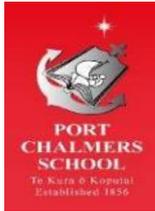


*Tena koutou katoa nga mihi ki te whanau o te Kura o
Koputai – greetings to all families of
Koputai (Port Chalmers) School.*



TUMUAKI NEWS

We are all experiencing a period of change and uncertainty as I write this last newsletter for term one and the foreseeable future. During the weeks ahead, we will no doubt explore ways to connect as families whilst still managing our personal and professional responsibilities. We need to remember that children look to us as adults for guidance on how to respond in stressful situations; what we do and say in the coming weeks is very important.

As a school we have already put together home learning packs, which 73% of families picked up yesterday. In the packs are ideas to support your children over the few days before the school term ends tomorrow. Next term we will be endeavouring to provide experiences, opportunities and invitations that support students to maintain the curiosity and creativity they have been fostering so far this year and continue to grow their love of learning.

Generally, the tasks will be something your children are already comfortable with so they can be successful and feel confident as they become familiar with this changed way of working.

Our school website has a home learning hub which has some links to websites that will support learning at home. The Ministry of Education has put together this website to support you and us in these unprecedented times.

<https://www.learningfromhome.govt.nz/>

Make the most of the next few weeks to read to and with your children. In the words of the great philosopher and author Dr Seuss:

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn the more places you'll go."*

Reading aloud to children is such a simple thing but it can have such a profound effect as it develops a love of story and learning...when we engage in reading-aloud, we are not only modelling powerful, meaningful reading skills and attitudes, but we are also sharing the gift of lifelong learning.

When your child is reading to you, encourage them to notice the punctuation and to read smoothly so it sounds like talking. At this point in time, having the opportunity to build reading mileage is more important for students than struggling to decode and comprehend texts.

Please get in touch with teachers via email if you have any questions or queries

((name)@portchalmers.school.nz). Also know that you can contact me at any time on 027 2090568 or via email - principal@portchalmers.school.nz



The Ministry of Education has asked us to remind our communities that our playgrounds are closed. Children and families are not allowed to use school playgrounds at all until further notice. This is an important part of the whole community response to 'unite against COVID-19' and keep our children and whānau safe.

On a lighter note, you might appreciate this poem by Spike Milligan

Smiling

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too
I thought about that smile then realised its worth
A single smile like mine could travel round the Earth
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected
Start an epidemic and get the world infected!

Thank you for your support in these uncertain times, we are all in this together - he waka eke noa.

Take care, look after yourselves and your whānau and hopefully we can all stay safe and healthy.

Ka kite ano

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.

Going on a Bear Hunt

You are allowed to go for a walk in your local community, as long as you keep to the social distancing rules (2m from anyone who isn't in your house or bubble). I know lots of people are putting teddy bears in their windows so that children can go and search for them. I have one in my window for our local children, have you put one in yours?

Vicki Nicolson Principal
www.portchalmers.school.nz