

BULLS SCHOOL

LOCKDOWN LOWDOWN 2021



Ko ahau te taiao, ko te taiao, ko ahau.

I am the environment and the environment is me.

Miss Hall

Our lockdown has been a time for togetherness and exploring. As a family, our happy place is simple - outside. In-between distant learning we always make sure we rug up and go outside. We spend a lot of time exploring insects, plants, fungi, and many many rocks at the river. Listening for morepork at night and watching the kingfisher and piwakawaka during the day. It makes me happy and so appreciative watching our kids learn and play outside. Their creativity and knowledge always amaze me. I hope you have enjoyed this chance to be outside. Fresh air and water always make things better in this whare!



Kia ora mai tātou
katoa

My boys and I have been filling our lock down days with movies, uno card games, shooting hoops, bike/scooter riding, baking, walks around Sanson with the dog, and facetime chats with my sisters and husband. We love getting outside on the sunny days.



Can't wait to see all of you soon, I miss you.

Mrs Tweeddale 

Mr Fenn is loving his lockdown! Potatoes are planted, stock is happy, strawberries are in, big bomb fires ready to go & have been doing a lot of extremely healthy eating (not). Stay safe and see you all soon :)

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Kia Ora Whanau,

Lockdown has been challenging but also amazing!! I've found it difficult not being around you kiddos so I've been having to distract myself with fun activities like dancing, bush walks, drawing, playing guitar, singing, cooking and eating heeeeeeeeeeeeeeaps of chocolate. I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon. I hope your Te Reo is going well. I will send some more flashcards out tonight for you all to add to your kete.

Stay safe, stay home and be amazing

Ngā Mihi

Kimiora



Whaea Kimmi

Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa - Greetings to you all

Lockdown in my house is pretty quiet because while I'm busy working my 2 sons and husband sneak off and amuse themselves knowing that I am too distracted to make them do schoolwork or jobs around the house.

We have 2 new members in our bubble. Barry and Sharon have chosen to be a part of our whānau but I think it's more about the food than actually being a part

of our family. We have been doing lots of walking, including trekking to the top of Highfield Hill daily. A perfect place for selfies. If only we were better at taking selfies.

We have also been gathering inspiration from the Paralympians. What they do and achieve is amazing. They certainly make you have appreciation and gratefulness for life and all it has to offer. Getting our Covid jabs has been



the only time we have been out in the car. Take care everyone. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Kia haumaruru te noho.

Mrs Syme



Kia ora e te whānau,

Oh how I miss seeing you all, I have had many people tell me I'm not very good at 'sabbaticals' but like you, this is not how I imagined it would be! I hope you are all keeping safe and well. What an amazing group of staff you have looking out for you and keeping you positive during our second countrywide Lockdown. What have we been doing I hear you ask? Gardening....lots and lots of it. Our mostly native garden is spread over about an acre and when we spend a whole day in it you can hardly even tell! But when you spend many days in it, things start to look a whole lot tidier! The spin off from this has been, I have harvested some harakeke and have had a go at very simple weaving, starting with putiputi. In the photo you can see my first attempt through to my fourth! The first one I redid so many times it wouldn't plait anymore! Here is the karakia I use before I begin (there are also some specific Tikanga that goes with weaving - you can look that up and maybe have a go a weaving some putiputi yourself).

Te Harakeke, Te Kōrari

Ngā taonga whakerere iho

O te Rangi, O te Whenua, O ngā Tūpuna

Homai he oranga mō matou

Tihei Mauri Ora.

Noho Ora Mai,

Miss Gee



Lockdown in the Cameron household has been loud, busy, messy, snacky and loud. It's never boring here! We've even experimented with some weird food combos with supplies rather low at times. Cheeseburger pasta quesadillas was up there with the best/worst of them! The kids love that sort of non sense though! Looking forward to seeing everyone soon. I hope you have all had positive experiences, though I'm sure challenging at times! Kia kaha. You've got this.



Mrs

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Matua T



Kia Ora, Matua T here. I hope you have all been keeping safe within your bubbles during these uncertain times. I have been loving lockdown, because it has created an

environment where I can train, eat proper foods and surround myself with my family. Although there are days that feel tough both mentally and physically, what motivates me to keep pushing myself is my family. So nothing really interesting from my end, pretty basic based around training. Hope to see you all again soon.

Kia ora e te whānau,

A real blessing of this lockdown has been my pet cats, Bowie and Banksy, whom have provided me with lots of entertainment in-between distance learning. Unfortunately, they don't understand the rules of social distancing and so have been getting to know their neighbour Hendrix a lot more and going on spontaneous play dates with him. They have been very busy this lockdown learning new tricks like high-five and helping to supervise the cleaning of the office. Bowie and Banksy have even been helping in the garden making sure that there are lots of holes for planting and inspecting the quality of rocks. Both of them are very interested in the students learning and often like to make their appearance known during online meetings.

