



Kia Ora our Elim community

How are you all? This is not easy is it? And it looks like it will continue for some time to come.

No one asked for this obviously but this lockdown situation has most certainly come our way. Therefore we need to deal with it as best as we all can.

We are very aware that it is not always easy in the home at such a time. Adding to this the home learning challenge can tip us over. Don't be too hard on yourselves, you are doing far better than you think and we appreciate every effort whether short or long to have your children engaged in learning.

As the time rolls on, that sense of pressure, some stress and some fear can easily overtake us.

We wish to extend again our love and prayers for and towards our Pacific community. Even given the biases and inaccuracies of the media - the articles have highlighted the disadvantage and lack of timely support experienced by our Pacific Peoples prior to and during this lockdown.

From our Counselling Team

The roller coaster of lockdown has some real dips and also may have some real joys. We all respond differently to crises- let's expect that and accept that in our bubbles. Some of us like to flick on a favourite movie and snack, some like to korero, some pray, and some like to seek information. Sometimes motivation is high and productivity flows, sometimes our to do list just sits there for hours...If you would like some information on wellbeing, please have a look at: <https://www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/covid-19-and-wellbeing/>. This link is particularly encouraging: <https://www.allright.org.nz/campaigns/getting-together>

Kia kaha I roto I te Atua (Stay strong in God)

“Tēnā koutou katoa! Nau mai, haere mai ki te **Whānau Hui Ipurangi o Elim**
We'd like to invite our Māori families to an **Online Elim Whānau Hui**.

Date: Wednesday 1 Sept

Time: 7:00pm

As part of our whakawhanaungatanga, it would be great if you had something encouraging to share with everyone, for example:

- Bible verse
- whakatauki

- short story about answered prayer
- ideas for connecting with whānau e.g. Guess Who? game in Te reo
- tips for learning/speaking Te Reo Māori with the whānau
- ideas for celebrating and contributing to **Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori - 13-19 September**

Look forward to seeing you there!

Ma Te Atua e Manaaki

The following verses were shared with me on social media yesterday. May you be further encouraged as you read and pray these:

Deuteronomy 31:8

"It is the Lord who goes before you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

Isaiah 40:31

"But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] will gain new strength and renew their power; They will lift up their wings [and rise up close to God] like eagles [rising toward the sun]; They will run and not become weary, They will walk and not grow tired."

Joshua 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified or dismayed (intimidated), for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Romans 8:28

"And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose."

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.]"

Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests

known to God. 7 And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].”

Isaiah 41:10

“Do not fear [anything], for I am with you;

Do not be afraid, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you, be assured I will help you;

I will certainly take hold of you with My righteous right hand [a hand of justice, of power, of victory, of salvation].”

Lastly I share with you a song written and recorded by one of our Botany Campus teachers Nigel Cato. Nigel wrote this a few years ago but recorded it last year during lockdown. I especially love the reference to the names of God. Go ahead and worship.

["Call Upon Your Name"](#)