

**TITAHI BAY SCHOOL -** KURA KIDS are Believers and Achievers ***Kura Street,*** *Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022****P O Box*** *50441, Porirua 5240*  ***Phone:*** *04 236 8399*

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What an astonishing time we are living through. I am hoping you and your whanau are well and are making the most of the “BUBBLE” time together.

For those of you who are working in essential services I cannot thank you enough for what you are doing for our community.

The school holidays are just about over and we will start school a little differently this term. School will start back on Wednesday the 15th April and the classroom will be your home. You’ve got this!

This is not a race to learning and there is no academic emergency this week so don't get stressed as adults can't teach stressed children. You do not need to pick up where your child’s teacher has left off. Your child’s intellectual and academic learning is not at risk. Learning and development is a long and fluid process. Remember that all of our children are in the same boat. When your child returns to school their teachers will pick up and move on from where they are at.

If your child has been given school- based learning tasks to complete and this is a struggle in your home then avoid the ‘battleground’ and give them options and support to do this. Everyday life offers so many opportunities for our children to develop their language and communication skills. Spoken language is our greatest asset in future learning. Learning at home is as easy as 1,2,3: talking, playing and sharing a story. PLUS daily chores and responsibilities of course. The activities our teachers will suggest offer a pleasure bridge to future reading, writing and maths. Have fun and reassure your child/ren that life will return to normal, that they are loved and safe and that we are all doing the right thing to look after each other.

All our teachers are available and you can email them for any advice or support. We miss all our KURA kids and can’t wait to see them back at school.

I have requested a learning pack from the Ministry of Education for every KURA kid in our school and they will be delivered by mail.

We delivered a lot of learning packs before school finished and some of these will be ready for you to work on from the 15 April.

How you organize your days and learning is totally up to you as a whanau. We will offer different learning opportunities and you can work on whatever you want to.

The Ministry of Education are adding to their bank of online resources so go to this link to try some of these

[www.learningfromhome.govt.nz](http://www.learningfromhome.govt.nz/). This is a whole new experience for all of us and no one on our staff wants to overwhelm you.  I also want you to remember our staff are working from home during this time and they have families also. They will be available to answer emails and you might not get a reply straight away but they will get back to you.  Our staff will send to you the times of the day and sorts of learning they will be putting up for you either on the platform Harpara for Years 4 to 6 and SEESAW Years 1-3.

So please remember that well-being and relationships in your home come first before learning. Getting out for a walk or riding your bike is still an important part of the day and the air on your face can make you feel so good.

Over the next few days you will get a call from either Miranda McMahon, Jamie Merrick or myself just to check in and see how you are going and what we may be able to help you with.

Ngā mihi nui

Sarah Campbell (BOT chair) and Kerry Delaney