



Newsletter - Thursday 11th June 2020

ALERT LEVEL 1!

It was wonderful to start Alert Level 1 this week, enabling us to get back up and running with parents and families coming through the gates again, bigger school activities now ok, and sports competitions starting. We are already beginning to plan ahead with the whole school Matariki Celebrations in a few weeks time and organising a slightly different whole school Cross Country early next term.

Please remember our Golden Rules for Alert Level 1. If we all stick to these they will help keep us as safe and healthy as we can. Please be assured IF anything changes we have tight systems in place and IF we need to change levels we can respond to this with confidence.



IMPORTANT...ARE YOU CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET?

You may have seen in the newspapers that the Ministry of Education is sending out modems to families that are **not connected to the internet**. This means that these families are able to receive a **FREE modem and FREE 6 month internet connection**. After this time there is no compulsion to keep it and there are no hidden costs during this 6 month time! The reason behind this initiative is to ensure IF we had to go back to remote learning that all children and families can have access to devices and the internet. It also means that our whole community will be connected for the next 6 months. If you **do not have the internet at home** please contact me in the office as soon as possible - either pop in or send a note with your name and contact information, or contact your child's teacher by **Tuesday 16th June**. I can then make the necessary arrangements with the Ministry of Education. Please note: Being connected by your mobile phone's bluetooth to a device is not classed as being connected.

SPACE

Our kids have loved the Big Concept learning around Space. Kauri and Kahikatea Syndicates had Becky Bateman from "Under The Stars" come/zoom in for expert sessions. Kawaka children prepared their speeches with 3D models, displays and posters, doing skype conferences with people from NASA. Kōwhai children explored the various planets and stars through their play based learning and literacy times. It is incredible to hear all the interesting facts they have learnt....some correcting things we were told when we went to school! A highlight was watching the recent rocket launch in the States.



<p>Brodie & Lily, Room 4 learning the order and size of the planets.</p>	<p>Nevaeh, Ailish and Eowyn, Room 7 presented their speeches with confidence and flair. They made incredible displays to support their speeches which clearly had a lot of time and thought put into them. Congratulations.</p>
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“DREAMS COME IN A SIZE TOO BIG, SO THAT YOU CAN GROW IN TO THEM!”

SAVE THE DATE

We will be having our annual Matariki Celebration in a few weeks time. This will be held on the school field on the morning of **Wednesday 1st July**. More details will come out soon but please book this date as it is a chance to get everyone together (it happens early in the morning before work begins).



HAUORA - WELLBEING

We have noticed that a small number of children are either tired, anxious, concerned or a little more sensitive than normal. This is to be expected with the changes and pressures due to COVID-19 which have impacted our school, our families and wider community in different ways. A few examples we are seeing or hearing are

- children being more tired (especially as this is a 12 week term or staying up later)
- making sure they clean their hands enough.
- more sensitive to noise levels or feeling over crowded.
- being more sensitive about friend issues.
- concerned about home issues such as job losses or pressures on the family.
- missing outside sports and feeling restless
- concerned about what they hear on the news.

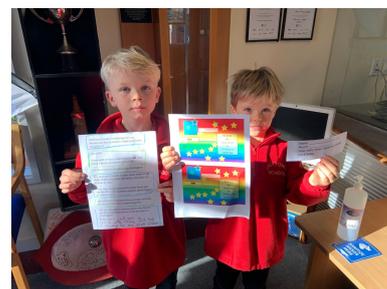
We will continue to ensure that school is a place where they can feel safe, loved and supported. We will adapt or tighten our programmes and systems to ensure they are supported towards becoming their “normal” confident selves (or to develop more confidence), increasing or promoting good life skills (organisation skills, resilience, communication, self care etc) or getting outside more. We ask parents to be a little more aware like us, as you also may need to provide additional support at home. This may include adjusting bedtime routines, talking through what they hear on the news or from friends etc. Please remember we are here to support you. If you have concerns please email or talk to the class teacher to keep them up to date so we can work together.

Please also note that on the other side of this a number of our children have loved the challenge of coming into school by themselves in the morning and getting themselves organised for the start of the day. If you notice your child doing this more independently...let them keep going!

WHOLE SCHOOL CHALLENGE

It started with a question... “How far away is Wellington?”

From here Beau and Oscar from Room 5 set about researching it. The answer is 75km. They then wondered what it would feel like to walk, ride or bike it. They measured the bike track and worked out you would have to go around it 225 times.....Their next thought was “I wonder if we could do it as a class?”. This has now got them into thinking about designing their own challenge. They have made their own recording system and certificates....and challenged every class to complete it. They will let me know the final results so watch this space. Clever thinking boys!!



[Ngā mihi maioha Miss Patrice O'Connor](#)

Dates For Your Diary

25th June	Year 8 EOTC
1st July	Matariki Celebration
3rd July	Term 2 ends
20th July	Term 3 ends

School Information

Email	office@greytown.school.nz principal@greytown.school.nz
Website	https://www.greytown.school.nz
Bank Acc	03 0609 0124353 00