



## **TITAHI BAY SCHOOL - KURA KIDS are Believers and Achievers**

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### **Message from the Board of Trustees**

You have probably heard on the news today that the country is currently at alert level 3 and will move to alert level 4 in 48 hours. Only essential services will remain open. It was announced this afternoon by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern that schools are closing for at least 4 weeks. This is effective as of tomorrow. However, the children of essential workers, such as doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers and police will be able to come to school tomorrow and Wednesday, but this changes at midnight Wednesday when all schools will be closed for 4 weeks. These children need to report to the office by 8.50am on Tuesday.

We are very aware that learning is not the only thing in our community that needs support. Our staff will be in touch with you in the next 2 days to share the digital plan for years 4-6 and some other ways of learning. We care about our KURA kids and we will ensure that care packages will be delivered in the next 48 hours to some of our KURA families. We will not stop contact with you. We want you to let us know if you have needs and you can do this by contacting your classroom teacher or Kerry Delaney.

Stay safe, be kind to one another and look after your whanau. We look forward to welcoming all our KURA kids back when life settles down for all of us.

*Sarah Campbell, on behalf of the Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees*

### **Message from Kerry**

These are very interesting times for us at school, you at home, our communities, NZ and the world.

I am getting lots of emails and messages about what you can do at home for learning while school is closed. Our staff is working on a document that will come home sometime this week and it will have lots of links to many educational places you can go to in the digital world. We have also revamped our old KURA school homework booklet which is full of fun and interesting things you can get your children to do around home.

You can choose as a parent what you want to do at home, you may be inclined to create a mini school at home for your KURA kids and, if you are doing this, make sure that you consider the broader needs of your kids. Learning is important and so is fun! We are sending out lots of fun activities that you can do with your children over this time.

Our KURA kids could be scared and unsure right now, they are hearing the adults talking and discussing this COVID 19 Virus. They are hearing stories from their peers which may not be what your message is to them at home and this can lead to anxiety and tension.

Our KURA kids have never experienced anything like this and you may not have either. Although the idea of being off school for a few weeks sounds awesome, you and your KURA kid are probably thinking about the last summer holiday break where it was sunny, the beach was open and you could do so many other fun activities. The reality now is that you are going to be at home and not popping out to fun things or visiting friends.

I can see in the coming weeks you might see an increase in some behaviours and issues with anxiety, times of anger and even tension in your homes. This will be due to changes in life and the consistency around our KURA kids.

What our KURA kids need right now is to feel comforted and loved. To feel like it's okay and we are all going to be okay. Remember to share the words from the Nathan Wallis video I put on our school Facebook page. This might mean you tear up the home school schedule and look at what else you can do. Our KURA kids need to feel the air on their face: get outside and set up an exercise place in your backyard, you can still walk along the beach and around the harbour. Play board games, play card games (google all the games you can play with a pack of cards), start a family book reading session every day, write letters to the over 70's in your whānau or street, bake or cook something for an over 70 in your street.

I want to reassure you - don't worry about your KURA kid dropping levels as we will fill those gaps once we are all back at school together.

Arohanui,  
*Kerry Delaney*