

Ross Intermediate School

TE KURA WAENGA O ROSS

Ross Intermediate – A Message From The Principal

Tuesday 24 March 2020

Kia ora whānau,

Let me begin by thanking you all for your support of the Covid-19 Alert Level Change. We had no advanced warning so have been, like you, trying to navigate this space as best we can. We remain open tomorrow for students from families identified as providing essential services. From Thursday the school will be closed and will not be accessible by staff or students.

You will receive from your child's teacher a video greeting and email in the coming days. This is so we can start to get used to what this new learning environment will look like. Remember we are hoping this will only be for 2 weeks and we can not replicate what happens in a normal school day at home.

We will begin providing learning from Tuesday 14 April. The time from now till then is considered to be the school holidays so you will not hear a lot from us. We are using this time to be prepared to assist your children in an online environment.

Our focus as a school is to maintain connections with students and keep relationships with our learners strong. We will also be providing formal Literacy and Numeracy work along with afternoon activities that families can work on together.

The main form of communication with parents and school will be via email. We are asking that teachers respond to emails within 24 hours. We are not expecting teachers to be available 24/7 and so immediate responses will not always be possible. We ask for your continued support as we work through these unprecedented times together.

So what might the day look like?

Students will receive a welcome email at the start of each day from their teacher. This will include some student awards from the day before and a heads up on what is happening for the day. We are looking at Literacy and Numeracy happening from 9 - 12 with afternoon activities made available. The link for these is at the bottom of my email.

It is important to include break times for students as well. We will be exploring ways that students can come together live from the second week of online learning. This would most likely be using a tool such as zoom, video conferencing.

This is new for all of us, please bear with us if there are technical issues experienced by us or yourselves.

What if we as a family are happy to sort stuff ourselves?

Ka pai, go for it, what we are offering is simply a support to families should it be required. We know that some families will have their own plans.

Finally we strongly suggest that you create a space in your home for students to be able to complete their learning from. This should be in a public space so you can remain connected with your child and the teacher.

Included with this message is a link to a site with some good tips for parents, feel free to check it out.

<https://www.metroparent.com/daily/education/homeschooling/tips-for-digital-at-home-learning/>

We are hoping that this will be resolved following a 2 week isolation from school (plus the holiday time). Should parents or students have any questions in the coming weeks you can submit this via an online form by clicking [HERE](#).

NOTE: This will not be closely monitored over the break period but will be fully operational when we start online learning from the 14th April.

Please take care of yourselves over the coming weeks and we look forward to welcoming our students back at school in due course.

Included with this email is a video for students (see link below).

Ngā mihi

Sent on behalf of **Wayne Jenkins**
PRINCIPAL

COVID-19 AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES (will be added to over the holiday period)

MESSAGE FOR STUDENTS FROM MR JENKINS