



27 March 2020

Dear Parents and whanau

I am writing on behalf of the staff and board to sincerely express my gratitude for the positive acceptance of our home learning packages. As a result of being a future focused school for eight years we have been challenged occasionally by a few new families as to why children should have an iPad. Who would have envisaged that this virus would invade our lives in 2020?

We have a school community who embraces the importance of ongoing learning, so we have transferred to the online world quite seamlessly. The quality of work we are seeing from our students is reassuring that they will remain positive in this environment and continue to practise those necessary skills to communicate effectively. However, we know that you are not trained teachers, so don't get too stressed if you don't understand something the children are asked to complete. Let your children try and solve or contact the teacher.

I have also heard examples of parents who are also being trained in IT learning by our teachers. A wonderful scenario of community engagement. This awful situation has brought out the best in our school families.

Today is now officially the last day of term one, so have a break for the next two weeks and spend some quality time with your family. Create some family games which, if successful you could share via Seesaw. For example, a Masterchef competition, Easter egg/sweet hunt around your property, a Mastermind competition etc.

Please allow the teachers to have a break too, as they need to recharge their batteries. We will notify you about the next stage in this journey of home learning towards the end of the holidays. The holidays officially finish on the 14 April. If the lockdown continues, we will start the students off with a new package for term two.

I have decided to relocate our school cat Tiger to the Steger-Hood family's ten acre home. He loves company and this school family has always come into school during the holidays and fed him. So, they are familiar to Tiger. I have seen photos of him and he looks very happy.

Take care and I hope you are practising our school values! Be kind to each other.

Kia Kaha.

Yours sincerely

Merillees Nicholls

Merillees Nicholls
Principal

