

25 August 2011

Welcome to Week 4, Term 3 - 2011

Principal's Diary...

Kia Ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau,

Our corridors have been abuzz with achievements by our talented students. Again congratulations to Harriet Berry on your selection for basketball. Congratulations to all who were involved in speech finals recently and a big "WELL DONE" to all our sporting bodies, TAPS Kelly & Bryant were successful winners of the D1 grade last Saturday at the netball courts. Our school Rippa Rugby team were invited to play in the curtain raiser games at Waikato Stadium before the Waikato game on Tuesday evening and we finished third, you should all be proud of yourselves. This is a testament to our schooling community.

Yours in learning

Gareth Duncan

Principal

Check out our web site:

www.taps.school.nz

SCHOOL NOTICES

Student led Conferences

As technology grows, so do we

You can book online for your student led conferences. The insert in this newsletter has all the instructions to make your booking.

School Photos

In the last couple of days, you will have received your order form for class and individual photos. Family photo order forms can be collected from the office. Photos will be taken on Monday September 5th. **Order envelopes need to be returned by MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER.**

Inquiry Centre News:

Inquiry Centre News.....

Our exciting Scholastic 'Inter-Galactic' Book Fair is getting closer so mark these dates on your calendar and get ready for an 'Out of this World' experience!

Dates and Times

Monday 12th Sept - 8.30am - 9.00am, 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Tuesday 13th Sept - 8.30am - 9.00am, 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Wednesday 14th Sept - 8.30am - 9.00am, 3.00pm - 6.00pm

Thursday 15th Sept - 8.30am - 9.00am, 3.00pm - 6.00pm

There will be an inspirational range of books and educational products for you to view and purchase. Remember that 30% of all sales come back to our school, providing amazing new books for our students to enjoy. (Watch out for the flyer in the next newsletter, week 5)

Calendar Art

Students have done some amazing art that can be transformed into calendars, cards or diaries. These make fabulous presents for family here and overseas. We have all the students art available to view in the office. Order forms have been sent home and must be returned by September 1st. We cannot accept any orders after this date.

Sickness & Illness

Can we please remind you and your children to be vigilant when washing your hands before & after eating and toileting. We have had a few cases of a tummy bug. If your child has been sick, it is recommended your child should not return to school for 24 hours. This is to protect your child and others.

Te Awamutu Schools Kapa Haka "Ra Whakanui Rangatahi" Festival

This year the festival is being held at Te Awamutu College on Tuesday September 27th. Any enquires can be directed to Whaea Erin.

PTA Support:

We would like to remind families that the PTA is a very small, but active group in our school, they need your help. Why not join and support the 2011 fundraising efforts. Please call the school to find out more information if you are able to help in anyway.

NEXT PTA MEETING - WEDNESDAY 7th SEPTEMBER.

VENUE TO BE ADVISED

Pedestrian Crossings and School Driveways

We have noticed a number of parents crossing their children on either side of the school crossing on Teasdale Street. As we like to instil good road sense, we ask that all parents/caregivers and especially children, use the pedestrian crossings. **The Bank Street driveway, is for staff and trade vehicles only.** For child safety, please use the footpath alongside the driveway when entering and leaving the school grounds. Please note: vehicles are not permitted to park (whether picking up or dropping off) in the bus bay on Teasdale Street. **This is a bus park only.**

Late Students

The school day starts at 8.55am and students must be settled in class by 9am when teachers take the roll. Should any students arrive after this time, they must sign in at the office.

Children's Absences

It is school policy that you notify the office, before 9am daily if your child is going to be absent. All unexplained absences are marked as truant. *PROVIDING SATISFACTORY REASONS FOR ABSENCES IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT ENFORCED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.*

Please phone on **871 5378** (ext 702) with an explanation as to why students are absent or txt on the school mobile on **0212760505** with a brief reason of absence. Please remember to include the child's name and room number or provide a note to the teacher on the first day back to school. *THIS IS THEN NOTED IN OUR SYSTEM FOR THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.*

Wednesday Wonderland Early Childhood Programme 2011

We would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school community (all children 4.5 years and older) to take up the invitation to come to our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon 1.30pm - 3pm with Maree Parkes (new entrant teacher and TAPS Community Connector). Please come to the main foyer of the school for directions as to where this is being held. This programme is free of charge and funded by the school.

School Fees:

Statements for the outstanding compulsory consumables fee and the school donations were sent home early last week and are now overdue. If payment in full is difficult, part payments will be accepted over time to clear the debt. Eftpos is available at the main office.

