

9 April 2020

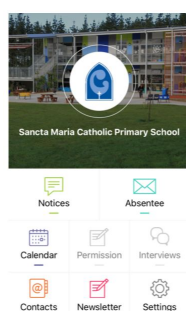
Dear Parents/Caregivers

A big thank you to all our families for filling out the survey. This has enabled the Leadership Team to pass on the information to the Ministry of Education as requested. Yesterday afternoon, the Minister announced details of the package of support and resources for supporting schools to deliver learning at a distance when Term 2 begins on Wednesday 15 April.

In order for schools to move into Term 2, the Ministry of Education has planned a multi - pronged approach to ensure that all children can learn in some way or another at home. This is either through the use of devices, hard copy packs which can be posted to the home or a new educational channel which will be set up on TV. More information can be found on the [Ministry of Education Learning from Home site](#).

Please note that the Ministry of Education will be distributing support on a needs basis, starting with devices to secondary students studying NCEA who do not have access to a device and hard copy materials to students who have no access to the internet. The most disadvantaged families will be given priority for both internet connections and devices. [Link to article](#)

Our teachers will continue to use SeeSaw and Google sites as a means of connecting with their classes and sharing the teaching and learning from home. Remember to visit our school website and click on the 'Learning at Home'



button, to find many wonderful ideas and links to support learning at home which our teachers have prepared.

To ensure that the paths of communication are open, it is important that all parents download the free SKOOL LOOP app onto their mobile phones, as this is a very quick and efficient way for us to contact you and keep you updated. [Link](#) to find out more.

We are aware that every family will be having a different experience with their isolation. We have families who are essential workers, still working while caring for their family full time, families who are experiencing loss of employment, parents who are working from home and still caring for children and the difficulty of not being able to go out for various activities you would normally do during the holidays. Together we are all struggling with the challenge of a changed world - of isolation and uncertainty.

A big thank you to all of you for taking the lockdown so seriously. Staying home will break the chain and save lives.

As we approach the Easter weekend may we pray together:

“Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen”.

*Mā te Atua koutou katoa e tiaki, e manaaki.*

*May God protect and care for you all.*

Gina Benade

Principal