

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

Newsletter #06 – Monday 20 April 2020



Dear Parents, Whānau and Caregivers



Nau mai, haere mai; A very warm welcome to Zoey, Aadvik, Austin and Joseph who have joined Uenuku and are learning from home with the rest of Paparangi.

Firstly a great big thank you for the support you have given your children with their learning at home since the lockdown began, and more recently since term two started. There's certainly a lot of learning going on for the adults too! Everyone is doing a super job and I really appreciate the effort parents and teachers are making to help our tamariki connect with each other and their teachers. I'm enjoying seeing your Seesaw posts, it's wonderful to see the enthusiasm, creativity and grit of our students.

Wow! Thanks for taking part in our virtual school picnic last Friday. We loved seeing photos of you. Our tech-savvy teachers are putting together a highlights reel and we hope to share this with you soon.



This week's Fun Friday activity is Wacky Hair Day - have fun, go hair-crazy - get the whole family involved if you wish! Share photos through Seesaw for us all to see. I can't wait - do I have enough hair yet for a little pony tail?

Alert Level 3 and the reopening of school

There has been lots of talk about Level 3 and what it will mean for school. The overriding principle for [Alert Level 3](#) is Stay Safe - so staying at home for many people will continue. A return to school at Level 3 will require a lot of orchestrating to maintain social distancing between adults and children. There are a number of suggestions being put to schools, some of which are practical and some of which are not! The Director-General of Health has recommended that schools start with bubbles of 10 and over time move to 20. We will wait until we hear officially more later this afternoon and then later in the week we will be in contact to let you know what is being put in place for Paparangi School.

Firewood - Silent Auction

Our big pine tree on the top field was damaged by high winds over Easter weekend. The TreeDoctors have been on site to cut down the branches that were hanging precariously. Thanks to the Eilbeck family for alerting us to the damage. One of the branches is a fairly large size so we are going to save the wood for a school fundraiser. We'll hold a silent auction once school re-opens and the auction winner can safely remove the branch for firewood.

New web portal for whānau Māori

Kia Manawaroa is a new web portal for whānau Māori on [education.govt.nz](https://www.education.govt.nz). Kia Manawaroa brings together information from the Ministry of Education and other education agencies, to support iwi and Māori audiences to increase their knowledge about educational choices available. This will therefore provide opportunities for whānau to be more actively involved in supporting their children's learning. The purpose is to provide information for whānau about education, in a way that is clear, easy to understand and resonates with Māori.

"Kia manawaroa" is a common phrase in te reo Māori. It is a call to action, to remain strong in the face of adversity. It was used on the battlefield, when paddling and sailing waka, in explorations for new homes or whenua, and in settling disputes. In this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is a call of encouragement, of rising to the challenge, of combining our strength to push through these dark times and emerge into the light – "Ki te Ao Mārama".

Talanoa Ako (to talk and discuss education and learning)

Talanoa Ako (to talk and discuss education and learning) is a Pacific responsive education programme that builds Pacific families' knowledge about education and learning. The 10 week programme builds the confidence and capability of parents to support their children's learning and have equitable partnerships with their children's schools. As the Talanoa Ako programme cannot be delivered face-to-face, the 10 sessions will be provided via radio and an app. This ensures Pacific families have access to the advice and guidance they need at home to support their children's education in their own languages.

Have you set up the Free internet safety filter on your child's device?

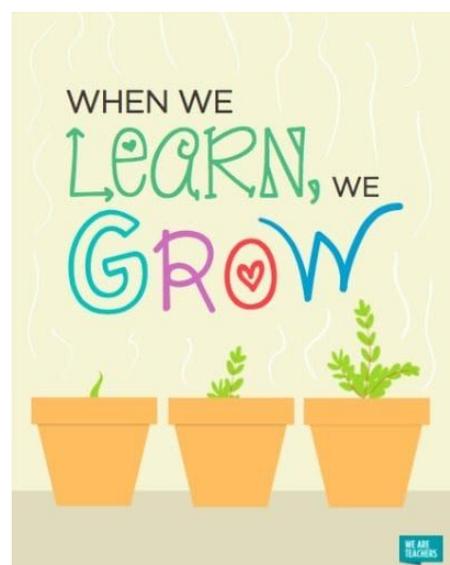
While children are learning from home, they are away from the online safety and security services provided by Network for Learning (N4L) at school. So together with N4L and Netsafe, the MOE have launched www.switchonsafety.co.nz - a free way to block the worst of the web for students and teachers. Follow the instructions to set up your child's device for safer connectivity while they learn from home. Remember, no technical solution is a silver bullet so Netsafe are also providing advice for parents. Netsafe provides comprehensive support and information to support everyone to stay safe as they work, learn and play online. Netsafe has new and updated resources for parents, whānau and students at <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/staying-safe/>.

The Connected Learning Advisory

Got tech trouble? Help desk support is available for parents and whānau from early learning through to secondary in English medium and Māori medium settings. You can phone the Learning from Home helpdesk on 0800 700 401 and Ki Te Ao Marama on 0508 294 462 between 8 am and 5 pm on business days.

A reminder that although the term has started, our physical school site is still closed and no one may enter school grounds without the permission of the Ministry of Education. We'll let you know when the school grounds are open again.

Kia kaha! Tracey Arthurs, Principal



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