

Term 1 Week 9

Monday 23 March 2020

"Te Ako i te Ora" - "Learning through Living"



From the Principal's Pen

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What times we are living in – the uncertainty and constant changes make planning for the future weeks in a term more difficult.

Staff at Marlborough Primary School - **School closed**

Please be aware that we are trying to maintain class programmes and continuity with teachers but some of our staff are in the 'High risk' category from COVID -19 and have been advised to work from home. Therefore, we have some relievers in classes, but be assured the class programmes are being monitored by the teachers from home and are overseen by the relevant Deputy Principals.

Distance Learning if required

Please be assured if we are asked by the Ministry to work off site for short periods of time-we are prepared and have plans organised and ready to go. But in the meantime, we are carrying on as normal with an increased focus on health and hygiene with our students. On-line distance learning is an area that we are currently working on with staff – so that our students and staff can access this from home if the need arises.

Hygiene and Health

We are encouraging and asking that you do the same at home, for children to cough into their elbow away from others, if they are using a tissue to dispose of it correctly, to wash their hands thoroughly before eating, after eating and toileting and also after blowing their nose. Also, when entering the classroom to use the sanitizers on the walls.



Teachers have cleaning products in their rooms to clean tables safely and if a child accidentally sneezes on the table, they have anti-viral sanitizer to use on that table. Our cleaners nightly wash the toilet areas, and sinks etc and have a more intense cleaner to ensure they are as clean as possible. The cleaners also wash the door handles.

Hygiene and Health

There is ongoing communication with students around hygiene practices,

- Extra steps are in place to ensure the hygiene of the school.
- Our cleaning contractors have been instructed to complete a clean of all multi-user surfaces.
- Greetings – we have changed our practices to ensure social distance is maintained
- We are asking students to bring their own pre-filled drink bottles and not to share these.

Signs at our main entrance to the school and classes will now state:

Please do not enter if you are unwell or if you have been required to self-isolate."

Tissues

We are entering the autumn months and the runny noses and colds are starting to appear. Please make sure your child has their own supply of tissues ready.

CALENDAR DATES

2020

Term 1

Thursday 30 January to
Thursday 9 April

Term 2

Tuesday 28 April to
Friday 3 July

Term 3

Monday 20 July to
Friday 25 September

Term 4

Monday 12 October to
Friday 11 December

Social Distancing

All school assemblies and social gatherings have been cancelled until further notice

3 Way conferences

As shared by class teachers on Friday on class dojo and by the school app and website, in light of the escalation of the COVID-19 virus we are not going ahead with the student/ parent /teacher conferences. We are following the guidelines of stopping and cancelling all non-essential gatherings. As the situation clarifies and improves, we will reschedule this for later on in the year.

At this time, we have not organised any alternative to the 3 way conferences - student, parent and teacher as the whole purpose of 3 way conferences is for the student to be involved - sharing their learning, identifying their next steps to their parents and with teacher support.

On this point thank you all for your support in returning your updated forms so promptly, but everyone's health is our priority and we do not want to put anyone who has compromised health at risk.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Duathlon and Triathlon

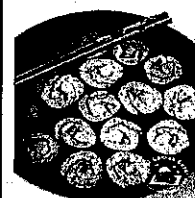
The school duathlon and triathlon was a great success last week. We saw the majority of students completing in some form of other. It was wonderful to hear the encouragement that they gave each other, as they tried to beat their own personal best. I was amazed at how many had achieved their goals of entering the pool and getting out again safely and the perseverance the children showed to complete the course- when others had already finished.

Thank you to the parents who were able to come along and support this very special event at our school.

Personal Items at School

Please remind your child that all toys are kept at home, as well as personal belongings (unless these are on the school stationery list).

This stops the problem of having lost 'expensive' items



Sushi Delivery

Sushi is available for delivery on Wednesday of each week. Order forms are available from the Office.

They must be filled out, correct money enclosed and returned to the Office on a Tuesday by 12noon.

School app. - Kiwi Schools

This is a digital system that allows you to receive newsletters, as well as you being able to record your child's absence. It also allows us to notify you of events that only concern your child's class or team.

Please sign up to this by:

- ⇒ Go to the app store, search for Kiwi Schools, install the app, search for Marlborough Primary School and then you will be asked to 'subscribe'; OR
- ⇒ Go to our Marlborough Primary School website homepage, scroll down to 'Community Connect' and click on the icon for 'Get the Marlborough Primary Mobile app'. Simple as!

Have a great week.

Sue Buckley

'Learning is at the heart of our journey together'