

Kia Ora Koutou Boulcott Whanau,

I hope you are all continuing to chug along in your bubbles. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our “Distance Learning” survey over the last week. The information you have provided has been really useful for us to get a better understanding of your current situation. We have passed on the relevant information to the Ministry of Education today so they also have an

understanding of what you may require. You may have seen in the media yesterday that they intend to send out hard-copy material or a device to families that require it. If you have indicated this on the survey something may be coming your way in the near future. Unfortunately, I am unable to provide you with exact timings on when they will arrive. If you do receive a pack of hard copy material please also be aware this will not be personalised to your child’s current academic level. Some work may be too easy or too hard. As teachers, we have a basic outline of what might be contained but we don’t have specifics.

The teachers have been working incredibly hard over their holiday break to establish some new ways of working as we head into a very different Term 2. This term officially starts on Wednesday, 15 April but the school will remain closed while we are in Level 4 Lockdown, so we will be delivering the learning programme from a distance. We appreciate that the programmes are not going to work for every family so there are no expectations to complete anything. We trust that you will make the right decisions for your family in your unique situation. Our number one goal during this time (as should be yours too) is to focus on the well-being of all of us (students, parents and staff).

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM US?

From April 15th student work will be provided by teachers online. Junior and Middle school teachers (Year 1-4) will be primarily using Seesaw to connect with students and share learning.

The Senior school teachers (Year 5-6) will primarily be using Google Classroom to share learning tasks. Many of these classes have already been using this platform in class in Term 1 so it should be familiar to the children. If you are unsure on how to connect, please contact your child’s classroom teacher.

For all classes across the school, a lot of the tasks that will be offered will not need to be completed online, this will simply be a platform for teachers to share tasks and for children to share their completed work.



Classroom teachers will be providing daily tasks and will have a presence online to provide feedback on the learning that is shared. Please be aware, this is a new experience for our teachers as well. They will be learning at the same time as you through this tricky time. It is also important to appreciate that all of our teachers are also working from home. Many of them have their own challenges in their bubbles and may also have their own children at home that they will be home schooling.

If you have any questions about the learning programmes, it is best to contact your child's classroom teacher directly via email. Please also note, our admin and support staff will also be working from home during this time if you need to contact them. All email addresses can be found here: <https://www.boulcott.school.nz/staff/>

Attached to this newsletter are a couple of info-graphics that will hopefully be of further assistance to you. The first is an overview of our philosophy for distance learning and the second is a **suggested** daily timetable for your students while they are learning at home. Once again, we know this is not going to work for all families, so you may like to adapt this to suit your situation. A broad daily structure for your children will be helpful to help them navigate the day. I'm sure it will be also helpful for you as a parent too!

Tomorrow is Good Friday and the start of the Easter break. I'll be encouraging the teachers to 'disconnect' from school life for the break, to spend time with their loved ones in their own bubbles. They will be back on board on Wednesday 15 April. I will continue to provide communication with you at the start of Term 2.

Stay safe in your bubbles. Our united front against this nasty bug seems to be working!

Nga mihi,

Stu Devenport
Principal

CHANGES TO KEY DATES

10 – 14 April	Easter including the Tuesday after Easter
15 April	Term 2 begins (through distance learning)
22 April	Current date for ending of lockdown period
27 April	ANZAC Day observed

WHAT YOUR DAY COULD LOOK LIKE:

The number one goal of schooling currently is to nurture wellbeing.



FIRST THING:

- Get up
- Get dressed
- Make bed, eat breakfast & brush teeth
- Get outside to do some exercise or find some fitness to do inside

10-12 NOON

- Check in with your Seesaw or Google Classroom and find out what you could do that day.
- Sometimes there will be tasks/activities that you can do without being on the device
- Take a photo of what you have done and post it to Seesaw using your home learning code
- Make sure that you drink lots of water and have a healthy snack
- Get outside and do some enviro work
 - tend the vege garden or see how many birds you can hear.



AFTER LUNCH:

- Help with the clean up from Lunch or you could even help make lunch.
- Spend some time being creative - building with lego, reading a book, some arts and crafts or completing a challenge.
- If the weather is good - get outside and run around in the backyard with a ball or someone.

