



Macandrew Bay School



Simply the best for our children.

1 May 2020

Kia ora whanau

I hope learning at home has gone well this week. I know this must feel like it has been going on for a long time now! School finished towards the end of March and now it is May! Still things are looking good for a positive move when the decision is made on May 11th. The beautiful fine Autumn weather will be helping everyone get outside and get some fresh air anyway.

Anzac Day 2020

I hope you all had a good Anzac Day weekend and great to hear about all the people marking the day in their own special ways. It was lovely to hear about Matt Harcombe playing the Last Post for the neighbourhood at dawn, Gemma and Benji Pickering playing also on their instruments for the Howard St people, people standing and remembering at their gates and Jacqui Hay starting the little collection of poppies at the war memorial in Macandrew Bay, Solomon Baldock again playing for the community, though you will probably have heard him rather than seeing him, and I am sure Dan O'Brien was probably out there on the bagpipes as well marking the day.

We will have all done our own thing in our own way, so even though we couldn't gather at the Hall as we usually do, it was a day we marked in a more personal way this year. My thoughts were certainly of my dad who was wounded at Cassino in Italy, aged 23, and both my grandads who fought in WW1. Thank goodness the following generations have not had to go to war as those two prior generations did.



Poppies on the window at the Heptonstall's place this year.

Newsletters

I hope you enjoyed last week's newsletter and we will do a newsletter with sections from each class like that each fortnight so watch out for next week's newsletter to see what has been going on with our school and community. The teachers will write a summary of what the children have been learning and will share pieces of work and photos so please send them through to them on seesaw, dojo or by email to your child's teacher or myself. I am not asking the teachers to do this every week to help keep things manageable for them.

There was some lovely feedback from some families about how much they enjoyed seeing what everyone had been up to and reading the children's writing. It helps us keep feeling connected to each other and that is important at the moment.

This week we will have some news from our little group of 6 children who have returned to school to join Matt Direen, Jess McAuley, Sharon Alipate, and myself at school this week. It has been lovely to be able to work with children on site and we hope it will only be a couple of weeks till we can return to school as normal when we reach Level 2. If any families do need to send their children to school before we move to Level 2 please give us a couple of days advance notice by emailing or ringing me and we will certainly have room for your child or children to join us at this stage.

Mirumiru Tahī (Bubble One)

We have had 6 lovely children join us this week and we may possibly get one or more children next week. It has been really great to work with them and learn together as a group and the children have been enjoying interacting with others outside their family at school.

We decided to call our Bubble class Mirumiru Tahī as Mirumiru is the Maori word for bubble and tahī means 1.

We started writing letters to a friend in their class and hope to send them soon. Here is a letter the children wrote collaboratively to all their school mates at Macandrew Bay School today.

Dear Macandrew Bay Children,

We are the children of Mirumiru Tahī (Bubble 1). We have Sam, Reuben, Lilly, Will, Mila and Rose in our bubble at the moment. How is everyone feeling?

We are feeling good to be at school but we are missing all of you. It's been good to do school work and especially Maths (Mila), playing (Lilly), listening to stories (Rose), playing Prodigy (Sam), scavenger hunt (Will) and some filming (Reuben). It has been good to be with other kids and work and learn together.

We are going to write some letters this week and it would be nice to get some letters or emails from you. If you do write a letter you could drop it into the black letterbox on the tree next to the school bell if you are out for a walk or if you want to email then send it to either principal@macandrewbay.school.nz or mattdireen@macandrewbay.school.nz.

We would love to hear from you!

***Cheers,
Mirumiru Tahī***

Library Zooms

As part of class zooms on Friday Gill our librarian is going to join the zooms and share a story or two from her home library (which looks pretty amazing I must say).

I hope the children are reading lots of books at home and enjoying sharing stories within your family.

Hard Copy Learning materials

I heard from some families that the learning packs have arrived in the mail last week but it seems a bit patchy and not everyone has them yet. They should be coming though at some stage if you haven't got them yet. The kids have enjoyed getting a parcel delivered for them.



Our bubble enjoying the sunshine at school this morning. The children in Mirumiru Tahī are doing a great job of keeping 1 metre apart inside and 2 metres apart when we are playing together outside.

Macandrew Bay Walkway



I will finish this brief newsletter there and wish you a happy weekend. The weather is supposed to be pretty reasonable so get out and enjoy it!

Take care

Bernadette

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