Noho Ora Mai

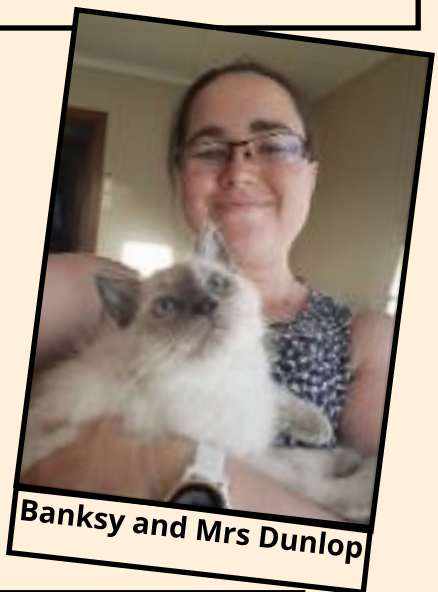
Mrs Dunlop



Bowie's play date with Hendrix



Bowie helping clean the office



Banksy and Mrs Dunlop



Banksy & Bowie helping out in the garden



Banksy napping after appearing on the online meetings

Kia ora whanau ataahua

Seeing as I spend my life in a constant state of frenetic lateness, it is a sumptuous treat for me to not have to rush, or be on time for pretty much anything during lockdown. I love getting to know my tamariki in their natural habitats. Seeing what they get up to on a daily basis, watching their creativity and personal passions unfold. How their minds work when engaged in simple activities like scavenger hunts never ceases to amaze and delight me, and I am always up for a good old chitty chatty on zoom. Of course I suffer from the age old affliction of 'terrible mother' syndrome. Am I present enough? Am I doing enough? Am I enough?! But then I breathe and count the things that I am thankful for; having the time to allow my girls to experiment in the kitchen, having the luxury to chat to their cousin in the UK for an hour each morning whilst playing Minecraft, bathing reluctant dogs, playing games of cards and Bananagrams, painting pictures, getting drenched walking the aforementioned dog, getting out for a run and appreciating the beauty of my surroundings, watching Laiken sing and dance..... The list goes on, life is good, and for that I am truly grateful. He oranga ngākau, he pikinga waiora Positive feelings within you enhances wellbeing



Whaea Jo

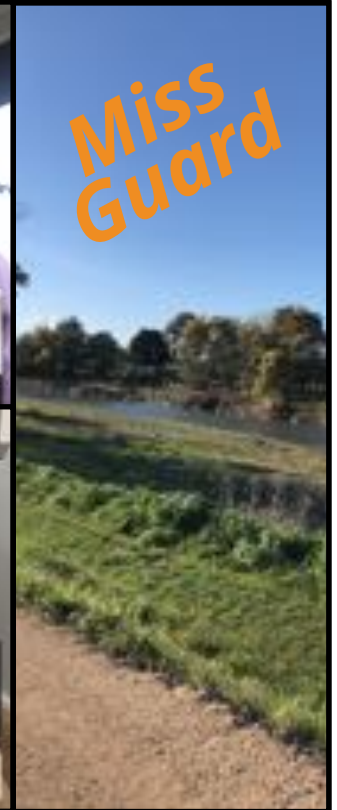


Kia ora everyone! I have spent lockdown with some of my flatmates. I'm rather glad to have a netflix subscription and to have spent a bit of time cooking and baking. So far I've made pikelets, afghan biscuits and cinnamon rolls. Unfortunately I over buttered the cinnamon rolls and their outcome was not ideal. Instead I managed to soak the rolls in a butter pool. Oh well, we live and we learn! I've also been video calling my family and friends a lot. I've been lucky enough to have lots of check-ins to see how everyone is. Behind my house is a short nature walkway. I've been taking advantage of this by going for walks every now and then. Like you I'm missing everyone! I'm looking forward to coming back to school again soon.

Miss Gouwland



This lockdown I have been keeping myself busy with making sure I do 10,000 steps a day. It has been great having a walk down at the local park and walking along the river, though I have been caught in the rain a few times! Also have some virtual pt sessions each week. I've been trying to keep up with learning sign language at home as well. FaceTime has been great to keep in touch with my niece and nephew and I love our daily chats and being able to see what they have done for the day. I have also done a touch of sewing and having meals and playing games with my parents which has been good due to the slower pace atm.



