



Easter's Hope

Principal's Update

14th April 2020

Greetings to all members of our College Community,

We are coming to the end of our **Easter** celebrations and one of the heartening things that I always take from Easter is the joy and hope that the Resurrection brings on Easter Sunday. I take strength from the symbol of the Cross, the very cross which Christ was crucified on, it is my symbol of Hope and is so prominent in our Easter rituals.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”. **1 Peter 1:3**

I admit that it was a unique experience celebrating Good Friday service in my lounge at home and the thing I missed was the collective spiritual atmosphere of my Parish congregation during the service.

I have been working with our College Chaplain Father Martin and we are planning to provide an online College Mass for our young men and Staff on Thursday morning, this will be streamed online through our College website.

At the time of writing, I have received no notification of a positive Corona Virus case in our College community and I pray that this will continue.

- As a College we are preparing for the start of our **Term 2 on Wednesday 15th April.** However we still remain in Lockdown and teaching and learning will continue **online** from this Wednesday.
Your son and you have been sent the **Guidelines for his learning** online which I encourage you to read over with him and let him explain how he will meet these guidelines.

We will have an online **Virtual Assembly** for the young men on Wednesday which will be streamed on our College website.

Reminder: All updates and communications will be sent to Families email addresses and also uploaded to our College website.

The Ministry of Education has indicated a tentative date for students to return to normal Classroom teaching on-site as **Wednesday 29th April**, this date is yet to be confirmed and will be reassessed much closer to this date. My belief is that it may well be at a later date than this.

We are in unusual times and I am very conscious of the added pressures on our families at the moment, I do not expect Parents to instantly become Home –School teachers as you have many other far more important jobs to deal with in your homes.

The expectations that we have set for school work for our young men are a guide and it is work that they should be able to complete on their own, they are welcome to contact their teachers by email if they have any questions about their work as you are also if you need any explanations or some advice about your son's learning.

As I have mentioned in previous Updates to you, I have been working closely with the Ministry of Education over the last week to identify students who do not have access to the Internet or a suitable device to assist their online learning.

I have forwarded the contact details of our students to the Ministry, who have informed me that they will begin to deliver devices to students after the Easter break.

They won't be able to meet everyone's needs all at once but will continue to provide as much as they can, as it is available.

The College has received numerous requests from Parents in the last two days for a Device, the delivery of devices will come directly from the Ministry of Education as we give them updated information from families in our community who need these.

TV Resources for Parents and students over the next two weeks of Lockdown.

- Home Learning TV will start education broadcasting for early learners and students (Years 1–10) from **9.00am on Wednesday April 15.**
- Home Learning TV will be free to air, on **TVNZ channel 2+1** and on **TVNZ on Demand**, as well as on **Sky Channel 502.**
- It will run from 9am to 3pm on schooldays with programming for children and young people aged 0 to 15, as well as for parents. Home Learning TV will be on air for one month – with provision to extend beyond that depending on the lockdown situation.
- Papa Kāinga TV programming will be grouped for early learners, primary and secondary students. All programmes will feature highly experienced teachers and presenters, along with a range of wellbeing and movement experts.
- Content will include play, literacy mathematics, science, te reo Māori, physical education and wellbeing. There will also be Pacific language content.
- Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV and Māori TV education programming is not intended to replace our teachers and kaiako.

- The programmes are aimed at children and students who, for whatever reason, find it tricky to learn online, or who don't have hard pack learning resources.
- All programming is linked to the curriculum for the relevant age group. The programmes will supplement the learning pack materials that some students will be receiving, as well as the learning programmes students will be getting from their school or early learning service.

Below are some links to sites that I have forwarded to you previously and I would encourage you to look at.

- **The first is a list of Support Services providing Food needs.**
 1. Auckland City Mission Foodbank - If you need a food parcel call ACM 09 303 9266 and speak to the Crisis Care team. You will then be given a time to collect from ACM distribution centre at 15 Auburn Street, off Boston road in Grafton. Everyone must take ID with them.
 2. Salvation Army food parcels - Contact the Mt Wellington Salvation Army Community Ministry 09 379 7615 – or their local Salvation Army Community Ministry (ring 0800 53 00 00 to find your local ministry). You will be given a time to collect your food parcel.
 3. Presbyterian Support Northern - Call 09 309 2054 to arrange a pick up at 8 Madeira Lane, Grafton. Strictly no walk-ins and collections are strictly between 11-12am Mon-Fri.
 4. St Vincent De Paul in Newton Branch – Call 09 815 6122 or email – Auckland@stvinnies.co.nz and they can deliver a food parcel.
 5. Nga Whare Waatea Marae - Open Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm. Head to the Marae at 31 Calthorp Close, Mangere with ID. Wait in car and staff will get to each person one at a time, asking relevant questions as needed.
 6. Papakura Marae Foodbank - Open Mon-Fri 10am-2.30pm, 09 297 2036. Please phone to request a food parcel, someone will ring you back to do a phone interview, then food will be delivered. Only deliveries to Papakura and Manurewa areas currently.

Take good care of yourselves and your families.

God bless
M.Hogarty

Principal