



Buckland School Mini Newsletter

Buckland School is committed to providing quality education that engages all students fully in a wide range of learning experiences that will assist them in preparing for the challenges of the future.

15 April 2020

www.buckland.school.nz

Kia Ora Buckland School
Whanau and Community
Members

- ◆ **We are** coming to the end of our revised school holidays and I trust that everyone has stayed safe, healthy and happy over this period of time.
- ◆ The first day of Term 2 is Wednesday 15th April, with our nation still being in Level 4 Lockdown. On Tuesday 14th our amazing teachers will reach out to students and families through email to reconnect and share their ideas for learning at home. On Wednesday each family will receive a phone call from teachers to say Hi and answer any questions and offer support. If possible please have a look over the email prior to the phone call.
- ◆ We have received questions around how to approach learning at home. Please be mindful that there is **no** expectation for you to replicate our school environment. Being consistent, creative and valuing the opportunity to spend time together as a family is important. Keep learning simple, manageable and enjoyable for everyone. Children will be learning throughout any family activities. We have enjoyed having some wonderful family activities shared over the holiday period: It is important to acknowledge that this 'learning from home' situation is new for teachers, students and whanau.
- ◆ **Teacher availability** —please contact your child's teacher with any queries through their school email during the hours 9 a.m.— 3 p.m. I am also available to assist so please don't hesitate to contact me on my email: principal@buckland.school.nz
- ◆ **General Outline of available learning opportunities:** All children have their Mathletics

accounts and StepsWeb available to use. New Entrant, Yr 1—2/Yr 3 & 4 also have Sunshine reading available to them. Teachers in Yr 1—2 have designed some activity boards which will be emailed tomorrow. Yr 3—8: Teachers have organised Google Classrooms and students will find activities on these to do. For those not already in Google Classroom—in order to access students must go into Google Classrooms using their school email address and their Google password and accept the invitation. (If students have forgotten these teachers can assist.) From here students can work on the Google platform and teachers will be able to comment on work and students will be able to communicate with teachers. We ask that at this time students only share work and comments with their teachers. Due to the short time prior to lockdown and the number of students who were absent we have been unable to familiarize students especially our Yr 3 & 4s with Google so they will need support initially from parents or older siblings. (Remember we are here to help so please don't stress!) By using this Google platform teachers will also be able to assist parents by seeing the sites students are on. Parents however have the overall responsibility for keeping their children safe on-line. See the last newsletter for information on cyber safety from MOE and Police.

- ◆ **Home learning television**
The Ministry of Education has been working with teachers and leaders, alongside staff from ERO and Te Kura to develop Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV, on TVNZ, which will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on school days on TVNZ2+1 and

Sky channel 502. Some lessons will also be available on TVNZ On Demand. There will be content for parents and whanau. The Ministry of Education are also going to provide learning experiences on TV with pre-school children and tamariki, and lessons for those aged 5 to 15 years of age will cover a broad curriculum that includes movement, music, physical education, wellbeing, numeracy, literacy and science through an integrated approach to curriculum.

- ◆ A further resource is the new website called '**Learning from Home.**'
- ◆ In thinking about this unprecedented and stressful time I want to share the Mental Health Foundation's Five Ways to Wellbeing. These are research-based practices demonstrated to have efficacy on mental health. I like the clarity and simplicity of the message they offer and the call to ethical action that nurtures the wellbeing of our students, families, staff and community. The 5 daily mental health practices are:
 - Connect - talk and listen to each other, build relationships with those around you
 - Give - your time, your words, your presence; do something nice for your family, a friend or stranger
 - Take Notice - be curious
 - Keep Learning - embrace new experiences, see opportunities, surprise yourself
 - Be Active - do what you can; enjoy what you do; move your mood.

Stay safe everyone, do what is asked of you and be kind to yourselves and others. Together we will get through this! Kia Kaha

kindest Regards
Mavis Glasgow
Principal

