

Introduction

Kia ora everyone. I hope that you are all doing as well as possible during the current lockdown.

Please take a few minutes to read this notice as it contains lots of important information about our approach to learning at home. Shortly the school holidays are going to end, and learning from home will start from Wednesday 15th April.

This information will help you be prepared for learning at home, particularly in the event that the lockdown is extended.

This notice has four components to it. This includes a purpose statement, some guidelines and philosophies to learning at home, general learning ideas for everyone, and information about specific class learning programmes.

Purpose statement.

These are unprecedented times which can be very stressful for everyone. Factors such as economic and employment concerns, physical and mental health, the loss of everyday activities, or our ability to maintain contact with friends and family can all impact on our wellbeing.

One of the best things we can all do right now are activities which build positive relationships with the people in our bubble, and nourish everyone's wellbeing.

At Fraser Crescent School, we don't want our learning at home to be an added burden. Instead, we want to offer a selection of learning tasks and activities which suit the needs of your child and family. Some families are in a situation where they can offer lots of support with learning at home, while others cannot do this. Factors such as the number of devices within the home, parents' work demands, internet connectivity, or a toddler in the home can all impact on your ability to support your school aged children.

Our staff cannot run the same programmes remotely, neither are we expecting you to be your child's full time teacher.

Guidelines and philosophies

Here are our three top guidelines which underpin our philosophies around learning at home.

- Try and make any learning activity at home fun. If it becomes stressful for anyone (your child, yourself) stop.
- Select the tasks and activities that suit your family. Consider things like your child's interests, abilities, resources within the home, and whether the task can be done independently, or does it need lots of your support?
- Do what you can. Don't attempt to do everything. Kids need a balance of learning, fun, play, relaxation, etc.

General learning ideas

Here is a list of some tasks and activities that might appeal to learners of all ages.

Reading. Reading is a really useful skill to learn and practice. Read some books at home, listen to audiobooks, read online etc. Kids often love being read to. Websites like Epic have thousands of titles, plus it's free.

Games. Different games develop a wide range of skills from taking turns to counting, from problem solving to sharing. Card games, dice games, board games, imagination games. Have a think about what resources you have at home to play different games.

Fraser's Quests. These are a fun way to further develop your child's FRASER Values. Have a look on our website for examples of the Quests. Children can pick Quests that they find exciting.

Get Outdoors. Be sure to get your kids outside regularly. Set up an obstacle course, build a fort, play catch, do a scavenger hunt, do some chalk drawing etc.

Cook or Bake. There is lots of learning involved in cooking, plus the satisfaction of providing a meal or snack for the family.

Play. Lego, blocks, jigsaws, dress-ups, cars, dolls etc. Play helps to build imagination, oral language skills, problem solving etc.

Learn a new skill or hobby. Maybe someone in your bubble can knit, or is awesome at woodwork. The internet, especially YouTube can also be inspirational in teaching new things. Learn to code on Scratch, learn some origami etc.

Learning@Home Challenges. Keep an eye out for our regular challenges that we are posting. We are looking at sharing a couple of optional challenges each week which will be posted on Educa and our Facebook page.

Specific Class learning programmes

Teachers had plans for a learning programme in term 2, however we cannot deliver this exact programme remotely.

On Tuesday 14th April teachers will provide some information about their class learning programme via Educa. This will outline some of the work for the next week or so. Please consider the amount of work your child (and at times you) can achieve.

Share what your child is doing with their teacher. Either email, google classroom/doc or upload as a story on educa. Our teachers are very keen to see what children have been doing, giving them some praise, encouragement and feedback.

Our teachers will be contactable. If you want specific support with something, or require more work for you child, please just ask.

Thank for taking the time to read this information. Please share any feedback or questions you have with me at principal@frasercres.school.nz. Also, don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Take care, keep safe, kia kaha.

The Team @ FSC ☺