



Ōwhata Primary School

Te Kura o Ōwhata

Respect Excellence Inquiry Integrity
Manaakitanga Kairangatira Patapātai Mana Tangata

Tuesday 14th April / Rātū 14 o Paengawhāwhā -

School Newsletter - (ready for)

**Week 1, Term 2 - beginning Wednesday
15th April 2020.**

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Hutia te rito o te harakeke,

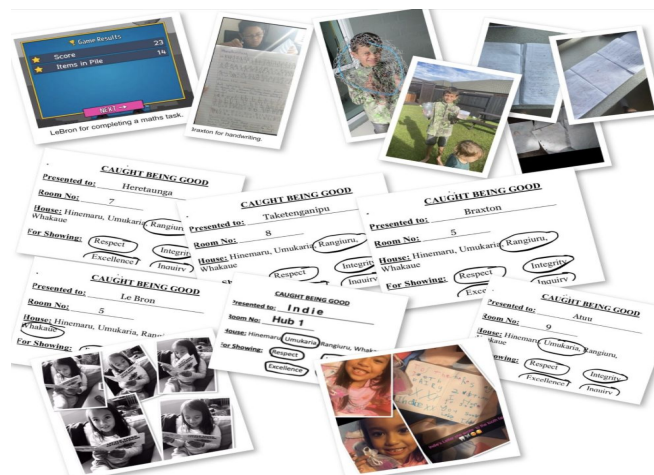
Kei hea te kōmako e kō?

Kī mai ki ahau;

He aha te mea nui o te Ao?

Māku e kī atu,

he tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata!



Kōrero o te Tumuaki:



Nei rā ngā mihi aroha kia koutou i tēnei wā o te rāhui. Ko Whaea Callie tēnei e mihi kau atu ana kia koutou te whānau me te hāpori o te kura o Ōwhata. Aroha from afar, but never too far! It has been uncertain times for us all and we do hope that you are keeping well in your bubbles. We are working to find ways to keep connected during this time and appreciate the updates and photos that we have received through Facebook and Class Dojo. We are very mindful that for many of us, this lockdown has posed some

challenges, please reach out for extra support if you need it - we can connect you with some awesome community networks who can help! We look forward to our distance learning ahead and sharpening up our digital skills. There is more information below about distance learning overall moving forward.

I am excited and humbled to be in the role of Acting Principal this term, working closely with Whaea Robyn, as Matua Bob takes study leave - we wish him all the best with his mahi and I look forward to hearing regular updates moving forward (Whaea Celia will make sure he does his homework!). We welcome Whaea Stevee Raureti back to Room 1 as the classroom teacher, nau mai hoki mai e te pōtiki o tōku nei whānau! Whaea Emma will be working as Acting Associate Principal and Whaea Lorraine as Acting Team Leader - Iriirikapua.

Kia haumarū te noho - keep safe!

Callie Raureti - Email: callie.raureti@owhata.school.nz Cell: 021 99 22 58



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Key dates as we know (so far):

15th Apr - School term start date (distance/home learning)

15th Apr - 22nd Apr ~ Hard-copy work packs being distributed by post

20th Apr - Home House Day! Rā Whare i te Kainga! - Staff and tamariki will wear their house colours and we will gather as many pics as possible to create a school collage display! We will also have house points

announcements on this day - watch this space! Photos can be emailed or dojo messaged to Whaea Robyn robyn.hurliman@owhata.school.nz

22nd April - Possible date for change to alert level 3

29th April - Possible start back at school for some students and staff - will keep you updated

3rd Jul - Term 2 end date (12 weeks in total)

Distance Learning:

Within the restrictions of the national lockdown we are required to work differently and work at home until further notice. We have now connected with most of our whānau to discuss the best way to approach distance learning moving forward. We are also working with the Ministry of Education to support whānau who need devices and/or internet to enable online connectivity. This won't all happen at once, but by working together, we will get there. If you are yet to hear from us, or you need to change your plan of delivery, please get in touch with Whaea Robyn who will happily connect with you by email, robyn.hurliman@owhata.school.nz and help you with a plan.

