



Amuri Area School Newsletter 24th April 2020



Perspective! As we wake up on Saturday the 25th April (some earlier than others), it is perhaps a good time to reflect on our history and put our current troubles into perspective.

We need to remind ourselves that we live in arguably the best country in the world. We have a democratically elected government with a focus on our wellbeing. We have no war on our doorstep and our current challenges are dramatically different to those who gave so much on the shores of Gallipoli and elsewhere. Take time with your children this weekend to remember the Anzacs as this will help them to appreciate the good things in life that the efforts and sacrifices of the few allow us to enjoy. Lest We Forget!

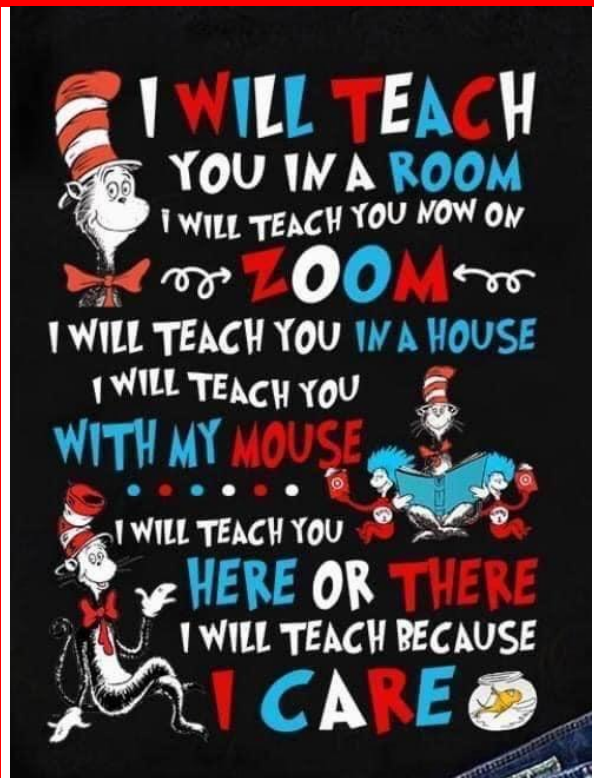


A different type of learning!

Next Wednesday we embark on a dual mode of delivery for education at school. MOST of our students will be continuing with the distance learning option with a few learners returning for onsite delivery.

We are ready and prepared to manage this over the coming days and happy to support those that are unable to keep their children at home during level three. This will continue through to the 11th May at this time.

Please note that parents/visitors and children not in the onsite programme are not permitted on site under level three restrictions and all school facilities are still closed to the public.



Home Internet Safety

Some great work has been completed to help you keep your children safe online at home. Got to [Switch on Safety.co.nz](https://www.switchonsafety.co.nz), scroll down and click on the type of device you are using for some simple tips you can use to firm up your home internet security.



switch  safety

From Kylee Habgood

Kia ora whanau and students

Over the last week I have been joining class Zoom sessions to say hello to all the students who join in. It's been brilliant to see all the faces and to learn what has been happening at home. We've had the opportunity to meet pets and have the pets join our Zoom sessions, along with learning new dance moves, viewing Tik Toks and sharing some funny stories. It's clear the students are missing the contact with their friends and teachers and are enjoying the new way of having a class chat. Thanks to all the parents and siblings who provided some technical support to join the students to the Zoom meetings and to those of you in the background who waved hello!

The Year 1-8 teaching team have been busy on SeeSaw providing work for our students and they are doing a tremendous job. Teaching by distance is very different to teaching in person and they have embraced the challenge and have run with it. We are grateful for the feedback we are getting and using this to fine tune our content and delivery.

I am overwhelmed by the many student and parent responses when I log onto Seesaw and I know there are many more messages going to teacher's personal email. It shows the incredible uptake we've had with the vast majority of our students continuing to strive for the best they can do in these different times. I know they are being well supported by you, the families and whanau. On behalf of the teachers, thank you. We know it's not easy and we thank you for your time, your commitment and your dedication.

We can see light at the end of the tunnel as we move to Level 3 next week and reopen for essential worker's children. Hopefully it will only be a short while after that we are able to open and have all students back on site.

Until then, keep up the good work everyone and 'love your bubble'.



Ginga the Cat getting some home learning action!

Year 7 and 8 ZOOM!



Senior School News from Penny Mossman

It is pleasing to see a majority of our students engaging positively with their learning and a huge thank you to the teachers for the great work behind the scenes and trying to manage technology that at times can be very temperamental!

We have put together a few information points for you that we hope you will find helpful:

1. All class zoom times have been scheduled so ask your child when their subject zoom meetings are and perhaps keep the schedule in a prominent place.
2. You are welcome to view the zoom meetings but please avoid any cameo appearances on screen.
3. Please encourage your child to follow the subject timetable for the day to ensure they are learning across all subject areas.
4. If you feel your child is overloaded in any area, please talk to the teacher concerned.
5. If your child says they do not know what they are doing, please get in touch with the teacher concerned – they do not know what they do not know so communication is most important especially in this distance environment
6. Teachers report that the students are enjoying the chance to see one another on zoom which is good for their wellbeing. One thing please do not let them take photos of the class on zoom conferences as there is no permission to do this.
7. We are all witnessing an unprecedented global event and for students the silver lining will be what they learn and understand as a result. I have read an editorial making the observation that “Covid 19 has afforded our young people a range of compelling life experiences that no classroom can match”. This is evidenced in watching the world respond to the pandemic, watching what happens as countries close their borders, and the power of the state to curb many of our basic freedoms when circumstances demand. Most compelling will be the power of collective action and the sacrifice it brings to overcome adversity.

