



Ngatimoti School News

Wednesday 8 April 2020

Although I know it is officially the holidays, it is a Wednesday so my brain is telling me it is newsletter day! I hope this brief newsletter finds you all healthy and well, and still enjoying time at home.

Our Ngatimoti School vision “**For all students to be R.I.V.E.R. students, confident and able to navigate in a changing world**” is perfect for these unusual circumstances. I hope your children are managing to use their RIVER values at home. For example:

Respecting the rules (stay home, save lives)

positively showing gratitude for the weather, the outdoor environment or your neighbours!

innovating, perhaps by building a hut or creating a new recipe using only the ingredients you have

having excellent habits such as washing hands well and sneezing or coughing into an arm

Responsibly being a member of the bubble and doing chores to help out around the home.

I think this is a great opportunity for you to spend extra time doing fun and simple activities with your children (eg baking) but it is also a great time for children to be doing things without constant adult support, but that you can join in with at the end, or praise them for! (eg making up a ‘fitness trail’)

If you need ideas for activities, the Sparklers website might be useful: [Sparklers at Home](#).

A couple of important things you need to know:

1. Because of Covid19 the school holiday dates were brought forward. Holidays started on 31 March and finish after Easter. Because the Tuesday after Easter is always a holiday for schools, Term 2 will begin on Wednesday 15 April.
2. Wednesday 15 April is still lockdown time and so school will not be school like we have known it! Teachers will be connecting with students in a variety of ways to enable distance learning.
3. The Ministry of Education does expect that some school-directed learning will happen from 15 April, however this might look different in each household. During this time it will be important to have a little bit of structure in each day, however we certainly do not expect you to have your child doing school work from 9 am till 3 pm!
4. Teachers are all happy to be contacted by email if you need some support with anything – even if it is just to say hi and feel like you are connecting with another adult!
5. We do not want the thought of schooling your child to add any stress to your day. Please don’t worry about this.

