

Tahunanui School



"I can - I will"



TAHUNANUI SCHOOL NEWS

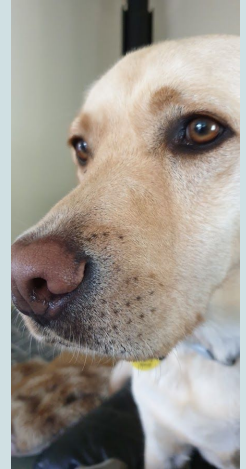
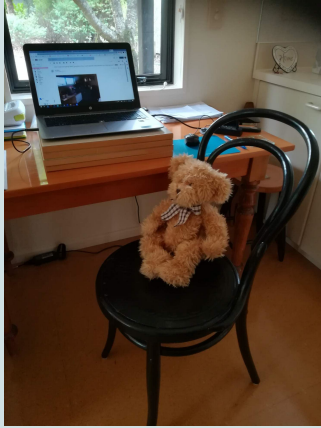
17 April 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A sincere kia ora koutou and thank you to our whole Tahunanui School community. I feel so proud and privileged to be part of your lives during this world wide event. Your ability to adapt, support others, ask for help, listen, share, laugh and problem solve as well as positively parent your stunning children through each challenge is truly heartwarming. The resiliency, citizenship and 'I can I will' approach you are demonstrating is the vision for our school and you are living it every day! None of us are finding it easy, some harder than others. Please do ask for help if you need it, take a break from anything that becomes too hard, look for the fun in each day and above all be kind to yourselves. As things change, we will try to keep you up to date with what schooling will look like but even then, don't feel like you have to immediately act. We want to know you are OK, we want to provide and know you can access learning in a way that suits you and your child but beyond that we are not measuring or judging anybody because we know everyone is doing the best they can. Early next week we will personally ring anyone we haven't been in touch with in some way just to check you are OK and see if we can do anything to help. If you would like to contact us, staff are available online and by email. You can contact me by email and my email address is: principal@tahunanui.school.nz

Staff during lockdown

Like you we have been finding our new 'normal' over the last few weeks. Some of us have young children, elderly parents, lots of animals, big bubbles, small bubbles and have enjoyed spending time with our bubble buddies but also had the same frustrations as many of you. Here is a selection of our bubble photos. We have enjoyed our bubble, been frustrated with our bubble and at some points been quite grumpy about having to be in our bubbles. We are looking forward to being able to see everyone again as soon as we can safely.



What have we been doing?



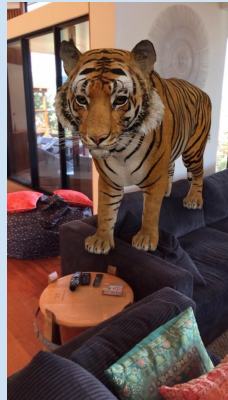
Carla and her boys have been experimenting with hand shadow puppets.



Helen has spent a lot of time walking her dog and was sad to see all the planes lined up at the airport with nowhere to go

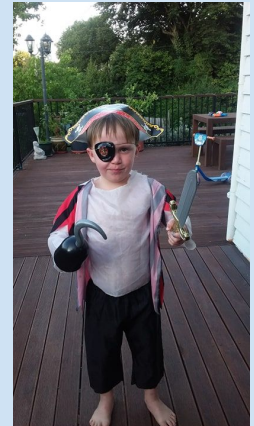


Julie has swapped the Muritai Centre and breakfast club for her home kitchen and has been doing lots of cooking.



Pauline had a rather large visitor to her house! Mr Lambie has put up how to do this on each of the Google Classrooms

Sarah and her son Ryan have been exploring the pirate way of life!



What have we enjoyed and missed?

We have missed:

Friends, mountain biking, the beach, going out for a drink or a meal or the movies, work, colleagues, travel plans, grandchildren cuddles, my students and their stories, the hubbub of school.



We have enjoyed:

Actually taking the time to plan a trip and not going out for no reason, slowing down, knitting, listening to bird song, baking - lots of baking, meditation, yoga, zoom chats, online quiz nights, painting the house, walking the dog, reading, starting a new course, doing puzzles, phone calls and video chats.

We ended up with a bigger list of things we enjoyed over things that we missed.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

With so many of us unable to drive, travel and explore, many people have commented on the amount of birds and wildlife that they have been able to hear.

This is a great video of how our land is regenerating while waiting for us to return.