Uniform clarification:

We would like to clarify that during the winter months children are able to wear thermals under their school shirt. The colours that are allowed are: Black, blue and white only. Please do not send your child in any other colour with stripy thermals under their

school uniform, as they will be asked to take them off. Thank you for helping with consistency of our uniform policy. The uniform shop is open on Wednesday mornings from 8.15 till 9am. Please note that as from September 1st, there will be a slight increase in uniform costs.

Milo Monday

Every Monday at morning tea children can purchase a milo & cookie for \$2 from the tuck shop located in the foyer of the hall.



A reminder for all syndicate 1 & 2. The Gruffalo show money is due into your teachers as soon as you can.
Thank you! ☺

Term Diary

Week 4	Monday 22nd - Calendar Art displayed in the office foyer
Week 5	Thur 1st Sept - LAST DAY FOR CALENDAR ART ORDERS
Week 6	Fri 2nd - Syn 3 & 4 Cross Country - Gruffalo Show - Syndicate 1 & 2
Week 7	Mon 5th Sept - Class Photos Fri 9th - Interschool Cross Country
Week 8	Mon 12th - Thurs 15th - Book Fair Wed 14th - Thur 15th - Student led Conferences
Week 9	Thurs 22nd - Syn 1 & 2 Cross Country
Week 10	Tues 27th Sept - Kapa Festival at Te Awamutu Collge Thurs 29th Sept - Dave Hadfield - details below
Week 11	Thurs 6th Oct - Jump Rope for Heart

The Maunga Challenge promotes the Waikato, the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Education Facility and Provides a challenge of riding around the majestic Maungatautari Mountain. There are events for all ages and abilities. The date for this year's challenge is November 13th 2011. Get training now! More information can be found at www.maungachallenge.co.nz

Cambridge Parents Centre presents our 8th Baby Bonzana. Quality new and pre-loved clothing for 0-10 years, also toys and nursery equipment, as well as maternity wear. Saturday 29th October starting at 9am until 1pm. Cambridge Town Hall. Gold coin entry. Sell your own gear, with a group of friends or with your organisation. Sites from \$20 includes a table and 2 chairs. Refreshments available from the café. There will be a face painting area and children's play area. Enquires can be made to Tracey Harfoot on 07 827 0205 or email tracey_harfoot@hotmail.com

An important reminder for all parents & caregivers.

The Bank Street entrance to the school grounds is for staff and trade vehicles only. The gate will be closed during busy times (8.30 - 9.05am and 2.30 - 3.15pm) for child safety.

GEMS OF THE WEEK

Throughout our school, we have been concentrating on our literacy programme and the work that is coming from the students is exceptional. Some of the language features the children are learning are: Onomatopoeias (words that sound like the things they describe e.g. **roar, bang, smash, pop**), similes (similes say something is like something else e.g. **he ran as quick as lightning**) and personification (this is when we give human characteristics to animals, abstract concepts or inanimate objects e.g. **The sun smiled down, wrapping me in her warm embrace**). I would like you all to take the time to read the gems of the week from Room 15 in Syndicate 3 - Well done, fantastic writing.
Mr Duncan

Morning Rush

"I don't want to get up" I reply lazily to mum. I rapidly sprint into the warm lounge clutching my school uniform tightly.
Crunch! I gobble my toast briskly. The smell of warm milo greets me as I walk into the cosy kitchen. I am ready for another full-on learning day at T.A.P.S
By Camryn

A Frosty Wonderland

Brrrrr! I wearily flick on the bright shiny, silver light.
Only 6 o'clock!
My snuggly blanket falls off me clumsily to the ground. The cold air wraps around me like a blanket. I feel like I am an ice-cube being frozen in a freezer. I briskly run to the door and shut it.
I read a book. Time to slowly clamber out of my cosy bed. I swiftly clasp my slippers and rapidly brush my teeth. I play on the piano but, my hands have pins and needles and my fingers are numb because of the cold air.
I quickly slip on my uniform and eagerly eat my fulfilling breakfast.
What a frosty wonderland.
By Oksana

The Politically Incorrect Strictly Adults R18 Quiz Night for Grown-Ups Has been POSTPONED due to the Te Awamutu Sports Junior Rugby Prizegiving, which is being held at the Events Centre on the same night.

Dave Hadfield

**Mental Skills provider for NZ U-20s & NZ Schools Rugby Teams.
29th September 2011 at 7pm in the Te Awamutu Primary School Hall**

Come and listen to his thoughts about preparing young athletes for life.

\$5 door charge

All enquiries, please call the school office 871 5378

