

Week 3, Term 2, 29 April 2020

Kia ora, talofa lava, malo e lelei, 问候, namaste, 인사, 拜啓, mabuhay, bem vindo, fakalofa lahi atu, kia orana, kohomada, bula vinaka, huān yin, foon ying, marhaba, oso oseyo, olà, bonjour, ia orana, welcome!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2 2020! You didn't receive a newsletter in Week 1 as, at that time, there were many emails full of information being sent your way. We are now settling into Alert Level 3. We have had a great first day back at school with some tamariki returning and working in bubbles. Thank you all for your responses to the survey regarding returning to school at Level 3. Your quick responses enabled me to organise 'bubbles' at school to ensure that we can maintain social distancing and keep our tamariki and kaiako safe.



I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge you all for the magnificent support and guidance that you are giving our tamariki with their learning at this very unusual time. I know that many of you are juggling working from home and

supporting distance learning. All this, along with cooking meals and managing the household, that could also include extended whanau, takes immense time, effort and energy. I can appreciate that some whanau could be experiencing difficulties with this. Please do know that, if things get too difficult, the tamariki can take a break from the demands of distance learning - we understand.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of our kaiako and support staff. We have a number of staff who have returned to school to support our tamariki who have returned. They are all working hard to keep the distance learning going from school and provide a positive, caring, safe and enjoyable environment in the class bubbles. All the staff who are working from home are also working hard to support the kaiako at school and keep the distance learning programmes running smoothly. The staff continue to work collaboratively and positively to support all our tamariki. Just a reminder that those tamariki who have returned to school have done so because their caregiver/s have had to return to work.

Depending on what call the government makes regarding Alert Level 3 on Monday May 11, we will be either continuing in Alert Level 3 or possibly moving to Alert Level 2. If we remain in Alert Level 3, and you need to return to work, please contact us at least one school day prior as we need time to re-organise the school bubbles. You can email me at meganc@rops.school.nz . If there is a move to Alert Level 2, we will be reorganising how we operate following further guidance from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

Regarding the devices or packs that have been promised to us from the Ministry for those who need them, I continue to contact the Ministry daily as they don't seem to have arrived. We have 102 of our tamariki who have expressed interest in these. If you do receive a device or a pack from the Ministry, please do let me know.

Why We Teach:

Karaka Room (Year 5/6) have been spending time working on describing a room in their house. Enjoy reading these fabulous descriptions!

My Room

My room is my favourite room in the house because it is all mine. The bed lies lazily underneath the window, soaking up the sun. The bookshelf stands silently in the corner, waiting for someone to pick up a book. My toys lounge around, looking after my room when I'm not there. The carpet lays on the floor, waiting for people to stop trampling it.

by Liam

The Living Room

The living room is my favourite room because I do most things in it. I sit on the couch to read a book, and I sit at the table to do my art. In the living room, the wooden floor creaks like an abandoned house. The red orange colours remind me of a mountain at sunset. When I stomp across the floor, the house rattles like it has been in an earthquake. The incense holder, a fat-bellied Chinese dragon with rough spirals raised around the bottom of the pot, explodes woody smoke from twin holes, bashing and blowing up, twirling into the room. I flop down into the comfy

couch. The fabric is like a scratching post. Loud music coming from the speakers across the room pops my ears.

By Mason

My Cosy Room

I have a small but open, cozy, comfy room. Light purple walls are surrounding me. My dog comes to lay on my gray, fluffy mat. Plugs on the floor waiting to be used. When it rains, I hear it pattering lightly on the metal roof.

Two windows are waiting for me to lookout. Sometimes I see parrots in the big tree out my window. Chocolate wrappings on the floor (I wonder why). When I am in my room, I feel very safe. My bed sits waiting in the corner. Cushions lay on my bed. My bed is bright during the day but dark at night but warm under the covers and then I fall asleep.

By Sienna

My Front Garden, My Favourite Place

There are many places in my home I love. But when I step out on my porch the magic happens and this is what I see. The sunlit garden sits peacefully, while the brisk wind faintly moves around the garden, sending a slight breeze through my hair. The roses sway slightly, the scent of their flowers and the gardenias wafting close by. I gaze up into the branches of our magnificent magnolia. How old is this tree? It stands regally looking out over our street like a watchful friend. I clamber up its sturdy branches, looking out down our street. We found out that the lady two doors down replanted our magnolia tree onto our property many years ago. I feel so grateful for this wonderful tree. On hot dazzling summer days, I love to lie under the tree, gazing at the fluffy clouds floating and forming different shapes above me. In these moments I feel serene. I lay there for a little longer staring at the stout trunk half-heartedly looking for cicadas. These summer moments are etched in my memory.

By Charlotte S.

My Bedroom

In all the places in my house, I enjoy my bedroom the most. The cosy, warm bed decorated with delicate sequence pillows and huge fluffy, cuddly toys. A blue and purple bear-shaped calendar right above my bed keeps me company at night. My warm, glowing night light gently flickers in the dark, making me feel safe and warm. The moon light shines in the dark turquoise sky and into my window, directly onto my drawers hiding unfinished work or drawings.

