

Ko Rāpare, rua tekau ma waru o Haratua : Thursday 28 May 2020

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## Tālofa lava:

This week is **Samoa Language Week / Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa** (Sunday 24 May to Saturday 30 May) and even though we are at Alert Level 2, we trust that everyone who can celebrate and acknowledge this can do so. The theme for this year is 'Tapena sou ōso mo lau malaga' which in English means 'Prepare yourself a gift for your travels'. Some phrases that you and your family might like to try...

- Mālō le soifua: Hello/Good health
- 'O ā mai 'oe? How are you? (to one person only)
- Manuia fa'afetai: Good, thank you
- Manuia le aso: Have a great day
- Tōfā soifua: Good bye (formal)

## Using Technology at North

Over the last two weeks and our return to school... our school is developing a new normal. The one to one devices have had a HUGE impact on **student focus and engagement and teacher practice**.

Far from being stuck to a screen for six hours a day, students log in to their tasks and are fast becoming self managing learners. They sign up for workshops in various curriculum areas on whatever they need (this week it was parts of speech/fractional numbers) and design their own timetable. The learning programmes that they use are personalised to their needs and everywhere is so calm; it is quite unbelievable. Some students still choose to use pencil and paper for some activities which is fine too.

Yesterday when Hoani and I were having our **appraisal meetings with teachers**, there seemed to be several factors as to why this is happening.

1. Most teachers spoke of almost being forced into becoming IT literate really quickly and then once they had started to use it, realising its potential.
2. Providers of programmes had made these free over lockdown which meant that teachers had time, and at no cost could explore and make informed decisions about what to use and what not to use.
3. Students no longer fight over devices or race through other tasks to get to one because they know they have their own. The device has become more of an everyday tool.
4. Learning tasks are presented to learners in a 'world of today' manner not the world of the past manner!
5. Students are learning through 'games and play' ... yes there are such ways of learning!
6. Youtube is blocked....



Even our little people are being more exposed to the use of IT in an educational context. **Sunshine classics** has been a great success as has **Seesaw and 'boom' learning**. **The images alongside** are part of an **augmented reality programme** that is being used. If I am not wrong, this class were looking at different types of farms... not sure about the lion farm however! Fantastic story starters!!!!

If you want to know more about any of this, please come and see how this is all working. We would love to have you visit your child's class... just connect with their teacher **WHEN we get to Level 1**.

In the meantime, we will continue to do our best to use technology to share some amazing things with you all!

**Manaakitanga** We value ourselves, others and the environment,

**Kotahitanga**, We own what we do, we have a sense of being together, we belong, **Manawanuitanga**:Determination to do our best and never give up



### Other changes to our new normal....



We have decided to try having no school 'bells' during the school day. The only bell will be the 3.00 pm one and that is for safety.

Students generally **go out to play or lunch at about the same time** as they have always done, but tend to finish off an activity rather than having to stop in the middle of something when the bell goes.

We intend to **put clocks up in various places** around the school (kids can learn to tell the time in an authentic context) so that the children can 'manage themselves in getting back to class

but are also having music as an indicator at the end of each 'play' period. This is quite hilarious as Mr D has become the pied piper (see the photo) and the kids dance their way back to class!!! One little person said to her teacher that she liked the music because **"instead of getting a fright you can dance back to class!"** -

**LOVE IT!**

### Covid Alert Level 2

The return to school has gone really smoothly for nearly everyone and our attendance numbers are returning to normal! It has been brilliant to see how excited the students have been to get back to their learning and social routines. It's really important that children do return to school, not just for their education but also their health and wellbeing, so if you are **still not sure**, give us a call and we can talk about it.

Our schools are safe. Even though there is such a low risk of the virus getting in the school gates to start with, we will be keeping up our hygiene practices and other public health measures as an extra precaution for as long as we're at Alert Level 2.

- PLEASE NOTE THAT YORK STREET ENTRANCE CANNOT BE OPENED UNTIL LEVEL 1 !

### Technology in Action...

Rooms 10 and 11 have been working together on a Friday morning on Science or Technology challenges. This week's challenge was to build a spaghetti bridge to see how many text books it could support. I think we have some budding engineers in the making... I can't even count how many are in the photo with Mr B!



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