

Saturday 20th August 2021

Happy Weekend Everyone!

Kia ora whaanau, I hope all is well in your bubbles and you can enjoy this sunny weekend ahead.

As I sent out while we were locking down last Tuesday night, our online learning programmes will start again on Tuesday 24th. With the extension of the Level 4 Lockdown now going through until 11:59 pm on Tuesday 24th August, we are preparing, and expecting, to have our students working **online for some time**. We can't imagine being moved from Level 4 to Level 2 in one go, especially with this highly contagious Delta Variant.

**So here we go again! We can all do this!**

**The thing to remember** is that we are all so different. Each bubble has its own challenges and opportunities ahead of them and achieving a one size fits all model does not work. Your families are different and the learning requirements and styles of your children are also vastly different, even within the same household. Some children are self-starters and eager to be extended and do lots of extra work while others really want a lot of one to one support. Welcome to our world! :)

The big thing is making the learning **manageable and a happy** experience for all. If you are finding it stressful, then back off and change to something else. We don't want to lose the love for learning or spoil a relationship over division! So maybe go and bake a cake instead, everyone can do some reading and maths measurement with you and have fun with their learning. Go outside and see how many times you can all catch the ball and not drop it etc. All these are good for children, as I know you realise. What we are saying is, be kind to yourselves as well! With your own work commitments etc, we know it can be a stressful time, so the work plans coming out are for you all to use if you feel you can, but don't let them ruin a perfectly happy day. If you are deciding not to go online at times to do your own programme, can you **please just touch base** with your classroom teachers so that they know where everyone is at.

The **feedback we received** last time was very varied. Some loved the structure and wanted more, while others felt it was too much to ask. You know your children best and your own situation. Choose the parts that work for you. We will try to provide a range of activities for enjoyment, maintenance of facts and extension for those who want it. If you can enjoy doing some reading with your child/children each day that would be great. A bedtime story - **'reading to'** is still an important part of children's reading development. Some sort of writing and maths is also a great thing to achieve. Maybe just a diary of the day, a letter or poem if that takes the fancy,

singing, some times tables! Most of our Seniors have their devices and should be able to work reasonably independently with their teacher's support.

**Attached is a survey** to help us plan ahead. We are also keen to hear if you may need support with a school device. Please [click here to complete the survey](#).

### Wanting Library Books?

As we are expecting things to go on for a bit, our wonderful Mrs Kewish is happy to help coordinate book deliveries. If you would like some books, please email **Mrs Theresa Kewish** - at [tkewish@tamahere.school.nz](mailto:tkewish@tamahere.school.nz) Please put in an order for any specific books you would like or ideas for the types of books you enjoy, please include your child's name, age and classroom. All orders need to be in before 12 noon on Tuesday and we hope to have them available for you in a car delivery style by Wednesday afternoon. More details will follow as things evolve.

This time our three syndicates are also trying to coordinate similar themes, so that everyone in the family can chat about the same topic over lunch maybe.

**Upcoming Events:-** As we all know in these uncertain times - *No one really knows what is going to unfold?* All we know is we will need to keep positive and be as adaptable as possible, while being kind and considerate to all. As yet, we do not have plans in place for the many events that may not be able to happen as stated exactly in our calendar. Some things will be more easily reorganised than others - we will have to roll with whatever comes our way on this and keep you as informed as possible. We always want to do the very best we can for our children, giving them the opportunities, yet not overburdening them. I know for some, disappointment is hard but this generation will be becoming flexible and resilient leaders of the future, if we approach it right.

- Sadly for Maungatautari Syndicate students, three trips have not occurred over these days.
- The Maungatautari trip to Te Iiti o Tauwhare Marae will try to be rescheduled.
- ICAS Exams I am sure will be reorganised with different dates.
- Our Cross County expected on Wednesday 25th will need to be postponed, and maybe it ends up in a Level 2 situation like last year. Inter-Schools will also depend on Levels and conditions. Maybe we have one big Fun Run event - we will wait and see what we can achieve.
- We will also have to wait and see what happens with the Kapa Haka Festival.
- Chess players - please play lots of chess in lockdown and we may still get a tournament with others at some stage.
- Choir please practice the songs and words for our Week 10 performance. I will send a separate email about this.
- Jump Jammers and winter sports players enjoy practising at home - it is great exercise and will keep you ready for when we are all back together again.

- Our new entrant **Tupu Group** - we will endeavour to give you some catch-up times, if possible or we will alter the programme to ensure your children feel comfortable joining us.

Your teachers will be contacting you through SeeSaw and Google Classrooms to share your learning over this coming day? Or week!

Take care - look after yourselves. We hope you can have a happy time in your bubbles and we look forward to having everyone back face to face, as soon as possible.

*Ka kite ano*

Waveney and the whole TMCS Team