

Dear parents and whanau,

First, I hope you are all well and managing to stay in your bubbles. It isn't easy but hopefully won't be for too long. Kia Kaha.

Thank you for sending us your updated address details. Our teachers will be in contact next week and hopefully can answer any questions you have.

We are updating our school website [www.viscount.school.nz](http://www.viscount.school.nz) every day and now have a new page called Learning at Home. You can open this page by clicking on the top banner - **LEARNING AT HOME**

### **Hardpacks**

We have been told that hardpacks are coming to every Y1-3 child. It is a Farm Kit game. You can learn more about it on our website. These packs are for you to keep. Your child's teacher will ring you to talk about how you can use it...or you can click on [farm kit](#) on our website - **LEARNING AT HOME**

### **Devices**

The Ministry of Education is doing its best to send out thousands of chromebooks. We hope they have enough to go around.

If you receive a device and a modem – I will send out instructions so your child can use it.

Devices will belong to the school and will need to be returned when we are open again .

Please remember devices are for your children and not for teenage or adult use.

**If you do not want a device – please tell the courier to take it back.**

### **Seesaw**

We hope as many families as possible have been able to get connected with Seesaw. Teachers will be ringing next week to see if you need any help with this.

### **New TV channel**

Even if you get a hardpack or a device – you can also get some extra learning for your children through TV1 and 2 or Maori TV. **Learning at Home programmes** will run between 9 and 3 from the 15<sup>th</sup> April. The Maori TV programme is Te Reo Maori.

## Information on Foodbanks

In case you need to know I have printed information on foodbanks. Do not go hungry at this difficult time.

### **FOODBANKS - if you need a food parcel here are some places that could help**

- 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](mailto: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.
- 7. Orakei Foodbank** - Call 521 5712 and leave message on voicemail with details of how many in family etc. Parcels are only delivered on Tuesdays and Fridays to Orakei, Kohi and Mission Bay.
- 8. St Marks Church in Pakuranga** are still open but only focusing on those in Pakuranga . You can contact them directly via their contact page on their website or emailing [stmarks@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stmarks@xtra.co.nz)
- 9. Hills Church on Hillsborough Road** can be emailed at [office@hillschurch.nz](mailto:office@hillschurch.nz) Please provide details on your needs and they will do their best to provide a food parcel. Hills Church has also offered to go shopping for those that cannot leave home due to self-isolation if needed.

Shirley Hardcastle  
Principal