Kia Ora Whanau,

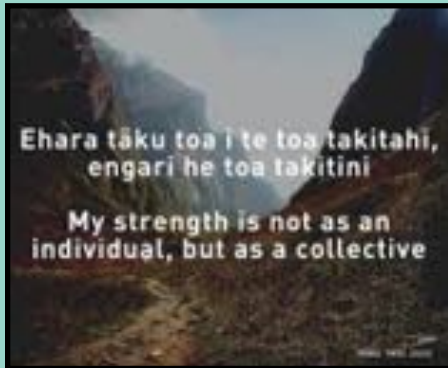
Coming out of this lock down, I'll probably look slightly different. Some may think it's from all the overindulging and that's technically not wrong, but I have, however, been growing a little pēpi. So I guess my nesting stage has started early with creating freezer meals, washing little pieces of clothing and finding any excuse to use my label maker. I am generally someone who loves routine and filling my days with work and social commitments, so being in lock down is something I struggle with. However, the previous lock down and this one have been great opportunities for me to slow down, step back and reflect. I am ready to come back to work now, which will now only be for a short period of time, before I go on maternity leave. I miss the buzz, the smiles, the conversations and most importantly the morning tea. Hope you all are keeping well in your bubbles!

Arohanui, **Mrs Hanson**



Kia ora e te whānau,

Definitely interesting times at the moment - I am missing being at school but am loving interacting with our tamariki virtually. We have such a fabulous community and know that we are all looking out for each other during this time - our staff is doing an amazing job supporting each other and we have a fabulous leadership team so feel very lucky:) In my life, it has been interesting as have my children in 3 different houses, but am enjoying communicating with them virtually - yay for technology, does have its good points even though sometimes challenges too hehe. The good news for me in Level 3 is the bubbles are a bit wider so that increases my circle :)



Lucy has been busy looking after our somewhat high-maintenance cat and I had my first vaccination last week. We are enjoying getting outside and taking things at a slower pace. Stay safe and looking forward to seeing you all face to face soon :) Kia kaha - I know it's not easy juggling whānau and work, amongst everything else....but we have got this - just need to breathe and try and find a positive each day

Miss Weir

Hi everyone, I hope you are all healthy and safe at home, enjoying this forced vacation time. My husband and I have been spending our time watching a lot of netflix, baking and enjoying the beautiful weather that we have had. Our beautiful dog Oaky, has been making sure he gets us up from the couch and out walking everyday to work off all the isolation snacking we have been doing. As many of you already know, I am pregnant and since being in lockdown, we have felt our little boy kicking for the first time which is such an incredible feeling so we have been soaking up this time we get to spend together as a family. Can't wait to hear and see pictures about all the amazing things you are getting up to at your house during this lockdown.

Mrs Withers





Kia Ora,

I hope everyone is doing well in their bubbles. Lockdown has revolved around my wee bundle of joy, Darci. She's 15 months old so has had me on my toes. Luckily her dad Sam got to hang out with us for the first week before he got called back to work. He managed to get lots of gardening done as well as give me a break from mummy duties (even if it was a sneaky afternoon nap). As you can see in the photo Darci loves my first 'child', Mickey the cat. So it's always entertaining watching him try to sleep while Darci constantly tries to give him cuddles and her toys. I've really enjoyed spending more time with my family this lockdown. I hope you all have, too!

Miss Lowe

Kia Ora!

I hope you are all doing well under these difficult circumstances. Lockdown has been quite busy for me as I have had a significant study workload. This has been a time for me to finish off assignments and continue working on my end of year portfolio based on my professional teaching experience at Bulls School. Besides studying, I have managed to get out of the house for a daily walk around the neighbourhood. I have also enjoyed baking each day to please my family with a variety of delicious treats. I have missed engaging with all the Tamariki; however, I have thoroughly enjoyed attending the online zooms with Nga Kākano. I can't wait to get back into the classroom with all the wonderful students.

Take Care, Everyone.



Lockdown 2.0 has been a very different experience to Lockdown 1.0 for me & my whānau so far. In my bubble: I have Mr Brown, our cat, Axle, & Grace-our adventurous, cheeky, curious, determined, on-the-go toddler, who still believes sleep is for the weak! My days are spent reading lots of books to Grace, answering the "What is it?" question that Grace likes to ask me 7 million times each day, lots of water play, picnics & adventures in the backyard, video calls with whānau, school, & Grace's childcare, & getting out for some walks. I am super appreciative of the extra quality whānau time Level 4 has gifted us, Mr Brown is back on-site at his work in level 3- so that'll be a bit of a change for our bubble, it's been great having him at home to tag-team entertaining Grace! I am loving seesaw and seeing all of the photos of your amazing tamariki, and the neat things you're getting up to in lockdown! Thank you for sharing your special whānau lockdown times with us, it's truly is a privilege.

Mrs Brown