Home Learning Online:

For our tamariki who will be doing their home learning online, we have set up an outline of activities, ideas, and tasks our tamariki can do at home. This will go up in Class Dojo on **Wednesday 15th April**. We provide some ideas for structure but want you to make it work for you! Please don't be overwhelmed by it all, this is to last quite a long time if need be. We will still be putting up other good ideas we see to encourage a range of learning





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experiences. We understand that all circumstances are different at this time so we ask that you do what you can and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. As teachers, we will be making a '**window**' of time where we are available to give feedback, post photos and 'connect' with our class daily. This will vary for all teachers as they also work around their bubbles. Some of the work can be done online and learning links can be accessed, however, there will be activities to be done with pens/paper/felts! In this case, just take a photo and post it to your portfolio or send it to your kaiako!

Home Learning Offline:

For students working with hard-copy work packs, you are provided with options and resources to choose from. Again, we want you to make this work for you as you begin to create and adjust to new routines at home with whānau. Our teachers are available in their '**window times**' to be contacted by phone, email and in most cases, text message - we will be finding ways to keep in touch and maybe even get a photo / update through email or phone.

Virtual Celebrations and House Points:

As a way to keep the connection with tamariki and whānau, we are finding a few new ways to celebrate our tamariki online! Many of our tamariki have collected either a 'Caught Being Good' or a 'Principal's Award' for sharing their excellent mahi or consistently showing our school values/learning muscles. It has been a great way to share the learning and play happening for others to enjoy. We realise that not all tamariki have the ability to connect with us online, however, in that case, Whaea Callie welcomes phone calls and text messages about awesome mahi! If there's one thing for sure, it is that we are forced to find ways to stay connected as a kura whānau/community. This has encouraged our staff to 'sharpen up' on our online skills! We are happy to help you do the same in some way - together, we can lift barriers. We have received a few video clips through our FB messenger.

Term Learning Kaupapa:

We think, looking back to the beginning of 2020, when our school overview was put together, that on some level, we may have predicted our current circumstances! Eventually, we will be wrapping contexts around our learning - perhaps this has already been done for us. We are looking at 'connectedness' - in this case linking technology and whanaungatanga. This includes learning about the concept of systems - how things function, or a process to follow. This also gives a platform to include local history of Te Roro o te Rangī (localised curriculum), Te Arawatanga -



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'making connections' to respective Iwi through whanaungatanga. This draws it home for us with distance learning and ensuring we are providing learning that is rich and relevant for our tamariki.

Going back to School:

At this stage, we know as much you in regards to restrictions around going back to school. What we can confirm is that the Ministry of Education will give us good notice to ensure that 'transition' is smooth and safe. We will continue to do the best we can to meet the varying needs of our whānau and staff in this phase. There is no guarantee at this stage that going to lockdown level 3 means we go back to school instantly. It will be a gradual process - and we will follow the advice of the Ministry of Education for further instruction which will be communicated as we go.



Community Appreciation:

During the COVID-19 lockdown (and leading up to), we have had some amazing community support checking-in with whānau, koeke (elderly) and providing healthcare, kai and other items. We have been able to continue working with our Piripoho crew over the holiday period and we just want to give them a huge MIHI for their ongoing mahi. Mokoia Community Association and Kidscan have also been working to support our community, along with Ngāti Whakaue and Te Arawa iwi trusts. BoT member and whānau member, Marie Hodge also worked with Love Soup and Ngāti Whakaue to provide kai for our community! Ka rawe e hoa! And of course, Kahira with 'Save our Babies' who is always sharing her aroha with the community. We have also had a kind offer from one of our own, Carla Margon, who we are extremely lucky to have in our kura. Carla brings expertise in child psychology, emotional regulation and understanding children's development and at times, behaviours. She has offered to be available to support whānau over this time by phone or email - carla.margon@owhata.school.nz or (022) 157 6656.

Take care,

Arohanui, CR and Team Owhata! - He waka eke noa, we are all in this together!

