

# "Growing Adventurous Learners & GROW – Grit, Respect, Others, Wonder"

Newsletter #05 – Tuesday 14 April 2020



Dear Parents, Whānau and Caregivers



Nau mai, haere mai; a very warm welcome to Term 2 - it's quite a bit different from any start we've had before. The school term begins tomorrow and our teachers are looking forward to connecting with their students again. They have worked diligently over the holidays to learn about and plan remote learning programmes. We are mindful it's our first time doing this, and yours too! So let's be kind and help each other as we go - there will be glitches, things may be tricky and we'll all adapt as we go - do keep in touch with us along the way, we can do this together!

Coming soon! Our very first GROW School Picnic - let's celebrate being back in touch with each other! We missed having our GROW-picnic last term so let's have a virtual one! More details will be sent home in the next day or two, but start planning a picnic at home on Friday 17 April.

GROW-ing Adventurous Learners at Home	
GRIT	Try something new each day Keep trying even when it's tricky Practice mindfulness to help you feel good
RESPECT	Be polite to the people in your bubble! Help out at home Give everyone lots of love
OTHERS	Be kind, do something nice for your family Stay at home Find other ways to stay in touch with family and friends Email your teacher/s to say kia ora!
WONDER	We wonder what interesting things we'll find to do at home?

**Learning at Home** - remote learning or distance learning - it's been called lots of things over the past few weeks. There has been an abundance of information for parents about how to support your children at home. Take care not to be overwhelmed by it all. Just do the best you can and make your first priority everyone's health and well being each day.

Your child's teachers will be in touch with an outline of ideas to start with. You can do as much or as little as suits your family's situation. Please contact your child's home class teacher with any questions you may have. And please, be mindful that our teachers have families too. When learning resumes this week, teachers will still need to exercise some flexibility to stay refreshed and up to date, whilst providing care for their own loved ones. We will be working hard to provide a balance and ensure everyone is well supported.

There has been lots of speculation about when the end of lockdown will actually be and what will happen when it ends. Whilst no definite dates have been set down yet, the MOE is working closely with school leaders on plans for re-opening. Some scenarios which are already in the public domain hint at a re-opening at a time after Anzac Day. Whenever it is that schools get the green light, we understand there will first be a transition period where selected school staff can be on site for cleaning and lesson preparation but the school is still closed to students. Only once schools have been sanitised will they be able to open for all staff and students. We will keep in touch about likely dates.

### **Keep connected Paparangi - put a rainbow in your window!**

Move over teddy bears! Make way for a rainbow! All over the world people have been putting colourful rainbow pictures on their windows to cheer up passers-by. The rainbows aim to make people smile while they're out walking. Rainbows are used as a symbol of peace and hope as they often appear when the sun follows a heavy rainfall. They serve to remind us that there is hope and light to follow even after dark times. The current trend appears to have started in Italy but has also been adopted by other countries around the world, where people have adorned their windows with colourful pictures.



So why not add a rainbow picture or painting to your window for passers-by to see? And if you're a Paparangi/Newlands local you could go one step further and add a 'Paparangi' sign so other Paparangi kids passing by know your rainbow is drawn by a friend from school. When school re-opens bring your rainbow to school for a display.

### **Have you heard of [Sparklers](#)?**

It is a well-being website for kids. Sparklers is backed by both science, NZ research and wellbeing specialists. Most importantly, it's super easy for anyone to pick up and try - that's part of the reason teachers love it. Sparklers is all about helping kids to:

- Learn to understand and manage their emotions,
- Build their self-esteem,
- Make (and be!) good friends,
- and long-term, understand all about their wellbeing.



Using [Sparklers at Home](#) is really simple. Here's some tips to Sparklers success!

- Honestly, just give it a go and see!
- Start with an activity that appeals to you.
- End each activity on a high note (sometimes literally)!
- Be prepared to be 'in this together' with your child – sometimes it's uncomfortable to try new things, but hey, you're a great role-model because here you are!

