

CENTENNIAL PARK SCHOOL

“ Live Truly”

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20th May 2020

Kia ora e te whanau,

(letter #7)

The first week of kura has seen approx half of our students return to a learning platform that is now a little different. As students were welcomed into kura, they have been following the expectations of going straight to class and using sanitiser regularly as they move in and out during breaks. There is a combination of distant learning and in class via devices going on and we are thankful for your patience throughout. This has been challenging for us all, especially our kaiako to adjust to but I am sure you will all be in agreement that they are doing a fantastic job. I would like to thank the whanau that engaged in the 'zui' hui last Friday. It was great to hear your views and comments so we were better prepared for the start of School.

We totally support the position of whanau choosing either way for their child's learning (continue with distant online learning or in attendance at kura. As long as tamariki are engaged in their learning and their education is not compromised we will be able to work our way through this challenge together. At the start of Level 3 before the Lockdown, we ordered extra Chromebook devices to be sent direct to whanau. These are still in the pipeline and although some of you have received them, others are still waiting. Please let us know when they arrive.

There is some work coming through from tamariki that share their views on how they coped with the Lockdown. Certainly some interesting views. Some tamariki were totally bored, others were learning how to cook, some were having little adventures with those inside their home 'bubble space'. We will display some of this in our Office foyer and put some online for viewing and sharing soon.

Buses are in operation again. The bus links with TKHS for drop-offs / pick-ups. There are safety guidelines currently in place around how this works. If your child catches the bus and you would like more information, please call us at the kura.

Next week, Technology for the Year 7 & 8 students will be starting at TKHS. The High School have put into place all possible measures to ensure Health and Safety requirements are met under Level 2. We would like all students prepared for Technology next week by ensuring they have suitable footwear and are wearing full School uniform.

We have been approached by an organisation who wish to trial a pilot program on E-Waste. It is a remote learning program that can be worked on from home or at kura. The program fits in with our focus on Mana Whenua and a strong link to our Uara (School Values). We are still looking into the details and will trial it with Rooms 1 and 3.

We are still awaiting confirmation around Sports fixtures and Interschool fixtures. As soon as we have some clarity, we can confirm with you our whanau and community.

Please continue to keep in contact directly with our kaiako so you are well informed of your tamariki's learning. The combination of distant and in class learning may continue for a little while longer. I am always available for a korero if required, contact the kura directly.

Webinars Thursday/Friday this week

Wellbeing and transitions back to early learning and school for children and young people with learning support needs.

Hosted by Dr David Wales, National Director, Learning Support, this webinar is for parents and whānau supporting children and young people with disabilities, high health needs, learning and behavior difficulties to return to early learning services and schools. Panelists including Mark Potter, Principal Berhampore Primary School, parent Friar Wadia, RTLB Cluster Manager Roseanne Gibson, Practice Adviser Māori (Pouhikiahurea) Sonja MacFarlane and Psychologist Michelle Wood, Ministry of Education, will share their diverse knowledge and experience.

Whanau, you can participate in listening or contributing in this korero. Just click on this link **[to join the live webinar any time](#)** from 10.45am for an 11am start on **Thursday 21 May** and participate by sending questions you'd like the panel to answer through the live chat.

Ngaa manaakitanga ki a koutou katoa

Nāku me ngā mihi o te wā,

Kevin Ikin
Principal
Centennial Park School
Te Kuiti