



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LIHIKAI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
335 SOUTH PAPA AVENUE
KAHULUI, HAWAII 96732

April 7, 2020

Dear Lihikai 'Ohana,

It has been nearly four weeks since our buildings have been filled with the laughter, joy and energy from our Lihikai school community. I miss seeing all of you with your happy smiles and your excitement being with your friends and teachers! The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact all of us in unimaginable ways and I do hope that your family is coping and managing as best as possible.

Without a doubt, the extended school closure compromises the learning of our children. While there is much emphasis on distance learning via online resources, I am well aware that this is not necessarily something that everyone has access to or has a compatible device to use. That said, our teachers have created a distance learning packet for all of our students to provide continuity of learning.

In each packet, you will find multiple pages of enrichment activities that your child can do alone as well as others that we encourage him/her to do with the family. The packet is intended to sustain the learning that your child has acquired thus far so that we can maximize the time we have together when school resumes. To a degree, the activities are personalized to address the academic, physical, social/emotional and creative needs of our children.

In addition to doing the work in the packet, I encourage you to have your child read daily and create learning opportunities from even the most basic home activities. Although we rely on parents to facilitate their child's home learning, this is also a perfect time for older siblings to help their younger brother or sister by becoming their "teacher" and having positive bonding moments.

We have no idea how long the COVID-19 situation will last. The news continues to show us the devastation this submicroscopic agent has caused and is capable of causing, globally, nationally and throughout our state. Restrictions continue and it is becoming more encroaching to our ways of life; however, they are imposed to protect us and keep us as safe as possible. I strongly encourage you to stay current with the news and changing state and county mandates. Most of all, let's do our part to keep our communities strong, healthy and safe. ***We do it best when we do it together!***

Our Lihikai website has a "Distance Ed" tab where you can find grade level information, enrichment activities, messages from your child's teacher and more. The website also has current reports related to COVID-19, HIDOE information, community resources and other useful communication. You can find us at www.lihikaielementary.k12.hi.us.

Theoretical physicist and Nobel prize winner Albert Einstein said, "*Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.*" Let's use his words to guide us and help us to not lose hope amidst the challenges of today. ***Stay safe, healthy and strong Lihikai 'Ohana!***

Sincerely,

Barbara Oura Tavares, Principal