

7th April 2020



## COVID-19 Continued Learning

Good Afternoon,

As we progress through the lock down and the school holidays our teams of teachers have been meeting, albeit digitally, to further explore what continued learning will look like at Three Kings School. We are committed to our approach of supporting students and families with a balance of educational activities while understanding that every family's circumstances are different and the priority through this is the mental health and wellbeing of all.

As we look forward to the start of Term 2 we have made a few decisions. The first is that we have put our planned science topic on hold till Term 3. We were so excited about all that we had planned and the opportunity to share our learning with the community through a science fair at the end of it all that we would prefer to do this when we are back together. Our unit on Discovery will hopefully take place in Term 3. In place of this we are going to explore the schoolwide concept of Creativity, as it allows for smaller broken-down pieces that students can dip in and out of during lockdown and we can pick up the threads of it once we are all together again.

We have also been accessing the platform that we will use to communicate and collaborate with our students and family. The google site will still be the place that has an overview of all the learning opportunities, broken down by teams and days. Remember these are suggestions, your family engagement with continued learning may look different on different days. We are keen to also utilise technology in a way that supports connection. As mentioned previously the Kauri syndicate will continue using google classroom. Please take the opportunity to log on to this with your child over the next few days and let the classroom teacher know if there are any connection issues. We have decided to use Seesaw as the platform for our NE to Year 4's. You can expect to receive an email from your child's teacher asking you to join. You can do this online or through a free downloadable app for mobile or tablet. If you have not received an emailed code by Thursday please contact your child's teacher. Our teachers have had their first online training on this, and we are looking at continuing to upskill. We recognise that learning a new platform for you and your child while away from school can be stressful. Please be assured that this is not the curriculum, just a way for us to communicate and collaborate – there is no pressure to understand it all straight away mistakes will happen on both sides. It is important to note that we like the idea of Seesaw going forward as a way of sharing students learning with family, this is not a decision based entirely on the next few weeks. I will update you again following our next training to explain the types of things you may expect from classroom teachers across both these platforms.

You may have also seen in the media the commitment by the Ministry of Education to try to reduce inequity in access to digital learning. We have shared our information with them regarding our community. Although there is no certainty that primary students will be provided devices during the time frame, they have also highlighted their intention to get some educational TV going. The information also means that should we dip in and out of Level 4 (lock downs) the school would be able to provide our school devices to families in need going forward.

Apologies for the length of today's update, if you have any questions stemming from this or anything else please don't hesitate to contact me, [principal@threekings.school.nz](mailto:principal@threekings.school.nz) or your child's teacher. In the meantime, we hope that you are all keeping happy and healthy. We are really looking forward to seeing you back at school once the lock down is lifted and connecting online till then.

Ngā mihi nui,

Moira Blair