

# TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Together Achieving Personal Success'

7 February 2013

## Welcome to Week 1, Term 1 - 2012 Principal's Diary...

Welcome back to a new year at school, I hope you all had a great holiday. A big welcome to our new families to TAPS and the new teachers – Wow, what a real happy buzz there has been throughout the classrooms as we welcome old friends and new friends into our school. We have had large number of new enrolments to start the new school year so I would like to welcome all our new families to TAPS.



The New Zealand National Standards and reporting changes were presented to you in your child's end of year report and learning journey. If you are new to TAPS, or are indeed having any difficulties understanding these changes then we will be holding opportunities for parent to engage with TAPS about the literacy and numeracy standards and the ways in which we will be reporting to you and your children. Please feel free to talk to any teacher here at TAPS about National Standards and we all will be able to show you and talk about the strategies used in our school.

Yours in learning

*Gareth Duncan*☺

Principal

Check out our web site:

[www.taps.school.nz](http://www.taps.school.nz)

### Our learning team for 2013:

Junior School Deputy Principal – Miss Tracy Findlay (years 0-2)

Senior School Deputy Principal – Mrs Gill Gibbs (years 3-6)

Syndicate 1 Leader – Mrs Di Gudsell (responsibilities for year 0-1 learners and teachers in Rooms 1-5)

Room 1 – Mrs Karen Sykes

Room 2 – Mrs Di Gudsell/Miss Vanessa Filer

Room 3 – Mrs Sharon Ngatai

Room 4 – Mrs Karen Holland

Room 5 – Mrs Maree Parkes

Syndicate 2 Leader/Room 8 Teacher – Miss Valida White (responsibilities for year 1-2 learners and teachers in Rooms 7-10)

Room 7 – Mrs Janette Gillespie

Room 9 – Miss Katie Goodridge

Room 10 – Mrs Tara McAuley

Syndicate 3 Leader/Room 12 Teacher – Mrs Kim Tautari-Scott (responsibilities for year 3-4 learners and teachers in Rooms 6 & 12-16)

Room 6 – Mrs Jo-Anne Dannock

Room 13 – Ms Davina Miller

Room 14 – Mrs Jane Ellis

Room 15 – Mrs Kathryn Picard

Room 16 – Miss Wendy James

Syndicate 4 Leader/Room 19 Teacher – Mrs Anne Mackey (responsibilities for year 5-6 learners and teachers in Rooms 17-22)

Room 17 – Mrs Liz Oosterman

Room 18 – Mrs Kimberly Dove

Room 20 – Miss Linda Woulfe

Room 21 – Mrs Kim Lester

Room 22 – Miss Kelly Armstrong

Executive Officer – Mrs Janine Margetts

Office Administrator – Mrs Sue Packwood

Administration Support – Mrs Kim Fabish

Inquiry Centre Manager (Library) – Mrs Diane Hardy

Teacher Aides – Mrs Chris West (also responsible for the Uniform shop), Ruth Botting, Ms Deb Fleming, Mrs Carol Houghton & Mrs Jane Lyttle

Caretaker – Mr Sunil Kumar

Regular Relief Staff – Miss Helen Garland, Mrs Lynleigh Stephens, Mrs Ange Mark & Mrs Laurie Mazza-Davies

### **Please read: important information.**

If you are aware of anyone living out of zone who intends to enrol their child at Te Awamutu Primary, the closing date for the term 2 intake is 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013, as is required by the Education Act 1989.

For further information regarding the enrolment scheme and the 'home zone' please refer to our website or you can pick up a copy from the school office.

Please note: **If you currently live 'in zone' this does not affect you in any way but we ask that you pre-enrol your child as soon as possible so we are aware of future needs.**

### **SCHOOL NOTICES**

#### **Bus Students**

All students who travel to and from school via bus must have a current Term 1 bus tag. These are \$30 and available from the school office. **All tags must be paid by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. No tag – No bus.**

#### **Wednesday Wonderland**

We would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school community (all children 4.5 years and older) to take up the offer of attending our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon with Maree Parkes (teacher and TAPS community connector). The programme is fully funded by the school and therefore free of charge. The 2013 programme will commence in week 3, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February and runs from 1.30pm – 3pm. For more information, contact the school office on 871 5378 or office@taps.school.nz

#### **Uniform**

All children are required to be in correct uniform at all times unless you have been advised otherwise.

