



Glen Eden Primary School

Term 2 - 17 April 2020 - Week 1 - Newsletter Number 8

Kia ora GEPS whānau and welcome to Week 1 of Term 2

It has certainly been a very different start to this term and all of the kaiako and staff are missing our tamariki and seeing our whānau. We sincerely hope you are all OK in your bubbles and we look forward to seeing you online and then back at school soon.

The main purpose of this email is to clarify what home learning looks like for students at GEPS over the next wee while.

By this stage you should have had contact at least once from a staff member and at least once from your child's teacher. If you have not heard from us then we do not have your correct details. Please email your child's teacher or me at donnas@geps.school.nz so we can get in touch.

For this week of learning there is a link for each team on the school website. For some of these links students have an individual log in so that they can access learning at their own level. These are as follows:

Kiwi Team

Reading Eggs - please email your class teacher for individual log ins if you do not know them

Matific - please email alanam@geps.school.nz for logins or for help with the programme

Takahē and Tui Team

Matific - please email alanam@geps.school.nz for logins or for help with the programme

Stepsweb - please email lizc@geps.school.nz for logins or for help with the programme

Reading Eggs - some students have logins for this. Please contact your class teacher if you are unsure.

If your child is in Takahē or Tui and you would like access to Reading Eggs/Reading Eggspress please email ngairew@geps.school.nz. This programme is a cost to the school so we need to register and pay for this before a student can access the programme.

If your child is in Kiwi team and you would like them to also access StepsWeb please email lizc@geps.school.nz and she will send you log in details.

Kiwi team is also in the process of accessing Sunshine classics and will send you details about this in the very near future.

Face to face learning

We know that, like us, students are missing seeing and interacting with their teacher and their friends. On Monday every class will be sent a link to join a meeting. These meetings will be from different platforms depending on the class your child is in but all classes will be meeting "live" on Monday.

Again we need your details to ensure your tamariki have access so please get in touch. As well as new learning tasks we have added a link on the website where tamariki will be able to view student work and home activities as another way for us all to stay in touch and have a peek inside bubbles.

Learning from next week

Teachers have been working hard to ensure that we can provide appropriate activities - both online and offline for your tamariki. From next week each teacher will be sending a suggested menu and timetables that may help you to structure learning time. We are mindful of not adding stress to your bubbles so please watch this video about home learning https://www.geps.school.nz/download_file/view/3977/342 which may serve to give a bit of perspective.

Devices

We have nearly 100 students without devices and we realise that no device makes it impossible to access online learning. We have requested devices from the MOE but do not know when these will arrive. We do know that senior secondary students sitting NCEA are priority. Because we think we may have to wait a bit longer we have made the decision to seek permission to go into school and package GEPS chromebooks to send to our Year 5 & 6 students who are in need. These will be couriered to whānau as we are not allowed to deliver them ourselves. All devices will be fully cleaned and well packaged. As with the devices that the MOE sends out these will remain the property of GEPS at the end of lockdown.

Hard copy learning packs

We have ordered these for every student in our school and expect that they will be delivered in the near future. These will be delivered via courier and, unlike devices, are yours to keep.

The question that we all want to know is when will start back. This is not something that we are able to answer. We will share with you what we know, as soon as we know it. We do not have any more information than you do. We are aware there is a lot of speculation but please know that speculation is all it is at this stage.

As always we want to stay in touch and will answer queries when you have them. Whilst our doors may not be open - our inboxes are! Please email your child's teacher, Kathryn Arbon - kathryna@geps.school.nz or myself on donnas@geps.school.nz.

To end this newsletter I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of all of the GEPS staff who responded so well to the COVID19 situation. It was a rapidly changing landscape and to fully close a school in a safe manner in just a few days is no easy task. I would especially like to acknowledge the leadership of Kathryn Arbon and Alana McKenzie who did an outstanding job of leading this work effort.

I am now back on board and prouder than ever to be a part of this fabulous kura. Until next time.....



Kia kaha - Be strong
Kia haumarū - Be safe
Kia mākohā - Be kind

