



Fairfield College

27 March 2020

Kia ora e te whaanau

We hope that all is well in your homes and that you are adapting to life in our new lockdown situation. We have started into a new phase of New Zealand's response to COVID-19 and it is very different than anything most of us have ever experienced. .

I wanted to reassure you that our school staff and Board of Trustees will continue to be available to support your child's learning and wellbeing. From a learning perspective I hope that your children are engaging in the learning programmes that the school has provided. Can you please explain to them that the learning the school has provided is not optional and that we are expecting our students to apply themselves with focus and to be the best that they can.

I am awaiting details from the government about how they are planning to provide chrome books for those students whose distance learning experience is being compromised by not having access to a suitable device (this could include having to share with siblings). The government has indicated that they are working on a system to have chrome books delivered to students that do not have access to a device. We were able to issue approximately 20 school chrome books to students that did not have access to a device before the lockdown commenced and we are eager to work with the government to ensure all of our students have access to a chrome book.

It would be helpful for us if parents could email the school if they required support to access a chrome book. Once we have this information we will be in a stronger position to respond to the government's plan when it is released. Please send this information or any requests for technical assistance or questions about learning packages to:

summerfields@faircol.school.nz or cholewam@faircol.school.nz

Student and whaanau wellbeing

We acknowledge that anxiety and stress as result of the challenges that we are experiencing may be impacting on student capacity to engage in the learning packages that have been provided. Wellbeing for both students and whaanau is critical and the Ministry of Education has provided the following information to support a child's learning at home for parents, caregivers and whaanau.

<http://education.govt.nz/school/health-safety-and-wellbeing/pastoral-care-and-wellbeing/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-coronavirus/>



Be respectful
Be responsible
Be the best you can be

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Pasifika People

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples' has been working to ensure that there is useful information available to Pacific peoples. A one-hour special will be aired on Tagata Pasifika's segment on **Saturday at 9am**; and on **Sunday at 7.35am**, Tagata Pasifika will share messages from community leaders.

Be strong and united

A big thank you to all of you for taking the lockdown so seriously. As the Prime Minister has noted staying at home will break the chain and save lives; breaking the rules could risk someone close to you and if the rules are not complied with, this could risk the lock down period being extended or could risk the virus being spread to thousands.

I conclude this communication by referencing the key messages of our Prime Minister regarding the importance of the next four weeks. Although school holidays are about to commence and teachers will be taking a much needed break I will continue to keep you updated of information as I receive it from the Ministry of Education.

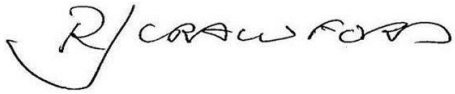
Key lockdown messages from the Prime Minister (Select Committee Media Briefing 25 March)

- If the virus is left unchecked it will have an unacceptable toll on New Zealanders
- Staying at home will break the chain and save lives
- Breaking the rules could risk someone close to you
- if the rules are not complied with, this could risk the lock down period being extended or could risk the virus being spread to thousands
- Success will not be instant. The benefit of actions taken today will not be felt for many days to come. People need to expect the numbers to continue rising, because they will. Modelling indicates that New Zealand could have several thousand cases before today's measures have an impact. However, if everyone sticks to the rules there will be change over time
- Act like you have COVID-19. Every move you make could be a risk to someone else. That is how New Zealanders must collectively think now
- All New Zealanders are urged to be calm, be kind, stay at home
- if people have no explanation of why they are outside the Police will remind them of their obligations and can take enforcement actions if they feel it is necessary
- New Zealanders will want to do the right thing. The Government is being as clear as they can on the guidance and Police will be working with people to help them understand
- Government's goal is to keep people connected to their employer through the wage subsidy, and said if that was not happening then they have the backup mechanism of the welfare system

- In regard to those overseas - even under the most difficult of circumstances - New Zealand is their home.

Kia haumarū - Be safe

Naaku noa, naa

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R/CRAWFORD'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'R' that loops back under the first part of the name.

Richard Crawford
PRINCIPAL