LATE AFTERNOON

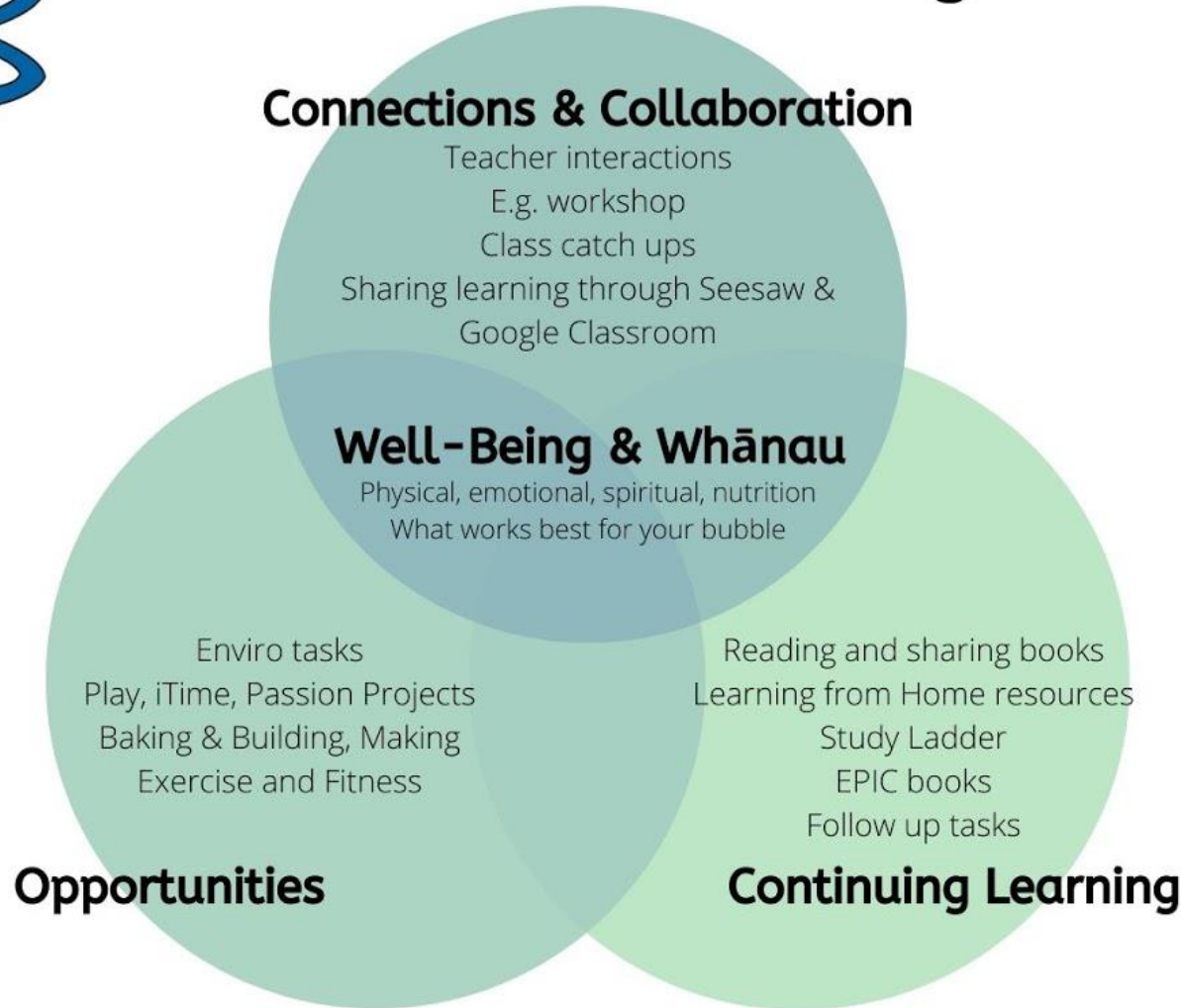
- Make sure you spend some time either reading or just chilling out - maybe watching TV or playing a game.
- Help out getting dinner ready or setting the table
- After dinner help with the dishes and maybe play a family game



<https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/>



Boulcott School Learning from Home



Our reality:

Your **family** situation is unique. Think about what works best for you and what you can achieve. You choose whether it is 1 hour or 4, try and divide it up from there. We trust that you will make the right decisions for your family.

Connections & Collaboration:

This is vital to remain connected and to support students in their learning and well being. Try to engage with these opportunities either via Google Classroom or Seesaw.

Continuing Learning:

Complete those follow ups and partake in that practice work that you know will make you a better learner.

Opportunities:

Make the most of the time to explore interests and hobbies.

Take action with a project

Have fun with family and challenge yourself

Well Being & Whānau:

Move, breathe, chill and relax, eat well and drink lots of water.

Key tools: Seesaw, Google Classroom & Meet