



**Kia tiki ake te pai**  
**ACCENTUATING THE POSITIVE**



25 March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you for the emails of support we have been receiving. It is nice for our staff to stay connected with all of you too.

Our teachers worked hard yesterday to start planning distance learning to begin once the holidays are finished. They have started making contact with families to establish connection and prepare for this time.

We are going to be spending lots of time together as families over the next few weeks. Nathan Wallis has talked lately about the importance of giving children time to relax and just being there for them. This is the time for everyone to regroup and take time before venturing into a new way of learning.

What a wonderful opportunity to be together and have fun creating special memories. Over the next two weeks, find time to play games, make huts, build, bake and create.

We appreciate many parents still have to work from home, so we looked for suggestions we could give to support you. We looked for activities that children could do with you, with other family members or independently. We found several great examples of lists of activities that could be done while in self-isolation. We have attached three documents to this letter;

- [School's closed! Now what?](#) - A mix of online and offline activities. There are things you can do at home and in your community (practicing good physical distancing of course).
- [30 Day Lego Challenge](#) - ideas for something different every day for 30 days that you can do with Lego. This could also be adapted to using blocks or boxes around the home or things you find around the house or garden
- [Activities you can do at home](#) - 16 fun things you can do around your house.

Enjoy exploring these and most of all have fun!

We know that learning will look different after the holidays for the remainder of the self-isolation period. We will be thinking about ways we can continue with fun engaging learning activities that are easy for children to do at home, as well as ensuring we can all stay connected as a school community albeit remotely.

After the holidays teachers will be regularly in touch, but please remember, they are also working from home and have families and their own children to look after as well. Be kind and patient to one another during this unique time in New Zealand history

I will be in touch over the next few weeks keeping you updated. Enjoy your time together and create many special memories your children can share with us after the holidays.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [amandab@rutherfordprimary.school.nz](mailto:amandab@rutherfordprimary.school.nz)

Nga mihi nui  
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