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Marotiri Messenger

From the Principal's Desk

COVID-19 UPDATE 24 MARCH 2020

Kia ora Koutou,
Greetings to parents and members of the Marotiri School Community,

With yesterday's announcement by Government, we are implementing with urgency our plan to support your child's learning from home through distance learning. We appreciate this is a sudden and significant change and will be heavily disruptive to many people in our community.

School holidays brought forward

The Ministry of Education have announced the following:

School holidays are being brought forward so that they are completed within the 4 week period of school closure. Holidays will now begin from Monday 30 March to Tuesday 14 April inclusive (a reminder that the Tuesday after Easter Monday is always a closed day for Schools).

At the end of the school holidays, schools will be open for distance learning but not physically open for staff or students.

Please note the instruction to say home (Alert Level 4) will continue beyond the new school holiday period but schools will be technically open for distance instruction. Teachers will be working offsite.

If you need to have your child cared for by someone else you will need to identify that person or people as part of your self-isolated group. This will need to be done by midnight Wednesday and the group must remain the same for the whole 4 week period. The caregiver's own group (eg, their

Birthday Celebrations

Turning 6 this month is Alayna (16th), turning 7 is Teela (14th), turning 8 is Mila (27), turning 9 is Cullen (13th), turning 10 is Kaden (18th), Rhythm (19th), turning 11 is Cameron (21st), turning 12 is Caleb (30th).

Happy Birthday to you all !!

Next Marotiri Messenger date - Term 2
Next Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday 24th March 2020


Marotiri School
A gateway to lifelong achievement
He huarahi ki te ao

Tuesday 24th March 2020
Week 8, Term 1

partner and children), your child and your own group (eg, your parents and other children) become one group. This group needs to be limited to minimise any risk of spread and should be no more than 20 people.

Your child will be looking to you for guidance about this decision. Parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers will have a particularly important part to play in reassuring children at this time. If you haven't already done so, you may wish to read the information put together by the Ministry of Education to support your conversations with your children – [Talking to children about COVID-19](#)

As noted by the Prime Minister these restrictions are our best chance to slow the virus in New Zealand and to save lives. We all have a clear role here to slow the spread of COVID-19.

We will continue to communicate with you during this period. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school staff and school community. Over page you will find a short piece to read and reflect on as we enter the uncharted territory of school closure. It is an excerpt from another Principal from overseas, who has seen their school go through this situation. The words around home isolation for our families were well-considered. Please take time to read. Take care of yourself and your family. Stay safe.

Ngā mihi
Rose Symes

TAKE CARE

Please keep the school updated
with any changes to phone numbers, addresses and emails

1569 Tihoi Road R D 1 Mangakino 3492
Ph: 07 372 8273
adminoffice@marotiri.school.nz
@MarotiriSchool www.marotiri.school.nz

COVID-19

You might be inclined to create a minute by minute schedule for your kids. You have high hopes of hours of learning, including online activities, science experiments, and book reports. You'll limit technology until everything is done! But here's the thing...

Our kids are just as scared as we are right now. Our kids not only can hear everything that is going on around them, but they feel our constant tension and anxiety. They have never experienced anything like this before. Although the idea of being off of school for weeks sounds awesome, they are probably picturing a fun time like summer break, not the reality of being trapped at home and not seeing their friends.

Over the coming weeks, you may see an increase in behavior issues with your kids. Whether it's anxiety, or anger, or protest that they can't do things normally - it will happen. You'll see more meltdowns, tantrums, and oppositional behavior in the coming weeks. This is normal and expected under these circumstances.

What kids need right now is to feel comforted and loved. To feel like it's all going to be ok. And that might mean that you tear up your perfect schedule and love on your kids a bit more. Play outside and go on walks. Bake cookies and paint pictures. Play board games and watch movies. Do a science experiment together or find virtual field trips of the zoo. Start a book and read together as a family. Snuggle under warm blankets and do nothing.

Don't worry about them regressing in school. Every single kid is in this boat and they all will be ok. When we are back in the classroom, we will all course correct and meet them where they are. Teachers are experts at this! Don't pick fights with your kids because they don't want to do maths. Don't scream at your kids for not following the schedule. Don't mandate 2 hours of learning time if they are resisting it.

If I can leave you with one thing, it's this: at the end of all of this, your kids' mental health will be more important than their academic skills. And how they felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did during those weeks is long gone. So keep that in mind, every single day...

We are most grateful to the families who donate calves - Tony & Nic Chamberlin were one of the families who were omitted from the last messenger—apologies to Tony & Nic



Thankyou

To all the families for their hard work and supplying equipment, and baking for lunch for the Annual Working Bee on the 18th March.

Have you downloaded our free Skool Loop App?

Events / Cancellations / Notices / Newsletters / Permission slips / Instant notifications / Absentees / Parent Teacher Interviews

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

Mobile Dental Unit

Dental Nurses have cancelled appointments following instructions received from the Ministry of Health, with the intention to reduce the risk for the community and protect patients. They will communicate in future when the services are fully operational again. Any one with severe toothache, please phone 07 3789470

Student-Led Conferences

Tuesday 31st March & Thursday 2nd April

Student Led Conferences are postponed. They will now be held at a later time.



