



Darfield Primary School

Te Whenua Kōkōwai

Standing Tall: Reaching our Potential

29 October 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Today you have received a hard pack of learning opportunities for your child to complete if we are in some form of lockdown in the near future.

After each lockdown we reflect on ways of improving the opportunities we provide students and we decided that we could further enhance our lockdown programme by providing, not only online learning opportunities, but hard copies. *There is no expectation that these will all be completed - your child may prefer the existing online learning opportunities.*

We hope that this pack may not be necessary and that we are all able to attend school as usual. If life is continuing as normal please tuck your child's hardpack away in a safe place in case we may need it in the future.

If we are in lockdown:

For this lockdown we are providing a mix of online learning and hard packs. This means that you will be able to pick and choose what suits your child best.

Hard Packs

The hard packs are intended to last for four weeks - please ensure your child paces him/herself, as staff will be unable to provide more hard packs until after 4 weeks and it is extremely difficult to organise and coordinate hard-pack pickups.

Online Learning

We will once again be offering each class an online Zoom session with their teacher. Teachers will send you an email which will provide Zoom times and reminders for how to connect.

Teachers will also be providing your child with the weekly online "*Challenge*" sheet. This sheet will be filled with a range of learning opportunities.

Daily Timetable

A practical timetable was suggested by the Ministry of Education in 2020 to keep students motivated - you may choose to use this timetable as a guide for your family.

Before 9.00am	Wake up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eat breakfast, make your bed, get dressed, help our with any family chores
9-10am	Family exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family walk with the dog or a bike ride• Take the ball outside for a kick around• Bounce on the trampoline• Go Noodle

9-12.30pm	Learning at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timetabled connection via Zoom with your Whanau Teacher • Connecting with your teachers and classmates through Google Classroom • Choose 1-2 activities from Darfield Primary's online Learning SlideShow (located on our web page) or on the new sites listed below in this letter • Choose 1-2 activities from your Team's Google Classroom site
9-12.30pm	Creative Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore things that you are interested in • Make or create anything you want. Projects can be big or small • Practise a skill you have that you'd like to get better at
12-12.30pm	Lunch	
12.30-1pm	Helping at home	<p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wipe all kitchen tables and chairs • Wipe all door handles, light switches and desk tops • Wipe both bathrooms - sinks and toilets
1-2.30pm	Learning at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose 1-2 activities from Darfield Primary's online Learning SlideShow (located on web page) or on the new sites listed below in this letter • Choose 1-2 activities from your Team's Google Classroom site
2.30-3.30pm	Creative Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore things that you are interested in • Make or create anything you want. Projects can be big or small • Practise a skill you have that you'd like to get better at
	Optional Activities	<p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play outside • Cooking / baking • Play games with your family and others in your bubble • Watch learning channel on TV • Read / Sing / Dance / Create • Help around the house

Please note that this is a suggested timetable. The only fixed times are when teachers are scheduled to be available for Zoom sessions. Your children are able to complete the learning activities at any time throughout the day/week.

Also please note that we are providing an adapted curriculum. This is not the work or structure that they would follow in their 'normal' classroom day.

Whānau teachers will email all of their students (via the student's school Gmail account) prior to beginning online learning:

- **remind them of their teacher's email address**
- **the details about the Zoom sessions that will be available for students to connect with their whānau teacher in the Pikopiko, Kōwhai and Rimu Teams.**
- **any further communication (Zoom session invites) to Kōwhai and Rimu Team will go directly to the students**
- ***parents of younger students will need to assist them to access these Zoom sessions.***

Please also use the teacher's email address if you are experiencing any difficulty with connecting to your child's online learning.

This letter is also being placed on the front page of our school website so that you can access the links below.

[Zoom for Parents and Students](#)

Zoom tutorial for parents about how children should use Zoom

Supporting Learning from Home:

In addition to what our Teams have planned for Learning at Home (School Website and each Team's Google Classroom), the Ministry of Education has continued to provide Learning from Home and Ki te Ao Mārama, two 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](#)

[Ki te Ao Mārama](#)

The link below also provides ideas from the Ministry of Education on how students can continue to be involved in learning experiences at home. They have been organised into specific year levels. Please Note: Some activities are not recommended at this time due to the need for social distancing.

[Ideas to help with Reading, Writing and Maths](#)

Wellbeing Opportunities:

Mana Ake

Check out the [Mana Ake Website](#) if you are looking for some helpful tips for ways to talk to your child about Covid-19 provided by the mental health and well-being support team, Mana Ake.

[Sparklers for parents](#)

Fun wellbeing activities to support whānau to look after their wellbeing and feel good

[Headspace](#)

Mindfulness and help with sleeping

Other Learning Opportunities you may want to explore:

[CORE Education - LERNZ](#)

Free virtual field trips, helping students access the inaccessible. Visiting inspiring places around Aotearoa, Antarctica and beyond.

[NASA at Home](#)

[Reading - Storytime. Radio New Zealand on line audio stories](#)

[Reading - David Walliams books read aloud](#)

[You Tube for kids](#)

This allows you to have more control over what your kids are watching

Ngā mihi

Meredith Devonald

Tumuaki | Principal