



# St. Peter's Catholic School

Quality Education in a Christian Community

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## Term 1 2020 - Update

### Remote Learning

Kia Ora Koutou

With Monday's announcement by the Government, we are finalising our plan to support your child's learning from home. We appreciate this is a sudden and significant change, and will be heavily disruptive to many people in our community.

St Peter's Catholic School is completely closed to all students as of 11.59 pm Wednesday. The shut-down is for 4 weeks. If there are any changes, we will advise you as soon as we know. We will continue to send out regular updates on what is happening.

For the rest of the week there will be learning activities available on our school website for children to work through. The Ministry of Education has classified the weeks starting 30 March and April 6 as school holidays. Remote learning will begin after the Easter weekend on Wednesday 15th April.

The teaching team have made provision for those of you who wish to have your child working on their learning at home during the period of school closure or if they are self-isolating. Please don't make learning stressful for your children, do what you can and make it as enjoyable as possible. Take the opportunity to have some fun experiences with your children and try to create some positive memories. Don't worry about your child 'falling behind'. The school will ensure we make up for the lost time and get the children back to where they need to be with their learning.

Remote learning can be accessed via the school website by clicking on the Remote Learning tab. Currently, there are some fun activity ideas for the school holiday weeks under this tab. Remote learning ideas will be posted for year groups from Wednesday 15th April, being the beginning of term two. If you have learning related questions please email your class teacher who will be checking their emails daily and responding in an appropriate timeframe.

Our children are just as confused and scared as we are right now. Our children not only can hear everything that is going on around them, but they feel our constant tension and anxiety. They have never experienced anything like this before. Although the idea of being off of school for weeks sounds awesome, they are probably picturing a fun time like summer break, not the reality of being trapped at

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home and not seeing their friends.

As time progresses, over the coming weeks, it is likely you will see an increase in behaviour issues with your children. This could be anxiety, or anger, or protests that they can't do normal things - it will happen. You will potentially see more meltdowns, tantrums, and oppositional behaviour. This is normal, age-appropriate and expected under these circumstances.

If we can leave you with one thing, it's this: at the end of all of this, your family's mental health will be more important than academic progress. How your children felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did during those weeks is long gone.

We wish everyone the best, look after yourselves and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school soon.

Kia kaha, Kia toa, Kia manawanui  
(Be Strong, be brave, be patient).

Nga Mihi  
Grant Stuart  
Principal

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