6 April 2020

Kia ora koutou

Dear parent / caregiver

Hope you and your families / whānau are keeping safe and coping with having teenagers in a confined space day in and day out, not to mention the uncertainty we are all facing. Our School Counsellors Angela Reynolds (angelar@haurakiplains.school.nz) and Michelle Jones (michellej@haurakiplains.school.nz) are available for parents as well as students for support.

An update on what's happening and what the new term will look like:

- Currently the COVID-19 Alert Level 4 is due to remain in place until Thursday 23 April. Schools and kura, unless notified otherwise by the government, will be open for instruction from 15 April with the teaching and learning taking place remotely.
- The Ministry is currently gathering data on those students needing a device or internet access so some parents / caregivers/ whānau, who we have already identified as needing assistance, may get a call over the next day or two regarding this either from your child's Dean or a Ministry representative. The Ministry will use the information to identify where devices and hard copy learning resources may be needed to be delivered.
- We have developed guidelines for teachers for how the teaching and learning will happen this coming term. Please note the following:
 - Each week, each teacher will put on Google Classroom a week's worth of learning by Sunday 5pm prior to the week. The first week back after Easter is a short week so the work will be up by 5pm Tuesday 14 April.
 - Juniors will have around 2 2 ½ hours per subject per week. They can decide when they will do this work during the week but it must be completed for their Junior Certificate and Diploma.
 - Seniors can expect more work as we need to keep moving through NCEA assessments. We don't want students to have to face a whole lot of assessments when school is back to normal, so we have been working on ways of gathering evidence for assessments online. It is vital that students continue and keep up with their work to ensure they achieve their NCEA qualifications.
 - Teachers will respond to any emails within 24 hours and will be online to answer questions each day for 30 minutes when the class is normally taught at these times:
 - Period 1: 9:30 to 10am
 - Period 2: 10:30 to 11am
 - Period 3: 11:30 to 12 midday
 - Period 4: 1:30 to 2pm
 - Period 5: 2:30 to 3pm
 - Some teachers may set up a Google Meet, but will give 2-3 days notice so there is time for students to get organised for this.
- Each teacher has a tracking sheet for every class to monitor that students are going online and attempting to do the work. We will be in contact if this is not happening.
- We will have learning support staff available to give more help to those students who are struggling with the work.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to get in contact. Email principal@haurakiplains.school.nz

Kind regards and keep well.

Ngaire Harris PRINCIPAL

