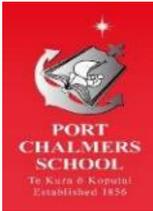


Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o Koputai – greetings to all families of Koputai (Port Chalmers) School.



TUMUAKI NEWS

COVID -19 Alert Level 3

As we now move back to Alert Level 3, I'd like to thank every single Port Chalmers School family/whānau for their support over the past 5 weeks. It has been quite remarkable. I have enjoyed seeing quite a number of our children doing their Flexible Learning on-line. I thank our teachers so much for the outstanding job that they have done with this and we thank our parents/caregivers for the wonderful support given to their children with this new learning. Being brave and stepping into the unknown is a key feature of the Port Chalmers School way; our teachers and parents have been doing just that for the past 5 weeks. The Government are expecting to make their next decision about the next "Lockdown" steps on Monday 11th May. In the meantime, we will maintain our Flexible Learning on-line and maintain a small bubble here at school.

In times of adversity we are faced with many challenges and from these, opportunities and new ways of looking and being often emerge. I was inspired by the determination and resilience of Captain Tom Moore from the United Kingdom. A World War 2 veteran who wanted to raise money for the National Health Services to acknowledge the hard work they were undertaking in the fight against COVID-19. At 99 years of age he undertook his own personal challenge of a walkathon doing laps of his garden, intending to raise £1000 and is currently close to £26 million, and it's still climbing. His story is one of kindness, generosity and resilience and has captured the hearts of the world. So much so in fact that a Bowie inspired tribute to him has been created as a delightful youtube clip -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiECYd0KBU&t=103s>

Another positive that may emerge from these challenging times is a resetting of what is important and how we spend our time. Our experience of more restricted lifestyles may lead us to review the sustainability of our lifestyles and households, we will no doubt have done things differently over the last month, these small changes may seem insignificant but the cumulative effects can make a difference. Perhaps we can continue some of these.

Last week I was interviewed by the ODT and Channel 39 about the loaning of school devices for families to enable our learning community to stay connected. We realised quickly that although the Ministry of Education was offering to loan devices to families that didn't have them, we would be a long way down the list to getting these. Senior secondary schools and low decile schools were to be first. We were happy to support flexible learning options and loan out devices. We loaned out 36 iPads or Chromebooks. I know this has made a difference to many students and their ability to stay connected to their

teachers and classmates. If you want to see the televised report it's here

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/the-south-today/schools-loaning-out-technology-keep-kids-connected>

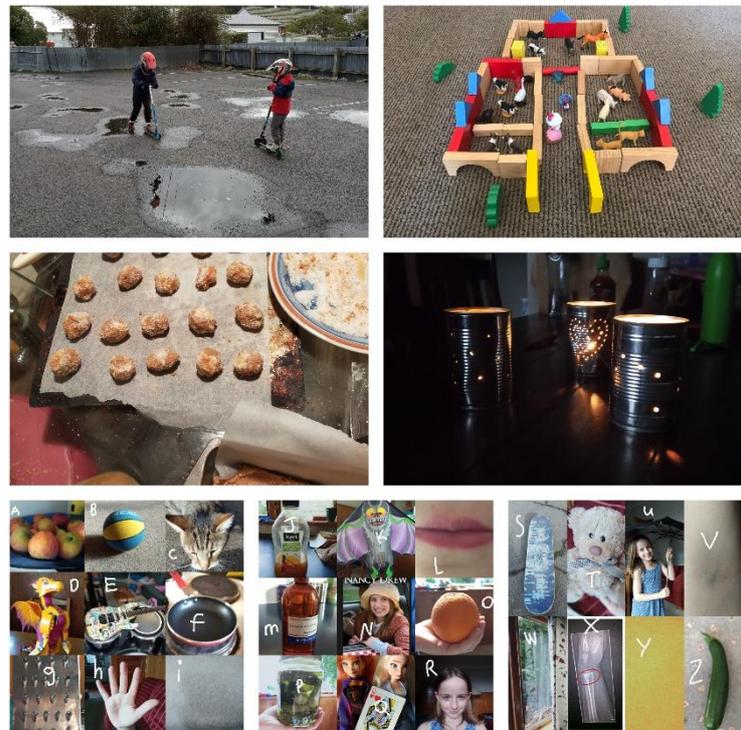
The home learning TV channels which are available live Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 3:00 on Freeview 7, Sky 502, Vodafone TV 502 and simulcast on TVNZ on demand have a mixture of programmes to support learning from home.

Take care

Ka kite ano, mā te wā

Flexible Learning

We have put together a collage of pictures from Room 7 showing the flexible learning they have been doing this term. There is a huge variety. The connecting face to face with each other is the one thing all our learners are saying they are missing. I would have to agree. Zoom is fine, but connecting in real time and real life is an important part of being human.



Skool Loop App

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



Vicki Nicolson Principal
www.portchalmers.school.nz