical solution is a silver bullet so you need to complement this with digital citizenship such as maintaining an active presence in your child's online activity, see the online parent toolkit at Netsafe <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/parenttoolkit/> and <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/staying-safe/>.

ICT support is available for parents and whānau through the Ministry of Education's Learning from Home helpdesk on 0800 700 401 between 8 am and 5 pm on business days

Skool Loop App

To stay in touch with us have you downloaded Skool Loop app?



Once you have this downloaded, make sure you allow for notifications in your settings. This will mean you won't miss any important information.