**URGENT & Important Information** 



## Home Based Learning Community Newsletter 9 April, 2020

## Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau

We are now over half way through the lockdown of New Zealand, and adapting to a way of life that is not our normal way. This requires a lot of patience and flexibility and a need for understanding and compassion. I extend my best wishes to you all and have absolute faith that if we all keep to our bubbles, support the current government initiatives and requirements and respect the essential services and workers, we will get through this as quickly as possible with the least impact on our communities. *This newsletter will be available on the school's website in the Newsletter tab.* 

Schools have been asked to move to a Home Based Learning environment to support students and families during the lockdown. Staff at Maunu School have been working hard before the term break and over the term break, to prepare resources and programmes that will best suit our children's needs given the trying and difficult situation we are all experiencing.

Below details what Home Based Learning looks like at Maunu School. This is an ever-changing environment as we are developing as we go. This will take courage and flexibility from us all as we navigate our way through this time.

### Important things to remember about Home Based Learning at Maunu School:

- Home Learning is not the same as Home-schooling or online learning as most of our staff, children and families are not prepared with the specific skills and resources to ensure it is the same;
- This new format of teaching is not the same as if your child was at school, in their class with their teacher and their friends. However, we will make it as beneficial as possible;
- It is our intention to provide learning experiences for your children that give them "the freedom to soar" and to grow their minds.

### What might Home Based Learning look like:

- This will be different in every household as parents and families juggle the complexities of lockdown;
- A timetable is attached to this newsletter which can provide some guidance for parents and children getting into a routine is the best way to cope with the demands of family life and learning expectations;
- The programme involves the use of devices (refer to notes on access later in this newsletter), pen and paper activities, physical activities and tasks that come from the home;
- The desire is that every child will engage in the learning activities set by their teacher for 2 hours per day.
- Other activities can be sourced from the links and sites that have been provided by the teacher, as part of this newsletter or from the Ministry of Education's (MoE) sites and the time given to these is up to each family;
- All teachers will be available to engage with parents answering any questions or queries and providing them with ideas, strategies and advice as to how to best support their child at home with Home Based Learning. This can be done using SeeSaw, Google Classroom, email, text or phone call.
- At this stage we have not set up video call facilities as we have to sort out privacy issues.
- Teachers will update the learning programmes regularly and will maintain contact with children and families
- It is hoped that parents will support their children with home based learning by providing space to work, resources to support, food and drink to replenish active brains, physical activity to recharge, and positive encouragement.
- Remember, if something is not working or is causing frustration move on to another activity and seek support from the teacher.

#### Access to Devices and Internet:

- Maunu School surveyed all families as to their child's isolation address, internet connection and their access to a digital device;
- This information was then passed on to the MoE who are now looking at how to get devices to children and to improve internet speed and data caps. This is not controlled by the school. If you receive a device please let your child's teacher know;
- The MoE is also providing some Home Learning packs for children who do not have internet or request a home pack. The school is unable to provide home packs as we do not have access to the school site or copying facilities.
- Please note that children who get devices from the MoE on loan must return these once school resumes and g families who get the internet connected by MoE, it is free for 6 months;
- The MoE is developing a TV channel that will provide educational programmes aimed at all levels – more info as it comes to hand;

#### Links to Support Learning from Home:

In addition to what our Maunu Teams have planned for Learning at Home, the Ministry of Education has launched Learning from home and Ki te Ao Mārama, two new websites to support teachers, learners, parents and whānau so that learning for children and young people can continue at home. Click on the links below:

Learning from Home

<u>Ki te Ao Mārama</u>

The link below provides ideas from the Ministry of Education on how students can continue to be involved in learning experiences at home. They have been organized into specific year levels.

Ideas to help with reading, writing and maths.

The following are links that Maunu teachers have identified as very useful, user friendly, fun and self-regulating. We will update these sites over the next week or so :

Storytime	https://storytime.rnz.co.nz/ (excellent site with stories to listen to)	
Maths	<u>https://maths.prototec.co.nz/</u> (great for maths practice and basic facts – imagine if all children came back knowing their basic facts!!!)	
'Sparklers' -	https://sparklers.org.nz/parenting/ the wellbeing website.	
Scholastic	www.scholastic.com/home	
The kids should see this	https://thekidshouldseethis.com/	
Probable365	http://www.pobble365.com/	

nga mihi Keep safe, Be kind, Be caring Paul Shepherd Principal Maunu School The following are some facebook links from John Parsons (Cybersafety and Risk Assessment Consultant) to support parents with cybersafety and online learning:

## CHILDREN & ONLINE GAMES - A NOSY PARENT IS A LOVING PARENT

https://www.facebook.com/johnparsonsS2E/videos/653756001863893/

### **BEDROOM, BATHROOM, PAJAMAS**

https://www.facebook.com/johnparsonsS2E/videos/1112030665810052/

#### HOW TO DEAL WITH ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

https://www.facebook.com/johnparsonsS2E/videos/643131269822891/

#### CYBER SECURITY FOR SENIORS

https://www.facebook.com/johnparsonsS2E/videos/889098608199933/

# Possible Maunu School Home Based Learning Timetable:

Time	Learning Activity	Description
9.30– 10.00am	Get Moving	<ul> <li>Do something to get your body moving to get your heart rate up</li> <li>Have a snack and drink</li> </ul>
10.00 – 11.30am	Learning Time #1	<ul> <li>Device:</li> <li>Choose 2 activities from the Maunu Home Learning resources</li> <li>Make contact with your teacher</li> <li>Non Device:</li> <li>Eg: Sudoku, flash cards, board games, reading, Maths, Inquiry tasks</li> </ul>
11.30 -11.45am	Snack break	
11.45 – 12.30pm	Learning Time #2	<ul> <li>Device:</li> <li>Choose 1 activity from the Maunu Home Learning resources</li> <li>Make contact with your teacher if you didn't in block #1</li> <li>Non Device:</li> <li>Choose 1 activity that does not require devices – teacher prepared or from home ideas</li> </ul>
12.30 – 1.30pm	Lunch	
1.30 – 3.00pm	Free Learning	<ul> <li><u>Explore Curiosity</u>: things you are interested in</li> <li><u>Explore Creativity</u>: make or create anything you like. Projects can be big or small</li> <li><u>Explore Skills</u>: practise a skill you have that you would like to get better at</li> </ul>
	Optional Activities	<ul> <li>Locally – play outside</li> <li>Cooking/baking</li> <li>Play games with those inside your bubble</li> <li>Watch learning channel on TV</li> <li>Read, sing, dance, create</li> <li>Help around the house; chores</li> <li>??</li> </ul>