



School Update No 3

17th April 2020

Kia ora koutou,

Week 1 has concluded and parents you can now have a well deserved rest from supporting your children in their distance learning. In reality for those of you still working from home this will probably mean you will catch up on what you didn't get to do in your working week.

The outcome of our leadership hui this afternoon has been:

- To reduce the number of contacts to families; one teacher may ring and touch base with the whole family and then pass on information to other teachers. There will be times however when class teachers will need to contact individual students if it is to support their learning.
- If students are uploading to Seesaw and Google Classrooms, messaging can be done through this and feedback provided. You may still get a call if there are no uploads but you have 'seen' the activity.
- Parents are encouraged to email their child's teacher with any questions pertaining to the learning expectations.

Thank you to those parents who responded with constructive feedback. I have shared this with staff and they are appreciative of your support of what they have achieved to date.

You can still provide constructive feedback and email it to principal@forestlake.school.nz.

It is this communication that is helping us shape distance learning at Forest Lake School.

Yesterday I talked about how students are missing interactions with their peers and teachers. Parents, as a suggestion you can arrange facetime chats with their friends. The technology we are using in the junior and middle school does not allow for face to face interactions. Some teachers are starting to hold "Zoom" hui.

Teachers are also missing interactions with their students so if you are completing the online learning please upload what you are doing. Teachers would love to see your work or if you are using the educational TV Channels share what you have learned there. They are missing you!

Remember parents, all staff are available by email to answer your questions. No question is a dumb question.

Devices / Hard Copies from the Ministry of Education: I no longer have access to this portal and so cannot make any further changes. I have not received any communication as to when you can expect deliveries but if anyone does receive packs can you please let me know.

With the speed in which we went into lockdown I omitted to inform our community that the Board of Trustees has regrettably accepted Whaea Mona's resignation. Whaea Moana, who has been working in the kura throughout term 1 has accepted the position until the end of the year. My apologies for this oversight.

I have no further update from the Ministry of Education as to what Alert Level 3 will look like.

Enjoy your weekend in your bubble and hopefully the weather allows for lots of outside activity.

Ngaa mihi

Whaea Chris