<https://youtu.be/YKyekQ1njNQ>



WELLBEING

We have all spent a lot of time taking care of others over this unsettling time. It is very important that you take care of yourself too. There are a lot of excellent resources online to support you to take care of yourself. Above all, remember to be kind to yourself, be realistic about what you can achieve in these crazy times. If your total of the days 'learning' was reading a book to your child or talking while you made dinner together, or looking for teddies on a walk, that's fine.

This is a link to a great resource from the Ministry of Education about how to cope with being in lockdown with your children and ideas on how you might want to structure your day.

<https://tinyurl.com/w8yc6s7>



WELLBEING 2 (IT'S IMPORTANT)

We understand that 'online learning' or 'home learning' can be really stressful. The key to this is to only do what you can, what works for you and your children. If you child becomes stressed, teary or not wanting to do the work assigned, stop!

The activities we have put up are supposed to be fun, not frustrating. If you turn on the TV and have home learning channel going past, great. If you have a phone call with grandparents, perfect, that's oral language. Counting teddies is maths, baking is science, maths, reading and oral language all rolled into one, dancing to the radio is physical education, learning most definitely doesn't have to be online in front of a screen. Talking to, laughing with and enjoying your children is as much about learning as anything we can offer.

IT TIPS AND TRICKS

One thing we have all had to rapidly embrace is how to use I.T. to connect with the outside world. This is easy for some and very difficult for others. We have tried to make it as easy as possible to connect to our Google classrooms and hopefully have ironed out most of the teething issues we had. It has been a very steep learning curve for all of us, teachers have had to become students to rapidly upskill and learn how to deliver their learning online. We are still upskilling and taking on as much new technology as we can, please be patient with us as we try to figure out how to make this work! We appreciate that it is also quite challenging for you too, please be gentle with yourselves, not everyone will be able to connect with our online classrooms and that's OK. We would love to know that you are still out there though, try sending your teacher an email to say 'Hi' and let us know what you've been up to.

If you do log into a classroom, please let us know that you are there.
You can fill in the online attendance form. That way we know you came to visit us.

If you are having any tech issues, the best person to contact is Ian Lambie,
you can reach him at ian.lambie@tahunanui.school.nz

Ian and his trusty sidekick Zumo will get back to you as soon as they possibly can



Home Learning TV

Home Learning TV will air weekdays 9am-3pm on Freeview Channel 7, Sky Channel 502 (where you usually find TVNZ 2+1) and as a live-streamed channel on <https://www.tvnz.co.nz/shows/home-learning-tv>

Home Learning TV is another great way to get some learning done. It is themed more to junior students(aged 5-8) earlier in the morning, older students (aged 9-11) later in the morning and 11-15 year olds later in the afternoon.

This is a great option if you are having trouble accessing the online classrooms or if you need a break from them for a while. There are also some really good parenting advice from Nathan Wallis too.

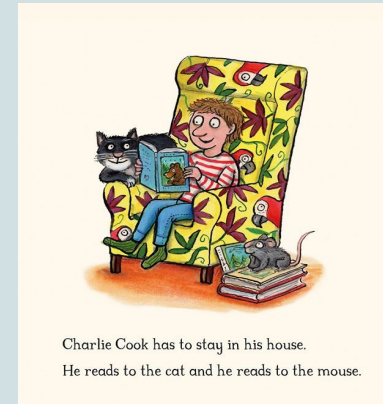
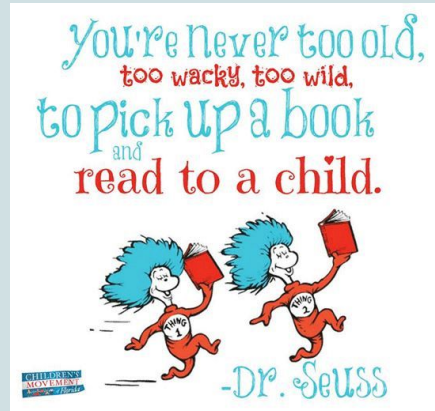
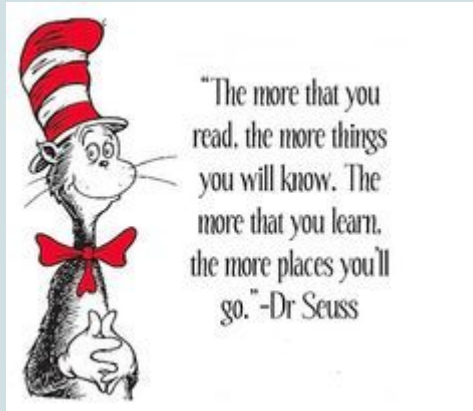
There is also a very good interview on Seven Sharp with Nigel Latta about not stressing about online learning, have a look at it here