#### **UNIFORM SCHEDULE**

- Blue/white short sleeve polo shirt with monogram
- Blue/white long sleeve polo shirt with monogram
- Navy polar vest with monogram
- Navy polar sweat with monogram
- Navy track pants
- Navy Skort
- Navy Shorts
- Navy ¾ Pants
- Navy Trousers
- Navy bucket hat
- Navy knee high or ankle socks
- Black or blue shoes or sandals – **NO** jandals or multi coloured shoes

The uniform room is open every Wednesday morning from 8.15am – 9am in the hall. More information may be found on the school website. [www.taps.school.nz](http://www.taps.school.nz)



#### **Swimming**

Swimming is an important part of our school programme and is compulsory for all children. Please try to ensure your child has named swimming gear, including togs, towels and underwear, each day during the swimming season (Term 1), unless he or she is unwell. Parents are requested to send a note to school if they wish their child to be excused from swimming on any particular day.

#### **Lost Property**

We have a large number of items in our lost property room which is beside Room 14. Please come and browse through if your child is missing any items. **Items could be returned to their owners if everything is clearly named.**

#### **An Important reminder for all parents & caregivers.**

The Bank Street entrance to the school grounds is for staff and trade vehicles only. The boom gate will be closed during peak times (8.30 – 9.05am and 2.30 – 3.15pm) for child safety. The bus zone on Teasdale Street is strictly for school buses. It is NOT a drop off or pick up zone for your children. We have had a number of parents parking in the bus zone which is illegal and disrupts buses. It can result in them running behind schedule. Please refrain from stopping there no matter how briefly.

#### **School Fees & Consumables Levy**

2013 invoices will be sent home shortly. School fees are set at \$50 per child, \$90 for two children and \$120 for 3 or more children. These are due by the 1<sup>st</sup> March.

Unfortunately funding received by the Ministry of Education is not great enough to cover all teaching resource costs. It is your donation that helps us meet the cost of these resources, which in turn enables us to provide a fuller and wider education for your child than would otherwise be possible. The consumables levy is compulsory. The levy assists with the cost of paper and photocopied material supplies throughout the year. This fee is \$15 per child, per year.

### **Children's Absences:**

It is school policy that you notify the Office: 8715378 before 9am daily if your child is going to be absent. Our school mobile phone can be texted with a message as well: 0212760505. We thank you all for your support in keeping children safe. Our office staff will call you by 9.30am if your child is not in class, or if we haven't heard from home.

### **School Houses**

Traditionally our school has been divided into four houses named after some of the early Maori migration waka.

Tainui – Yellow

Arawa – Red

Aotea – Blue

Tokomaru - Green

Each house has a coloured banner. House competitions are incorporated into various sporting events throughout the year – swimming, cross country, jump rope for heart, athletics etc. If you are unsure of which house your child is in, ask your classroom teacher.

### **PTA**

PTAs have been quietly helping the school community for at least 100 years in New Zealand, and will no doubt continue to do so for many more years yet. PTA, Home and School, Friends of the School etc., are all voluntary, non-profit organisations. They are associations of parents and family based in the school, whose aim is to bring home and school relationship closer for the benefit of the children. These groups form a link between the school and the wider community. The child is at the centre of everything parents and teachers do.

**Our small and friendly PTA will be meeting in the staffroom on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb at 6.30pm to discuss events for the year including the possibility of an upcoming "School Gala" and/or "Quiz Night. We would like to encourage all parents & friends of the school to come along and share your ideas or lend a helping hand. Children are welcome to come along. We hope to see you there ☺**

### **2013 Term Dates**

Term 1 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April

Term 2 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 12 July

Term 3 Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Term 4 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

### **Statutory Holidays**

Good Friday – 29<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Monday – 1<sup>st</sup> April

Easter Tuesday – 2<sup>nd</sup> April

ANZAC Day – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

Queen's Birthday – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Labour Day – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October

### **BOT Triennial Elections – May 2013:**

**What is a school board of trustees?** Every state and state-integrated school in New Zealand has a board of trustees. Boards bring families, communities and schools together to work for a quality education for our children.