Congratulations Yr5-6 EPRO8 Team—Placed third on 19th March

Message from Teachers

Additional learning class will be posted on Google Classroom and Hapara (Yr 5,6,7,8) Learning packs have been made up for all students and available from Tuesday afternoon, from the school office until 4pm.

Firewood / pinecone fundraiser.

Additional thank you to all children that have been involved: Nadine, Nick, Cam, Esther, Arthur, Liam, Kellie, Lexie, Nicholas, Lucas, Devaydin, Nathan & Hunter.

We also extend our thanks to the business's who helped:- Kaz from Market Central for the free Market Site, Carolina from Carolina Cuisine for purchase of food, Plumbing World Taupo & Corys Electrical for upselling pinecones, Kinloch Blueberries for a donation and blueberries.

We also thank couples from Germany, Canada, Australia and England for their donations.

We received very positive feedback from other stall holders in regard to the children's manners and presentation at the market.

To date over \$2000 has been raised for the senior studio. camp

OTHER NOTICES

HELLO FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the Board and the School we just want to say thank you for all the support we have had over these uncertain times. Everyone has been very patient and understanding as we followed instructions and protocol from the Ministry of Education. This is an unknown situation to everyone, and we respect that everyone is dealing with this as well as they can.

Please keep safe and follow the Governments guidelines to self isolation. Also, remember that the school is regarded as a public venue and therefore the school grounds will be closed to the community and public until the Covid-19 Alert Level has been reduced.

Please look after yourselves and your families. Call your neighbours and check in on each other. Social media can be very beneficial during times like these to stay in touch. Stay calm and breathe – this too will pass.

Stay Safe,
The Marotiri School BOT

Lost Property

Please check the lost property collection for clothing and footwear items. When the lost property is not on display, it can be found in the old sick bay (next to the library).

Boxes of Tissues

Our boxes of tissues store has been depleted and we are needing to restock our supplies for the new year. For those unsure of the process, we ask families to donate a box of tissues which are stored in the office and distributed around the classes as required. Your contribution is very much appreciated and not an onerous burden if shared by all families.

ALERT—HEAD LICE (NITS)

Head lice has once again been detected at school. Parents/Caregivers need to check childrens' hair and treat if required. Visit the Healthline website to find out how to check for head lice and treatment options: www.healthline.com/health/head-lice#diagnosis Head lice treatment can be prescribed by your GP at a subsidised costs also.

Wanted for our music programme

Heavy duty clean buckets suitable for use as music drums for our RAD Rhythm music programme. Please send to school.



Pine cones for sale

Bags (feed sacks) of pine cones for sale @ \$8 each or 2 for \$15.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Fuel for Schools

Northfuels School Sponsorship Programme

As a Northfuels customer, you can nominate a participating school to receive 50 cents for every 100 litres of bulk fuel that you have delivered. We accrue these funds and when a participating school has reached \$1000 through the programme they can choose to redeem either a technology or sports equipment package.

Last month Marotiri School reached 1000 points and our chosen technology package saw us get 3 new Chromebooks for our classrooms. Thankyou Tim Redstone for your ongoing sponsorship.



Spring Bulb Fundraiser for Marotiri Friends of the School

Bulbs are easy to plant, fun to grow and will reward you with gorgeous flowers year after year. Bulbs are supplied by GardenPost which source bulbs from New Zealand's best growers. Prices are less than normal retail and FOS will make a 30% profit on all sales. Prices start from \$4.40 for Sweet Pea seeds or up to \$11.50 for 10 Daffodils. Order forms can be picked up from the office, sent to you by email, downloaded off Facebook www.facebook.com/Marotiri-Friends-of-the-School or contact Bryony brywy@hotmail.co.nz / 027 608 1337. Feel free to share the flyer on your Facebook page, or drop an order form in your neighbours letterbox. For examples of bulb packs visit www.gardenpost.co.nz **Orders and payment need to be in by Friday 27th March.**

Relief School Cleaner required

Thankyou very much to Sean & Ashleigh Meyer for stepping in as our relief cleaners over the past few weeks. Unfortunately Sean & Ashleigh are unable to continue next term due to job commitments. The position is available, 5 days per week for school cleaning. Could be job share. Please contact Rose Symes 0292500042

Early Childhood Education

* **Kinloch Kindergarten** is now open. For further information, contact Jayne on kinloch@centralkids.org.nz

* **Kiwi Steps Preschool**, 42 Tihoi Road, Whakamaru 8am–5pm for all children 0–5 years. Open school holidays. Bicultural learning environment. ECE, Primary and Te Kohanga Reo qualified teachers. 20 hrs FREE for 3&4 year olds. 07 8828234 or 027 9330368 office@kiwisteps.co.nz

* **Whakamaru Playcentre** Corner Arataki & Tihoi Roads Mondays & Fridays 9.30am-12noon. This is a free, parent-run programme for children aged 0-5 years. Phone Lisa 07 2120025 or Alley 027 3722858 whakamaru.playcentre@gmail.com

* **Country Kidz ECE** is a community based centre for preschoolers from 6 months to 5 years old. We warmly welcome new families to the area. Morning session 8.30am - 12.30pm, Full day session 8.30am - 3.30pm 20 free ECE hours available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds - conditions apply. Please contact us on 07 333 9111 or at countrykidz@xtra.co.nz Centre Manager: Sarndra Evans