### **Remote learning**

Thanks to everyone who responded to last week's request about access to devices. Your answers helped heaps with our work with the Ministry to ensure as many Y4-6 students as possible have access to a device to support their learning at home. Families who made a request for a device were contacted yesterday with initial information. We'll be in touch again as plans fall into place. It is unlikely that every senior student who needs one will have a chromebook ready to use when school starts tomorrow ... and that's okay!

Teachers have been or will be in touch soon about their learning programmes. Many of our suggested activities do not need a device and we encourage a balance between online learning and learning in the home - in the kitchen, outside in the backyard or at the dining room table!

We sent home Remote Learning Guidelines at the start of the lockdown. They're attached again to this notice if you wish to do further reading about learning in a lockdown. Before you begin learning at home, we urge all parents to explore their child's class programme first and think about what may be appropriate and decide when and for how long sessions should last for your child (those online or other practical tasks). Take time to discuss protocols with your child for how to keep them safe online. If devices are being shared with other family members, this will also need to be factored into your timetable. Encourage your child with each and every activity, but if at times they are not interested or have had enough, we advise that you don't force them to continue. We recommend that you take each day as it comes and judge what is right for your child on any given day - spending time outside, kicking a ball or building a fort may be a better option!

## Switch on Safety - FREE N4L safety filter for all students

The MOE & N4L have set up a safety filter that parents can set up on their child's learning devices from home. Just go to [switchonsafety.co.nz](http://switchonsafety.co.nz) to find clear instructions on how to do this. The free N4L safety filter blocks websites containing known cyber threats like phishing scams, malicious content and viruses, while also protecting children from content deemed the worst of the web (like adult sites). It is an extension of one of the many safety and security services we have in place at schools and is a valuable layer of protection to help keep children safe online. Please remember that technology is not a silver bullet and the filter should be used in combination with Netsafe's online parent safety toolkit.

How does it work?

Once a child's device is set up, all internet search requests will go through the safety filter which checks if the website they are trying to visit is safe before allowing access. If it's a website that's known to be unsafe, then it will be blocked. The safety filter is applied to the child's device, so parents' devices are not affected.

## Know a little one turning 5 soon?

We'd like to know about potential new enrolments for the rest of the year, especially families with a four year old turning five between now and February 2021. Please contact the Principal for more information.



### Notice regarding enrolment at Paparangi School for Enrolment Period 2

Enrolment at Paparangi School is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from our website: [www.paparangi.school.nz](http://www.paparangi.school.nz). In 2020 there are 2 enrolment periods of which, the second enrolment period runs from Saturday 4 July 2020 until Tuesday 15 December 2020.

The board has determined that **up to 6** places are likely to be available for out of zone students for the second enrolment period. The exact number of places will depend on the number of applications received from students who live within the school's home zone. For out of zone students seeking enrolment within the second enrolment period, the deadline for receipt of applications for out of zone places is 9am, Friday 5 June 2020. If the number of out of zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot for out of zone places is required, this will be held on Friday 5 June 2020. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held. Details of how applications from out of zone students are processed are available on our school website.

Parents of students who live within the home zone and intend enrolling their child at any time during the rest of the year should notify the school by Friday 5 June 2020 to assist the school to plan appropriately for the remainder of the year. Students who live in the home zone are entitled to enrol at the school.

*Kind regards, Paparangi School Board of Trustees*

**A reminder that although the term has started, our physical school site is still closed and no one may enter school grounds. Thanks to families who respected this instruction from the government during the holiday break. We'll let you know when the school grounds are open again, we hope it's soon!**



REMINDER:  
No Dogs on  
School Property



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**And finally ... He waka eke noa - we are all in this together!**



*Kia kaha! Tracey Arthurs, Principal*



Want to keep connected with school? Go to the [Paparangi School facebook page](#).