For our NCEA students we want to say that remember the year is not halfway through. While practical activities have been ‘suspended’ we are hopeful that there will be time as the year progresses to catch some of this up. Our message to you all is to keep up the hard work as it will cushion any downsides of the school year – embrace any course changes that are required as resilience to change is now more important than ever.

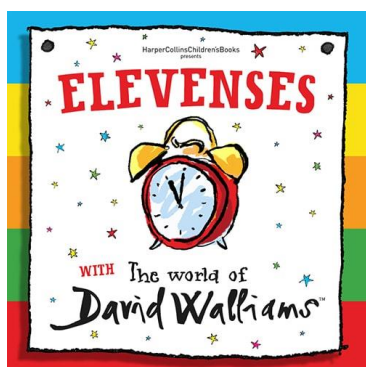
Take care in your bubbles.

Please do not enter school grounds or use school play equipment. These have been closed by the Ministry of Health at this time.

Are you looking for reading and writing extension?

Fun things to do, fun things to listen to and fun things to write, from WORD Christchurch

<https://mailchi.mp/97e4255d33b3/2020-is-calling-2745642>



A short writing competition to enter Ages 8-18

https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/blog/note/2020/04/blue-globe-stories-from-christchurch-art-gallery-t?fbclid=IwAR24JcNTH5S4PEacP1bau2zTuv54qYt-XIP_QWYNRu6irhPyACReCOKunKE

Sign up to their newsletter at <https://wordchristchurch.co.nz/>
(Please note that as we don't live in the city, we can't join the library, but can sign up to the newsletter and enter competitions.)

Mrs Ibbetson
Extension Co-Ordinator

Learning from Home TV



<https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/>

More options for watching Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV is free to air on TVNZ channel 2+1, TVNZ on Demand, as well as on Sky Channel 502 and Vodafone TV.

It can be live streamed at tvnz.co.nz/livetv. Some lessons are also available on TVNZ OnDemand from the [Home Learning TV](#) landing page.

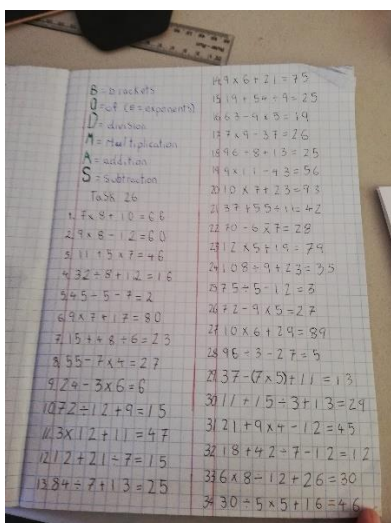
Our Termly Fire Drill

We can't do this together but YOU can do it at home. Go to

<https://fireandemergency.nz/at-home/creating-an-escape-plan/>

And take just 5 minutes to create an escape plan for your family and share it with them over dinner!





Awesome Maths by Bonnie MacDonald

Dragonfly by Gonzalo Vasquez-Jouannet



Supporting our students' physical and mental health

Some students and families need more help. Below is a list of phone numbers that have been collated by school mental health professionals for you to access.

I Am Hope (Access Counselling; call 1737)

Rural Help – 0800 787 254

Crisis Resolution – 0800 920 092 (After hours) 7 days a week Urgent cases only. Run by CDHB

Lifeline – 0800 543 354 For every one.

Safe to Talk – 0800 044 334, text 4334 – If affected by sexual harm

Aviva – 0800 284 82 669 – Family Violence Service

Asian Helpline – 0800 862 342 Answer phone only. You leave a message and they will get back to you.

Suicide Crisis Helpline – 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)

Youthline – 0800 376 633 or free text 234 Available 8 – midnight.

Depression Helpline – 0800 111 757 or free text 4202 Open 24//7

Samaritans – 0800 726 666

Need to Talk? – Free call or text 1737 support from trained counsellor

What's Up – 0800 942 8787 (5-18 year olds) – Phone counselling M to F, 12 – 11pm and Sat/Sun 3pm – 11pm

Kidline – 0800 543 754 for young people up to 18 years of age. Open 24/7

TheLowdown.co.nz or e-mail team@thelowdown.co.nz or free text 5626

Anxiety New Zealand – 0800 269 4389

<http://sparklers.org.nz/> - fun things to do

<http://www.sparx.org.nz/> - help with anxiety and low mood

Child, Adolescent and Family (CAF) Emergency Team (Business hours) 0800 218 219 press 2

Rhona Roberts, Amuri Area School Nurse

027 808 7105

Please call or text

Liz Teulon, Amuri Area School Counsellor

021 0283 2918

Please call or text

THE LIFE OF SHUT DOWN!

It got pretty boring when there were hours during the day that nothing was to be done. Everyone was either wound up or tired or depressed. In saying that there were parts of lock down that were actually really good, like the fact that we only had about 4 hours of school work each day.

The most irritating thing was the fact that the Christchurch Adventure Park was shut 😞!! Another irritation was that we could not have a big duck shooting opening morning. One thing I did enjoy was all the trampoline time that we had. We did some crazy competitions/games, one we could see who could do the most back flips in a row.

The thing I miss the most is the noisy classroom and my friends that I would usually see 5 days a week. The thing I miss the least is everyone telling me to do something when I have already done it, AKA, my classmates. The things I will remember about it is it was boring and a little bit fun at times, and my brothers teasing the Beijinger's out of me.

Let's just say Lockdown was something I should not have got so excited over. It has been a bit of a roller coaster of emotions. One minute it was really good and the next minute I was so bored that I was crawling all over mum and dad and doing literally anything to entertain myself.



By Max McCone

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