



Westport South School

Newsletter

Week 4 Term 2

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I wanted to give you a quick update on how we are doing under Alert Level 3.

Our distance learning is working well, albeit with some teething problems as could be expected. While it will certainly have challenges for you at home balancing work and care for your children, we are getting a lot of positive feedback too. It is exciting to see the innovation that has been happening and some great feedback coming through of what our students, families and whānau have been up to at home.

I want to thank our teachers for developing and providing hard copy work for junior students, to supplement the online material. Also, a big thank you to the staff that delivered these packs to you.

We were excited to be able to reopen our premises for staff and students onsite on Wednesday last week and look forward to welcoming more of your children in person very soon. We also just wanted to provide some reassurance that our school is a safe place for your child to be and safe for our staff too.

We have closely followed the [public health measures](#) that have been put in place for Alert Level 3. These were set by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education to minimise spread in the unlikely event that someone in our community is confirmed with COVID-19.

This means we have 2 school bubbles in place, our staff and students are staying 1 metre apart inside and 2 metres outside, our cleaning programme fully aligns with Health guidance, only essential visitors are coming into school and we have systems in place similar to supermarkets and dairies, to prevent those people from congregating. Of course, we ALL need to lead in ensuring that others remember the physical distancing requirements put in place for their safety. Health and Safety are everyone's responsibility, support and education are the best measures to maintain a safe environment for all.

We have hand sanitiser in classrooms and lots of reminders (signage, markings, messages) to students and staff to undertake good hygiene practices such as good cough and sneeze etiquette and washing hands frequently. Just to remind you also that COVID-19 is not an illness that impacts heavily on children and young people. An article by Dr Gary Payinda in the [NZ Herald](#) highlights this:

- The young are less likely to get infected, less likely to get seriously ill, and less likely to spread the infection to others.
- When kids are affected, the illness is almost always mild. Luckily, unlike flu or many other infectious diseases, children with Covid are not super-spreaders.
- Covid's not measles or chickenpox; it doesn't hang in the air for hours waiting to infect passers-by. It travels on invisible drops of spit. You don't have to cross the street to avoid anyone. Just avoid getting in their 'moist breath' zone.

Make hand hygiene a habit - more than being scared of runners passing by, touching groceries, or standing in queues at the supermarket, we should be afraid of our own hands.

You will also be interested to know there have been no confirmed instances of a person with COVID-19 who never developed symptoms spreading the virus. For more Information on how COVID-19 is spread go to the [Ministry of Health website](#).

Staying home if sick, physical distancing, good hand hygiene, not touching your face, good cough/sneeze etiquette and regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces minimises any potential spread of the virus, if we were to have a case in our community. Our school's health and safety system is all set up to ensure this happens.

Please get in touch if you have any questions, including about our health and safety management for children, staff and visitors coming onsite.

We will continue to keep you informed as risk levels change and what this will mean for your children and their education.

Keep Safe

Jo Duston

Room 5 lockdown adventures

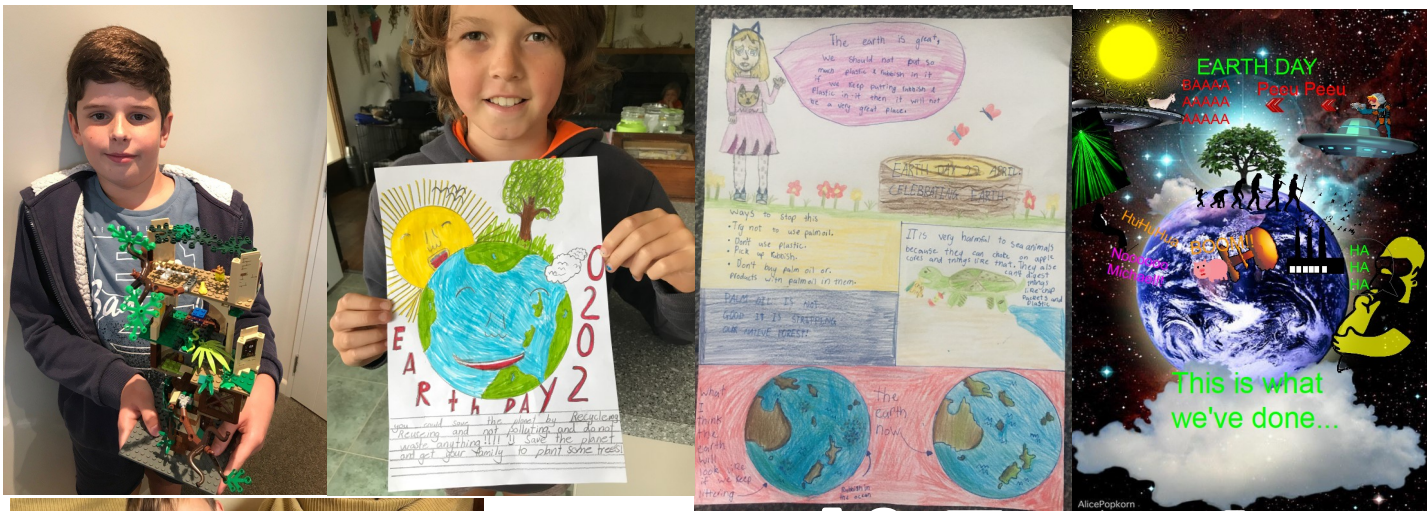


A big thank you to all our parents for your support with keeping your children at home and for all the online learning support you have given to your children.



Room 6 online learning

Design and draw a multi storey treehouse of your own, including all the special features you want in it. Label all the features in your treehouse.
 Build a model of your treehouse using construction materials, lego, or other materials you have at home in the garage or in the garden.
 Use your imagination and have fun with this challenge. I'm looking forward to seeing your amazing treehouses.
 You can photograph your drawing or model and upload it to google classroom.
 Other Task was Earth day posters making. With a message to save the environment.



Room 12 Experiments



Principal Awards:



Dylan Muir: For originality and creativity when completing USSD tasks. We are impressed at the skills you are developing using Google Drawings.

Ben Cane: For showing determination and perseverance to complete classroom tasks online to the best of your ability.

Rachael Craddock: Outstanding work ethic! Your diligent approach to all tasks on the Google Classroom is truly amazing! The thought, dedication and final result is impressive and pleasing to mark. Well done Rachael - keep up the great work!!!

Ciara Pugh: Persistence and effort to complete all mathematics tasks! You asked questions for clarification and your finished slides in both Week 1 and 2 were completed to a quality standard. Thanks for all your hard work!

Room 10 James Waters: Trying all Seesaw activities. Giving amazing explanations and "dancing up a storm!"

Jameson Walsh: Participating fully in Seesaw activities. I love hearing your expressive voice and listening to your explanations!"

Charlotte van der Sluys: Learning at home and online.
Well done Charlotte!

Room 5 Rydelle Raruve-Veradio: For showing HEART in the community, completing activities to benefit essential workers.

Archie Adams: Full participation and dedication to Room 5 STEM learning challenges.

Chloe Prangnell: For dedication to all distance learning activities provided.

Room 13 Principals Award: Ollie Johnston. Working consistently well and responsibly online.

Emily Ponder: Working well online, especially her ANZAC effort.

Marcus Terry, Fergus Tarr, Jaxon Jefferies, Noah Cropp and Isla Ferguson for being in the first seven to get started online.

Room 12 Aiyana Tantallon for completing some lovely arts and crafts activities during lock down.

Welcome to the following students that have started school in lockdown:
Haper Case Shikera-Rose Reid and Harris Duff it will be a start to your schooling that you will never forget.

Children working in their pods at school.

