

Monday 2nd August, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today's update is to simply say thank you to our whole school community; students, staff and parents. We are all navigating this journey together, we have all had to make changes, cancel plans, face changes in working conditions and teach our own children from home. At a time when we are all facing these challenges together, I would like to thank you for your kindness, compassion, empathy and understanding.

As I handed out learning packs with Mrs Lewis on Friday afternoon and this morning, it filled our hearts to reconnect with families and students, even if it was for a brief moment. In a time when some families are facing their own individual challenges, there was still so much care and concern for others, and a genuine desire to give back and do something to help in any way possible. This was so touching, and another great example of why I am so grateful and proud to be part of the Erina Heights community.

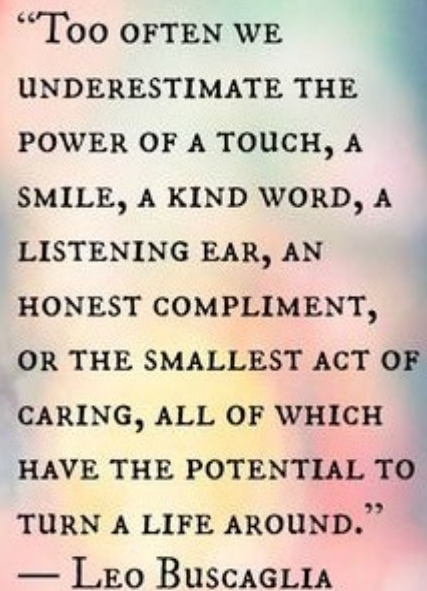
Like most of you, many of our staff are juggling working from home and teaching their own children from home. They too are learning new things and adapting to a rapidly changing teaching environment. I would like to acknowledge not only hard work of teachers, but the efforts they go to on a daily basis to connect with students, provide feedback and to make learning fun and engaging.

I would like to congratulate and thank all of our wonderful students for the great work they are doing. I am getting daily updates on morning Zooms and the creative learning activities that students are engaging in whilst learning from home. I'm hearing stories of students learning new skills like surfing, cooking, riding a bike, coding and building different things. It is great to hear how different skills that have been learnt in the classroom are being applied to learning outside of the classroom.

Finally, I would like to thank you all personally for your ongoing support and understanding. I hope the week ahead provides you with an opportunity to spend some time doing something positive and fulfilling, something that your regular routines may not allow for.

Take care and stay safe.

Natalie MacDonald



“TOO OFTEN WE
UNDERESTIMATE THE
POWER OF A TOUCH, A
SMILE, A KIND WORD, A
LISTENING EAR, AN
HONEST COMPLIMENT,
OR THE SMALLEST ACT OF
CARING, ALL OF WHICH
HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO
TURN A LIFE AROUND.”
— LEO BUSCAGLIA