Stacks of books and toys lay patiently on my table, waiting to be tidied and put back in the right place. Best of all, my very own memory wall is sitting at the other side of the room full of pictures, drawings and pieces of writing I did long ago. The reassuring sound of my cupboard door clicking with the effort of keeping my hundreds of outfits, old toys and my pair of slippers inside. Lastly, my lonely piano sits quietly beside the door and table waiting until morning to be played again.

And when the sun rises my bedroom is back to its noisy, unsettled self again with the sound of my pencil scribbling down work and the melodious sound of the piano.

Outside my window cars are rumbling loudly while the birds and butterflies flutter around gracefully landing on every tree to sing an early morning wake up song.
By Sharon

Description of my Kitchen

The kitchen is my favourite room. I love reading on the soft, comfortable sofa, soaked in sunlight. I love the look of the room. The granite bench looks like sand on a deserted beach. The twisting designs in the light leaves shadowy patterns on the ceiling. The smell of fresh bread wafts into my bedroom in the morning, the taste of rich chocolate cake with thick ganache icing; these are some of my favourite things about the kitchen. I love the rich, rimu floorboards that tell a story of New Zealand's history. I love the feel of ice-cold water running down my throat. I love the sound of toast popping.

I love my kitchen!

By Lachie

Congratulations to Aarya from the Karaka Room who has had a poem published online:
<https://nzpoetrybox.wordpress.com/2020/04/24/poetry-box-bubble-time-friday-picks-of-childrens-mahi/>

Summer is gone

The song of summer settled like dust
Leaves are falling, the colour of rust.
Autumn blankets of red, orange and brown
Slowly spreading over the ground.

The sharp breath of wind, a harsh dance master
Urging leaves to fall faster! Faster!
Summer left and made some room
For autumn harvest and it's orange costume.




The overworked sun is taking a little rest
The lush greenery faded, orange and red now at its
best.
And while it didn't seem very long,
Autumn is here and summer is gone.

By Aarya Carys Taneja

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What's coming up?

Please do understand that items in the calendar are not all confirmed as we are in very unpredictable times at the moment. Many items will be dependent on what Alert Level we are operating in. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility with this. We will confirm these as soon as possible.

Week 4 May	4	5	6 8 Parent Group 7.30pm ??????	7	8
Week 5	11 Y0 Enrolments	12	13 8	14	15
Week 6	18	19	20	21 BOT meeting 7.00pm	22 PINK SHIRT DAY
Week 7 Samoan Language Week	25 Y0 Enrolments	26	27	28	29 TOD Assessment/Report/moderation day
Week 8 June	1 Queen's Birthday	2	3 Parent Group 7.30pm ???????	4	5 1.45pm school assembly Totara ???????
Week 9	8 Y0 Enrolments	9	10	11	12 Sunday 14 th June Term 2 String Recital Hall ?????????? 2.40 pm arrival for 3pm concert PG movie night (Sat 13th) ??????
Week 10	15	16	17	18	19 Mid Year Music Showcase Hall in use 8.50am-1.05pm ???????
Week 11	22 Y0 Enrolments	23	24	25 BOT meeting 7.00pm	26
Week 12 July	29	30	1 2nd hand Uniform sale 8:30 – 9:00am ??????	2	3 1.45pm school assembly Karaka ???????

		Parent Group 7.30pm ??????		
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BOT Meeting:

Our next Board meeting is **Thursday 21 May 2020 at 7.00pm**. The focus for this meeting will be learning support. You are always most welcome to attend.

Have a happy fortnight.

Kind regards,



Megan Clotworthy
meganc@rops.school.nz

Community Notices

Please find below a list of agencies who are providing support for those who may be having difficulty providing food for their whanau. Please forward this information to anyone you may be aware of that could be having difficulty.

- 1. Auckland City Mission Foodbank - If you need a food parcel call ACM 09 303 9266 and speak to the Crisis Care team. If you are successful, you will then be given a time to collect from ACM distribution centre at 15 Auburn Street, off Boston road in Grafton. Everyone must take ID with them.***
- 2. Salvation Army food parcels - Contact the Mt Wellington Salvation Army Community Ministry 09 379 7615 – or their local Salvation Army Community Ministry (ring 0800 53 00 00 to find your local ministry). You will be given a time to collect your food parcel.***
- 3. Presbyterian Support Northern - Call 09 309 2054 to arrange a pick up at 8 Madeira Lane, Grafton. Strictly no walk-ins and collections are strictly between 11-12am Mon-Fri.***
- 4. St Vincent De Paul in Newton Branch – Call 09 815 6122 or email – Auckland@stvinnies.co.nz and they can deliver a food parcel.***
- 5. Nga Whare Waatea Marae - Open Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm. Go to the marae at 31 Calthorp***

Close, Mangere with ID. Wait in car and staff will get to each person one at a time, asking relevant questions as needed.

6. Hills Church on Hillsborough Road can be emailed at office@hillschurch.nz Please provide details on your needs and they will do their best to provide a food parcel. Hills Church has also offered to go shopping for those that cannot leave home due to self-isolation if needed.