The board of trustees is a Crown entity. It is the employer of all school staff and sets the school's overall strategic direction. The school's principal is the board's 'chief executive' and manages the school operation in line with the board's policies.

The membership of the school board includes elected parent representatives, an elected staff representative and the principal. If the school has students above Year 9, the board also includes a student representative.

**What do trustees do?** School trustees have a very important role in making sure every child achieves their potential at school.

Here are some of the things they do:

- Work with the principal and consult with staff, students and the community.
- Set the educational goals and strategic direction of the school.
- Monitor progress and let parents know how the school is progressing against its annual targets and how well students are achieving.
- Decide how the school's funding will be spent.
- Select the school's principal and support the development of all staff.
- Oversee the management of staff, property, finances, curriculum and administration.

**What sort of skills do trustees need?** Trustees are active leaders in their schools and need a balance of skills and experiences.

They need to work well in a team, be able to put plans in place for the school's future, ask challenging questions and have good communications skills. It helps to have an understanding of financial matters and the education sector, and experience in managing people.

For more information please visit the following site - <http://www.nzsta.org.nz/>

### Moo Milk Monday

"Moo Milk" Monday will start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Your child can purchase flavoured milk and a cookie for \$2 at morning tea time from the hall foyer. We are looking for volunteers to help run these fundraisers. Please come along to our next PTA meeting or contact Kim Fabish in the office if you are able to help in any way.

### Phone Books Fundraiser

Te Awamutu Primary School has again been offered the fundraising opportunity of delivering the local phone books around the Te Awamutu Township. We are currently seeking volunteers to deliver these books into letterboxes around the area. Delivery starts Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. If you are able to help we will have the phonebooks ready to go next Wednesday from 8.30am – 9am in the hall or alternatively please contact Maree Parkes in Room 5 or Kim Fabish in the office.

### Community Notices

#### Waikato Pistons – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Te Awamutu College

The Pistons basketball team are visiting our district. This is a great opportunity to get some tips on coaching and training. Sessions are free. Please register your interest to Jude 07 8232510 or email [waipadc@sportwaikato.org.nz](mailto:waipadc@sportwaikato.org.nz). Saturday 9am-11am – Pistons training session which is open to coaches, players and parents. 11am-12pm – Opportunity for coaches to answer questions & player recovery. 12pm-1pm – skills training sessions for primary, intermediate and secondary school players (led by the players).

### Junior Cricket

Te Awamutu Junior Hardball Cricket – if you are aged 9-13 years old (years 5-8), and would like to play cricket on Saturday mornings in Term 1, please come to our registration nights on Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Feb or Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Feb @ 5.30pm – 6.30pm (\$40 registration fee to be paid at registration). We meet at the Te Awamutu College cricket practice nets which are situated on the college fields in Factory Rd, next to Te Wananga o Aotearoa. Games begin Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. If you cannot make it to registration night, or need further information, please phone Helen Bastion (07) 871 3321.

### Ukulele and Guitar

Sign up now for small group ukulele and guitar lessons with MusiqHub starting next week. Lessons are \$16 for 30 minute lessons, instruments are also available to rent while learning. For more information contact Dave on 027 2 GUITAR (484827) or email [dave.murray@musiqhub.co.nz](mailto:dave.murray@musiqhub.co.nz)

### Te Awamutu Volunteer Fire Brigade – Station Open Day – 1913-2013

Celebrating 100 years of service, this Saturday (9<sup>th</sup>) 9am - 2pm. Fire engines, memorabilia, displays and demonstrations. Also a display illustrating brigade vehicles on the "front porch" at the Te Awamutu Museum during the month of February.

**TUTOR :**  
**LEEZA VINCENT**  
7 Years Teaching  
Experience



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**THE AVANTIDROME  
REV CYCLING FESTIVAL**

**23rd of February 2013 in Cambridge**  
**9.30am – 3pm**

Cycling is a great way to be active as a family. Come down to Tom Voyle Park and take part in FREE bike challenges (10-3pm) and the FREE kids Rev mini (9.30-10am), a fun ride for 12 and unders on a 2km circuit. Other categories available for adults.



**REV 23 FEBRUARY 2013**  
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[therev.co.nz](http://therev.co.nz)

**Tune into 107.8 TAPS FM**

*"Your education station".*

*Run and managed by the students & staff at Te Awamutu Primary School.*

