

Jireh Christian School Newsletter



15 April 2020

Dear Parents
Welcome to a very different Term 2. I trust that you are all enjoying some good connecting time with your family and those in your bubble. I know that for some this has been a time of anxiety and uncertainty with job loss and income cuts. I think that it is more important than ever that we stay connected as a community to support, encourage and share good ideas with one another.

Today we will begin our home based learning and look forward to connecting with you and your children again while we remain at Alert Level 4.

Our teachers will be uploading learning opportunities for your child. You can decide how you would like to fit these ideas in throughout your day as best suits your family. Please look out for emails and information from your child's teacher. I know many of you have already connected into the learning platforms your children are using. Years 1-3 will be using Class Dojo and years 4-8 will be on Google using Hapara and other learning platforms. Both Class Dojo and Hapara offer the opportunity for students, parents and teachers to collaborate, connect and share their learning.

We do not have the expectation that

your child will be doing work from 9am -3pm. This is not their reality during a normal school day, and it would be wrong of us to apply that kind of pressure to your children while they are coping with change. We fully understand that your child's wellbeing over this time is paramount and acknowledge the Ministry of Education and governments' advice that well-being and relationships are first and foremost. A good resource for wellbeing and how to reassure your children can be found at this link;

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

We realise that technology is not a pedagogy but rather a tool and vehicle through which we can communicate. It needs to be used to enhance learning opportunities and not just to keep our students busy or entertained. We are being bombarded with enormous amounts of online learning apps and sites and need to be careful not to jump at every opportunity and be discerning, using technology which will benefit our students in keeping with our values and faith. A helpful resource which I have shared with you previously is found on the MOE [Learning from Home](#) website. This is being updated and added to with some good learning opportunities. There is also information about the TV learning channels on this site.



School Picnic Day- House Colours flying!



PRAYER

It is a privilege to pray for our children, our school and community. Until we can meet 'face-to-face', please continue to pray. Prayer changes things!

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV and Māori Television will start education programme broadcasting for early learners and students (Years 1–10) from 9am on Wednesday 15 April.

Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV will be shown, **free to air**, on **TVNZ channel 2+1** and on **TVNZ on Demand**, as well as on **Sky Channel 502**. It will run from 9am to 3pm on schooldays with programming for children and young people aged 2 to 15, as well as for parents. Home Learning TV will initially be on air for one month – with provision to extend beyond that depending on the COVID-19 situation.

There will be content for parents and whānau with preschool children and tamariki, and lessons for those aged 5 to 15 years of age will cover a broad curriculum that includes movement, music, physical education, wellbeing, numeracy, literacy and science through an integrated approach to curriculum. There's already a lot of good education video content available, and the Ministry will be working with experts and educators to refine and further develop it.

If you do not already have a safety filtering system set up at your home to keep your children safe you could avail yourself of this opportunity. Network for Learning, (N4L) are the people who do our school filtering to help keep your child safe on the internet. They have offered to set up a safety filter that you as parents can set up on your child's learning devices from home. Just go to switchonsafety.co.nz to find clear

instructions on how to do this.

The free N4L safety filter (by global cyber-security leader, Akamai) blocks websites containing known cyber threats like phishing scams, malicious content and viruses, while also protecting children from content deemed the worst of the web (like adult sites).

It is an extension of one of the many safety and security services we have in place at schools and is a valuable layer of protection to help keep children safe online. Please remember that technology is not a silver bullet and the filter should be used in combination with Netsafe's [online parent safety toolkit](#). All this is free.

How does it work?

Once a child's device is set up, all internet search requests will go through the safety filter which checks if the website they are trying to visit is safe before allowing access. If it's a website that's known to be unsafe, then it will be blocked. The safety filter is applied to the child's device, so parents' devices are not affected.

This is an opportunity to do learning in a new and exciting way and one we are all new to. As we journey together in this new way, we look forward to hearing from you via e-mail, videos and the JCS FB Page to see what great learning you are all doing at home with your children. We have endeavoured to get devices to all those who do not have a

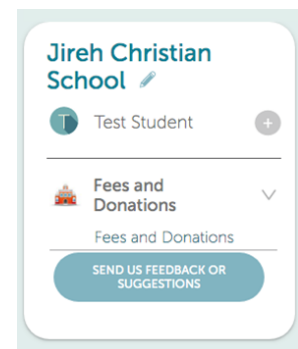
device at home.

If you have any concerns or require assistance please let us know. We are here to serve and support in any way we can.

Yours in partnership,
Sandra Bosman



KINDO—Kindo online school shop is our preferred method of payment. If you have not yet registered, follow the steps to set up your family account:



1. New users can [Click here](#) for our registration link.
2. Enter in the same email address the school has on file for you and click 'continue'.
3. A confirmation email with a link will be sent to you.

Click on the link and enter a password to complete your registration. Your family account is now set up. Next time you log in you will just need to enter your email address and password.

Already have an account? [Click here](#) to log in and make sure you have linked your students by clicking on the Fees and Donations icon. For assistance call Kindo on free-phone 0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636) or email hello@mykindo.co.nz.

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*From God,
For God
I Atua,
Hoki Atua*



'We are a Christ centred community where learners are nurtured to glorify God'