



Welcome to the first day of Term 2!

I'm typing this newsletter to you today from my kitchen table. It certainly is an interesting experience running a school remotely while parenting and homeschooling my 3 daughters! I'm sure many of you will be experiencing similar juggling acts as you are navigating this new world! I am definitely missing the usual buzz of the first day of the term, seeing all the friendly faces after a refreshing break.



This special newsletter includes information on the following:

- Distance Learning
- Information on the latest media releases regarding school closures
- Cyber Safety at Home
- Home Learning packs & IT devices
- Home Learning TV
- Celebration of Learning
- Enrolments

Distance Learning

Officially Term 2 starts today but it looks quite different to the usual start of term! We hope the first day went ok for you all. A reminder that teachers will be sharing daily learning experiences on Seesaw (Year 1-4) and Google Classroom (Year 5 & 6) for children to complete at a time that suits. We appreciate that the programmes are not going to work for every family so there are no expectations to complete anything. We trust that you will make the right decisions for your family in your unique situation. Our number one goal during this time (as should be yours too) is to focus on the well-being of all of us (students, parents and staff).

Latest Media Updates

Many of you will have seen differing reports in the media about when and how schools will reopen once we move down from Alert Level 4. There is a lot of misinformation out there so I thought it best that you hear it from the horse's mouth (with the Ministry of Education being the horse!).

The five main points are:

1. No decision has been made yet about when schools will reopen. This decision will be made based on data about the spread of Covid-19 and how we are going to stamp it out. It is unlikely that a decision will be made before 20 April.
2. The very earliest schools would open would be 29 April. And this would likely only be for SOME students, not all.
3. The Ministry (and us) are preparing for several possible scenarios - opening only for staff, opening for essential workers' children, opening in shifts so that children can stay 2m apart, opening for just Senior students, a combination of distance and on-site learning, staggered opening, not opening for a number of weeks etc. We want to be prepared for whatever the decision is once the data becomes clear. This, of course, is a massive amount of thinking and planning. Our biggest focus will always be "What is best for the children and staff of Boulcott School!"
4. There will be ample notice before schools open. They will not be closed one day and open the next. We will be given ample time to ensure that the school has a deep-clean, that our planning for the term is completed and that we put in place any Health & Safety regulations.
5. The Ministry has been VERY clear that we will NOT be moving out of Alert Level 4 early. Chris Hipkins is, this week, working on guidelines for what Alert Level 3 could look like for schools. We look forward to his guidance on this matter.

FREE N4L safety filter for all students

The Ministry of Education and Network 4 Learning have set up a safety filter that parents can set up on their child's learning devices from home. Just go to switchonsafety.co.nz to find clear instructions on how to do this.

The free N4L safety filter (by global cyber-security leader, Akamai) blocks websites containing known cyber threats like phishing scams, malicious content and viruses, while also protecting children from content deemed the worst of the web (like adult sites).

It is an extension of one of the many safety and security services we have in place at school and is a valuable layer of protection to help keep children safe online. Please remember that technology is not a silver bullet and the filter should be used in combination with Netsafe's [online parent safety toolkit](#).

IT Devices & Home Learning Packs.

Just a reminder about what was communicated in the newsletter last week regarding IT devices and hard-copy learning packs. The Ministry of Education are arranging for:

- Homes to be connected to the internet if there is no connectivity already.
- Devices to be sent to homes where there are none.
- Packs of learning materials to be delivered to these homes where there is no access to internet or devices. See <https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/supporting-learning> for the content.

NOTE: This is to meet the needs of students who currently have no access to learning. This is being rolled out in groups. The priority group is secondary students doing NCEA, followed by where there is the greatest need due to disadvantage. It is also dependent on the availability of devices.

Home Learning TV

From the 15th April, there will be one channel for your child that will have programmes suitable for them to watch.

- This is to 'supplement' what we are providing as a school.
- Will run 9am to 3pm on school days on TVNZ2+1 and Sky channel 502.
- Some lessons will also be available on TVNZ On Demand.
- Content will cater for pre-school to 15 years of age and cover a broad curriculum that includes movement, music, physical education, well-being, numeracy, literacy and science through an integrated approach to curriculum.



You can view the programme schedule here:

<https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/supporting-learning/home-learning-tv>

Celebration of Home Learning

Because school is looking quite different this term, we would really love to celebrate some of the fantastic learning that is happening at home! We have already seen some amazing creative experiences many of you have shared on Facebook, Seesaw or Google Classroom. We thought it would be a nice idea to share some of this wonderful learning with the school community at the end of the week. If you have any photos or videos you'd like to contribute please feel free to email them through to me at principal@boulcott.school.nz

New Enrolments

Although school is closed, we are still interested in hearing from families that have a child that is about to turn five. If you have a child you want to enrol for the 2020 school year and you haven't completed an enrolment form yet, please click on this link: <https://www.boulcott.school.nz/information/enroling-at-boulcott-school/> to find the relevant forms you need to complete or contact Tania on info@boulcott.school.nz

If your child was planning to start Boulcott School while we are in lockdown, Karen Clements will be in contact with you shortly regarding the plan for your child.

Finally, if you didn't catch us on Facebook earlier today, here's a little Welcome Video from our Boulcott Staff.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5H8WIVteN0>

We are actually all missing school too and can't wait to be back in the classrooms with your children.

If you have any questions, please get in touch. I will let you know any key information when I receive it.

Nga mihi,

Stu Devenport
Principal





Great films
Great coffee
Great atmosphere

LIGHTHOUSECINEMA.CO.NZ

Roti Bay
FRESH HEALTHY FOOD

47 Birch Street,
Waterloo, Lower Hutt

\$1 OFF for
Boulcott Families
from our Roti Wraps
menu. *Not on special offers.*

04 569 8255
021 173 7725

Rotibay17@gmail.com
Localist.co.nz-rotibay
Facebook.com/Roti-Bay

BUSINESSAIDE
REMOTE BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Alex Aston-Baran

46 Boulcott Street, Boulcott, Lower Hutt 5010
04 3901283 / 021 02250657
alex@businessaide.co.nz
http://businessaide.co.nz

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE!!**

Contact the school office
if you're interested.

BREW'D

Kids dine **FREE!**

**MONDAYS
FROM 5PM**
WITH EVERY MAIN
MEAL PURCHASED



BREW'D
669 HIGH ST. LOWER HUTT / 04-9012570 / BREWD.CO.NZ



**WRIGLEY
CONCRETE LTD**

Terry Wrigley
021 271 5514
wrigleyconcrete@gmail.com

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE!!**

Contact the school office
if you're interested.

QPG QUALITY PAINTING
Guaranteed Ltd

STEVE SALMON
Mobile 027 282 7557

162 Eastern Hutt Road,
Wingate
04-577 2127
steve@qpgltd.co.nz
www.qpgltd.co.nz

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE!!**

Contact the school office
if you're interested.

