

TAUMATA SCHOOL



Key Dates:

- **24 MARCH: SCHOOL CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19 PROVISION PROVIDED FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS**
- **26 MARCH: SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR ALL STUDENTS**
- **30 MARCH: SCHOOL HOLIDAYS BEGIN**
- **10 APRIL: GOOD FRIDAY**
- **14 APRIL: TERM 2 STARTS - DISTANCE/ONLINE LEARNING**

Message from the Principal:

Genavier Fuller

Nga mihi nui whanau

The last few weeks have culminated with the recent government announcement for all schools and non-essential services to close for the next four weeks. This is a proactive attempt to 'flatten the curve' as the globe deals with Coronavirus.

Taumata School remains open today and tomorrow for those children of essential workers. On Thursday we close officially whilst still providing access for students to learning. On Monday 30th March we begin the school holidays. Term 2 will begin on Tuesday 14 April, however due to still being in isolation, it will occur online.

As a school we have been working on ways to support family/whanau as we prepare for a different way of operating. As a result our intention is to provide learning that can easily be done in the home. Some of the activities are links to reading or maths games. Some involve equipment that can be located in the home; and some activities are designed as fun family activities that promote our commitment to learning through play and project based learning.

Providing support for learning at home is difficult on so many levels - it needs to consider:

- What families are capable of in their homes
- What personal circumstances are happening in a home
- What the age and or developmental stage appropriate for your child

In addition to these we need to be clear about what the online/distance learning expectations are and some general guidelines for navigating the next few weeks. Below are a few key ideas.

- Develop routines for each day but do not try to replicate the school day. Check in with the online learning guidelines on the relevant day and identify 2-3 tasks and activities to complete
- Go outside at least once a day for at least 30 minutes. It is really important to get fresh air and change the scenery. If you are high risk or concerned try first thing in the morning or late at night. There are a number of activities that are based around exploring the outside together.
- Make time to move as a family. Use youtube videos like "Just Dance" to get your family moving and have a laugh together. This is still learning and a cathartic form of learning.
- Reach out to others via social media or apps like FaceTime; Skype etc. Connection is a primal need and remember others will need positivity, love and kindness during this time. Set up virtual playdates if need be.
- Spend time connecting and playing with your children. Many of our children will be unable to verbalise what they are feeling and it may come out through behaviour like anxiety, disobedience or belligerence. Play is a great tool for sharing how they process the world and what is on top for them.
- Create a retreat space. At this time it is important to identify a space that is 'safe' for de-escalating and relaxing. Make it a unique space with favourite things that give comfort. This can include blankets, cushions, toys, mini-tents
- Lower our expectations and slow the pace of life. Find one thing every day that you can be grateful for that might not have been possible if we weren't in these unique circumstances. Connect, create and communicate.
- Limit media and social media.

Distance/Online Learning:

Each learning hub has set up a website to support online/distance learning over the coming weeks. These are a series of ideas to support learning in the home. The websites can be accessed on the following links and also are available on the tab Learning@Taumata on our school website.

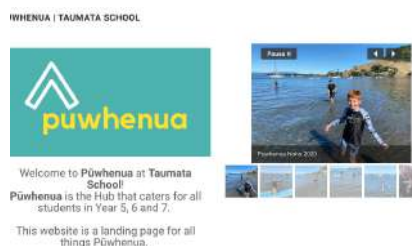
Mauao Learning Hub: <https://mauaomauao.weebly.com/>



Matarawa Learning Hub: <https://matarawa.weebly.com/>



Pūwhenua Learning Hub: <http://puwhenua.weebly.com/>



Over the coming days our team will be:

- Providing support/supervision for essential workers children
- Updating the ideas on the website
- Liaising with other staff to ensure consistency for you as whanau
- Maintaining an online presence
- Be working with the school in the background to support the COVID-19 efforts
- Ensuring the safety and well being of their own family and whanau


However we wish to highlight what they will not be doing:

- Sending daily tasks upon request by parents/whanau
- Holding online video conferences/lessons
- Marking work completed by children - there are no assessment requirements during this period
- Responding to every email sent - particularly around technical support
- Acting in a way that compromises the health and safety of themselves and their families.

Please also remember that as of Monday 30 March we are officially on term break holiday through until after easter.

Prevent the spread of COVID-19 in 7 STEPS

- 01 Wash your hands frequently
- 02 Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- 03 Cover your cough using the bend of your elbow or a tissue
- 04 Avoid crowded places and close contact with anyone that has fever or cough
- 05 Stay at home if you feel unwell
- 06 If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early — but call first
- 07 Get information from trusted sources




SOURCE: WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

Mindset Shift During a Pandemic

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| I'm stuck at home | → | I get to be SAFE in my home and spend time with my family |
| I will get sick | → | I will self-isolate and wash my hands, this will significantly DECREASE my chances of getting sick |
| I will run out of items at home during self-isolation | → | I have prepared for this and I will use my items wisely. I have everything I NEED for now |
| Everything is shutting down, I'm panicking | → | The most IMPORTANT places, such as medical centers, pharmacies and grocery stores, remain open |
| There is too much uncertainty right now | → | While I can't control the situation around me, I CAN control my actions. Doing breathwork, calling loved ones, getting enough sleep and proper nutrition, prayer, and doing activities I love at home will all help during this time |


SumairaZ.com

IT'S NORMAL TO FEEL SAD, STRESSED, CONFUSED, SCARED OR ANGRY DURING A CRISIS.



TALK TO PEOPLE YOU TRUST, SUCH AS FRIENDS AND FAMILY OR YOUR FELLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS.