



Mokoia Intermediate

Matua Rawiri's Shout Out

Tena Koutou Parents and Caregivers

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With so much information and misinformation swirling around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what will happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.

- If a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (e.g. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Education will inform me, and I will ensure that you are informed quickly.
- If there is a case confirmed of someone in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with no case confirmed in our school, your children are safe here.

A number of parents are contacting us stating that they have decided to keep their children away from school. Whilst I understand the sentiment behind this approach I need to confirm that the Ministry of Health has stated there is currently no justifiable reason for this to occur. School remains the best place for our children to be. Any student absent from school will have to be marked as 'explained, unjustified', meaning that while you have notified us of their absence, the reason falls outside a valid reason under the Education Act.

Some parents of students being kept out of school have asked for work to be sent home. Again, if the reason is unjustified we are unable to provide work for these students. The online learning environment would only be triggered if for any reason there was a school closure. Our staff will be focussing on their students in the classroom environment. If a student is out of school for justified medical reasons, staff will endeavour to provide meaningful work for them to complete, but the expectation is that if they are unwell they focus on getting better rather than completing school work.

Despite media coverage to the contrary, the advice from the Ministry of Health is that it is unlikely that we will see mass school closures and it is more likely that schools will develop local responses based on the immediate effects of COVID-19 in that community. As any changes to this approach develop we will keep you fully informed via our Facebook page, Seesaw and email, as per our Pandemic Management Plan.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practising good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness. Hand sanitiser is available in many locations in the school, with hand washing with soap and warm water remaining the focus.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Arohanui

Matua Rawiri and the Mokoia 'A' Team

We are Limitless! We are Passionate! We are Mokoia!



Our leadership team had a day of professional development with Rob Clarke from Learning Architects.

Key dates for Term 1 2020

- Tuesday 24 March - vision and hearing testing
- Monday 30 March - school photos
- Friday 3 April - Teacher Only Day
- Friday 10 April - Good Friday - Term break begins
- Monday 27 April - ANZAC Day observed
- Tuesday 28 April - Term 2 begins

Want to see our full school calendar? Follow this link: <http://bit.ly/MokCal>

Options for Home Learning Should the School Close

We are currently working on our home learning options and teachers will be asking students about access to wifi and devices and who might need a paper option.

Our teachers will be able to continue working with their students:

- Many already use **Google Classroom** so they will make a natural step to using it at home
- Others will initiate their classes into its use next week
- Teachers plan to send out activities on **Seesaw**
- Some will use **Zoom** to work face to face with one or more students in their class. Again, this will be practised next week
- Teachers (individually) and the school (collectively) will give families **a list of websites** to support learning
- **Other ideas are noted below** for home learning should the situation escalate rapidly
- For some students, teachers may create a workbook for home learning if they have no digital connectivity.

Please contact your teacher by email as a first point of contact should you have problems accessing the tools.

Other ideas for Home Learning (taken from a teacher post)

Here is a really great list found in a Principal's group that DOES NOT require technology and the internet:

- Interview a family member
- Measure the area and perimeter of each room in your home

Brent Road, Rotorua, NEW ZEALAND Phone: 07 3459071 Email: office@mokoia.school.nz

- Graph the types of birds that frequent your yard or windows
- Be completely silent for 60 minutes, then write about the experience
- Write and mail a [real] letter to your teacher or principal or classroom penpal. Address the envelope yourself
- Build a "fable fort" out of blankets and chairs. Camp in it all day while you create stories to tell your family over dinner
- Learn morse code and use it to communicate with your siblings through walls and floors
- Alphabetize the spices in your kitchen
- Stay up late and stargaze
- Call a grandparent or older relative. Ask them to teach you the words to a song from their childhood days
- Using household materials, build a working rain gauge, barometer, and wind vane
- Determine and chart the times that different liquids require to turn solid in the freezer
- Design and build puppets that perform a show about multiplication
- Construct a family tree
- Learn ten new big words. Write them in marker on your bathroom mirror
- Draw a map of your home
- Sit silently for 15 minutes while you write down every sound you hear. When you are done, classify the sounds (high/low pitch, high/low volume, manmade v. naturally occurring, etc.)
- Create a Venn Diagram that compares and contrasts two people in your family, your neighborhood, or your church, mosque, or temple
- Learn, practice, and perform a magic trick
- Learn, practise, and tell three new jokes
- Use household materials to make and play stringed, percussion, and wind instruments
- Learn to shine a pair of shoes
- Collect leaves from ten different (non-harmful) plants. Sort them by size, color, and texture
- Put your favorite book, toy, and keepsake on a small table in sunlight. Draw or paint a full color still life
- Find, pick, and dissect a flower
- If you have stairs, walk up and count them. Walk down and count by twos. Walk up and count by threes. Continue through tens
- Determine the volumes of ten containers, then display them in order on your porch
- Write a poem on your sidewalk using chalk
- Classify twenty everyday objects by shape, size, color, height, mass, and material
- Measure the length of your bed using five different nonstandard units
- Call a person who speaks a language you do not. Ask them to teach you five common words or phrases
- Create and use a secret code
- Using one type of paper (constant), build three different paper airplanes (independent variable) and test to see how far they fly (dependent variable)
- Set a clock three hours and seven minutes ahead. Whenever someone needs to know the time, help them figure it out by subtracting
- Write down every adjective you say for one full day
- Learn three new jokes. Tell them to an aunt or uncle

Brent Road, Rotorua, NEW ZEALAND Phone: 07 3459071 Email: office@mokoia.school.nz

- Design a map of every state ever visited by people in your family
- Write or tell a story titled "What if humans had to leave the Earth and no one remembered to turn off the last robot?"
- Find ten rocks smaller than a dime
- Using paper, tape, and string, design, build, and test a device that warns you when someone opens the kitchen cabinet
- Imagine, create, and fly a full size flag that tells the world about you

Source: Kim Jones McClelland

Kiwi Competitions

Once again this year the University of Canterbury is delighted to offer the Great Kiwi English, Mathematics and Science competitions for Primary, Intermediate and Secondary schools. The Kiwi competitions are written by New Zealand teachers for New Zealand students and are based on the New Zealand Curriculum.

The online competitions will be run in the last 3 weeks of Term 2 and the first week of Term 3. All participating students will be awarded a certificate and prizes will be awarded to top students in each year group.

We will encourage all extension Maths and Passion Pathways students involved in Writing, Mathematics, and Science to enter these competitions. The cost for a student to participate is \$9.00 per competition entered.

The registration letter was sent out last week but you can contact me, ahyde@mokoia.school.nz. Entries are due by the end of this term please.

Photolife

Photolife will be here on 30th March. Flyers have been sent to the classes for the students to take home so parents know which day it is. They order online after the photos have been taken. No money goes to the school office. If you would like a "sibling" flyer, these are available at the office.

Celebrations

👍 Congratulations to our values award winner this week, **Moana Uerata, P2**. Moana is the epitome of a good school student leader, who always lives our school values.

👍 Well done to our amazing student council, led by **Amy Morgan**. I am in awe of the empathy of this group for others. They are running their own meetings and dealing with values driven topics.

Brent Road, Rotorua, NEW ZEALAND Phone: 07 3459071 Email: office@mokoia.school.nz

👍 A huge pat on the back to our teachers who continue to put the learning and wellbeing of our students first.

👍 For more go to our Facebook group page, Mokoia intermediate 2019 - <http://bit.ly/MokoiaFacebook>

Merit Awards for Week 7

K1	Evaleigh Hindrup - For being a supportive and respectful classmate. You consistently demonstrate whakaiti in all that you do.
Rūmaki	Motiana Alefosio-Tuck - I eke koe ki te pae o angitū!
K3	-
K4	Tayla Bell - For showing the school values in all you do. I appreciate the way you are kind to others, ready to do the mahi and put 100 % effort in all you do. Tauke!
P1	Ben Mowry - For your enthusiasm when writing your song and playing the guitar to portray who you are: funny, talented and always smiling or laughing. He tumeke koe e tama!
P2	Ryan Reardon - For your excellent contribution to classroom discussion, specifically with regard to Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles. Also, your humility, when acknowledged for your sporting achievements, is commendable. Kāore te kumara e kōrero mō tōna ake reka.
P3	Hanae Tsunakawa - For your amazing attitude towards all of your work. You are exceptionally well organised and put 100% effort into everything you do. You are a star!
P4	-
W1	Ayden Whitehead - For your continued perseverance in all aspects of learning, in and out of the classroom.
W2	Awatere Karaka - The effort you have shown in your learning is a great example of ūpoko pakaru and kōmaitanga. I have seen you working hard and I have heard the understanding that you have developed. Ka mau te wehi.
W3	Ruby Hogg - For being extremely helpful this week. You have stepped up to take on roles when it was needed and have been actively involved in class projects. It has been so appreciated.
W4	Tara Thaine - You have been absolutely amazing at managing your time and communicating your ideas. You are getting your mahi done so you can do your creative projects. Keep up the great work! Zandré Smit - It is inspirational to see you work towards your learning goals. You

	know what you need to do and work diligently to achieve your best.
Food	Rumaki - Whetu Paul (Year 7) - For your quiet confidence when cooking and your caring support for others when they needed help. Rumaki - Shari Hayward (Year 8)- For your enthusiasm, focus and on to it attitude when working in the cooking room.
Multi	Rumaki - Valencia Davies - For having a great attitude towards the mahi and being a role model to your peers.
Biotech	Rumaki - DJ Katipa - For asking thoughtful questions that helped you develop a deeper understanding of the mahi.

Our School Values

“Always believe in yourself and always stretch yourself beyond your limits. Your life is worth a lot more than you think because you are capable of accomplishing more than you know. You have more potential than you think, but you will never know your full potential unless you keep challenging yourself and pushing beyond your own self imposed limits.”

– Roy T. Bennett, *The Light in the Heart*