<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/cope-kids-learning-home-during-lockdown-v1>



READING

If we could choose the one thing that you do with your child everyday, it would be read. Read to them, read with them, listen to them read, ask them to read to the cat, the dog, via zoom to Grandma, to the birds in the trees, to siblings. Read recipes, books, instructions, put subtitles on movies, read the cereal box, read anything, but please....read. Don't forget that we have access to thousands of book via the Wheelers ebook platform. <https://ts.wheelers.co/>



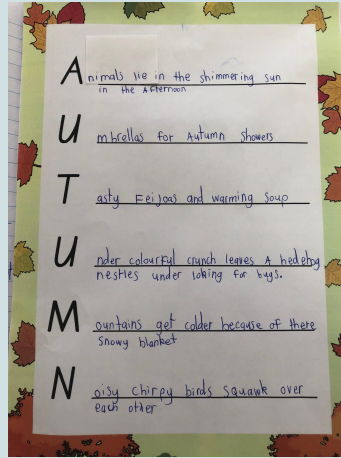
CHAMBERLAIN

Chamberlain have lots of interesting stuff in their online classroom. They have been doing enquiry learning about Autumn and character description of 'Trish the Troll'. There is heaps and heaps of stuff to do in their online classroom, have a look at it. Remember to do what you can, do a little each day, be kind to your parents and siblings!!

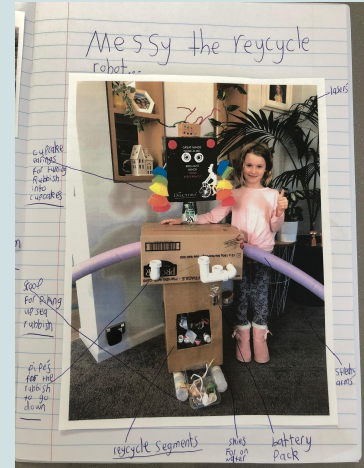
Check out some of the work that has been submitted.



Faith's leaf pattern



Brianna's Autumn poem



'Messy' the recycling robot

BURRELL

Burrell have been having some online catch ups with the 'Rui Hui' 'Orakei Crew Do' 'Tamaki Talk' and 'Rotorua Sociality' Mrs Bowen has even popped into some of them to say 'Hello'.

The teachers are loving seeing you slides and videos of the things you have been doing.

The enquiry topic this term is Tasman Bay, there is lots of great links in their Google classroom to start your wonderings.

As a staff we quite often do the Stuff online quiz at morning tea, they also have a children's quiz each day, maybe you could try it out, here's the link

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/quizzes/121068240/bonus-childrens-quiz-april-17-2020>

Mr Science is always fun to have a look at <https://mrscience.co.nz/>

Keep in touch with the teachers, they are missing your smiley faces, crazy stories and groovy dance moves!



TOSSWILL

Tosswill team also have some really interesting things on their virtual classroom. This term their enquiry topic is about Pirates!! There are some great story starters to write a swashbuckling pirate tale. Have a look at some of the activities they have included. Sarah has been playing with her food and made pirate bananas!



Don't forget to fill in the attendance form when you access the classroom, then we know who has come to visit us.

You can also access lots of reading material as well.

Don't forget to send us photos of what your day looks like and some of the stuff you have been getting up to, we miss seeing all your smiling faces.

There is also plenty of ideas on how to stay active and inside your bubble at the same time.



Mrs Hedge has shared some photos of her baby Gouldian Finch chicks, aren't they colourful?!

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you do visit us via Google classroom, make sure you let us know you have been there via the attendance form, we like to know who's been visiting.

You can email your teachers directly if you have questions or don't have access to the google classroom, even just to say 'Hi' we are missing your smiling faces and stories, we'd love to know what you've been up to.

We understand that all the notifications every time a teacher uploads to the google classroom is quite a bit to wade through, especially if you have more than one child, here is a video on how to turn them off, if you do turn them off though, don't forget to still come back and visit us!!

<https://tinyurl.com/ybh5xse>