

# TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Together Achieving Personal Success'

19th March 2014

## Welcome to Week 7, Term 1 – 2014



Thank you to all who were able to attend Student Led Conferences recently. I would also like to acknowledge and thank my staff, whose diligence and hard work make these moments so valuable. The Student Led Conferences have been a good chance to share what the school is doing to support your child's learning and to chat about ways that you can support your child's learning.

At Te Awamutu Primary School we aim to use plain language in our reporting and clearly show your child's progress and achievement in reading, writing and maths, in relation to National Standards. Twice a year, this information is presented to parents through the Learning Journeys. These will be coming home to you on the 11<sup>th</sup> April. This information includes if your child is working at the expected level for their age, or if they are working at a level above or below the expected standard.

At TAPS, our goal in providing information in relation to the National Standards is to help you to:

- understand how your child is doing at school and how their learning needs are being met
- be confident that any learning difficulties are being addressed
- track your child's progress over time
- understand what you can do to support your child
- be better informed when discussing your child's education with their teacher.

It is also timely to share school-wide results from 2013 and to compare them to 2012. Good progress has been made as a school.

	Met or exceeded National Standards	
	2012	2013
Reading	77%	85%
Writing	60%	70%
Mathematics	67%	78%

### **Learning targets for 2014:**

**Writing:** 80% of students at Te Awamutu Primary School will meet or exceed National Standards in writing.

**Reading:** 85% of students at Te Awamutu Primary School will meet or exceed National Standards in reading.

**Mathematics:** 85% of students at Te Awamutu Primary School will meet or exceed National Standards in mathematics.

### **New Initiative:**

The Board of Trustees, Gareth and staff are really pleased to share with you that we have three pilot classrooms where the following learning and teaching lenses are in focus: Multi-media, Sports, Radio and communications. We invite you to attend the first of a series of information meetings about this initiative on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 5pm – 5:30pm, in the school library.

### **Maths Snippets**

Mathematics is off to a great start for the 2014 year at TAPS. We have some exciting events planned, including another quiz night a bit later in the year. Wendy James and Karen Sykes are lead teachers for maths and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for supporting the numeracy programme and their colleagues.

Did you know that at home there are many opportunities to support your child's learning in geometry, measurement, statistics, algebra and number? These include gardening, cooking, going places, shopping, watching sport and recycling just to name a few. Cooking, for example, is an ideal way to practice counting, measuring and problem solving. Specific ideas can be found at;

<http://www.nzmaths.co.nz/maths-our-house>

I'm keen for us, as a school community, to share resources. If there are maths sites that your kids love (especially if they are free), please send me the URL and a brief review and we will add these to the newsletter so that more people can find these gems.

Many thanks

Gill Gibbs [gillg@taps.school.nz](mailto:gillg@taps.school.nz)

# SCHOOL NOTICES

Its time to say goodbye ☹

On Friday we say a fond farewell to Sunil, our caretaker of the past 6 1/2 years. Many of you will have come to know Sunil well over this time. Sunil has been a friend and colleague to us all, both in and out of school, and he will be sadly missed. We wish Sunil well as he heads off across the ditch on his next adventure.

And hello ☺

Today we welcome Manu Taitoko on staff, Manu is our new caretaker. Please feel free to introduce yourself and make Manu feel welcome as he finds his feet and settles into our little piece of paradise. Welcome aboard Manu :)

## Uniform

The uniform room is open every Wednesday morning from 8.15-9am in the school hall. We have lots of stock on hand including bucket hats and beanies. If you wish to place an order outside these hours, please leave your order form at the office and the uniform items will be delivered to your child's classroom

## Wednesday Wonderland

We would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school, pre-enrolled community (all children 4.5 years and older) to take up the offer of attending our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 – 3pm.



## Lunches

Prices for lunch items increased at the beginning of this term. A copy of the menu was sent home in the first week, if you require an extra copy, these are available from the office or the school website. Lunches can be ordered from the office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only.

## School Website

Keep an eye on our school website. This is where you can find out all sorts of information including uniform prices, lunch menus, newsletters, what's happening on the school calendar, concerns, complaints and compliment procedure, staff profiles, strategic plans and much much more

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

## School Fees & Consumables Levy

2014 invoices were sent home recently. School fees are set at \$50 per child, \$90 for two children and \$120 for 3 or more children. The consumables levy is set at \$15 per child. These are due by the 31<sup>st</sup> March

## TAPS NETBALL

Good luck to the competition girls who have their first grading games this Saturday. This year we have TAPS Stormers

TAPS Tigers

And

TAPS Hotchicks

Playing times should be in tomorrow's Te Awamutu Courier or on the netball website shortly.

[www.sportsground/teawamutunetball](http://www.sportsground/teawamutunetball)

**FUTURE FERNS TEAMS WILL BE NAMED NEXT WEEK AND A NOTICE WILL GO HOME WHEN THESE HAVE BEEN FINALISED. PLEASE NOTE THAT FUTURE FERNS DOES NOT START ON A SATURDAY UNTIL 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

## Term 1 Calendar

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> March - Grandparents Day

Tues 25<sup>th</sup> March - BOT Meeting 5.30pm

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> April - Syndicate 4 Disco

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> April - Mothers & Sons breakfast 7.30am in the hall - hosted by Syndicate 1

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> April - Te Awa Showcase

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> April - Celebration Assembly 10.10am in the hall

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> April - Last day of term

Notices regarding trips etc will be sent home from each syndicate or class. Dates are subject to change.

## ASSEMBLY TIMES FOR TERM 1

Syndicate 1 – every Monday at 2.30 in the hall

Syndicate 2 – every Thursday at 2.30 in the Syndicate 2 courtyard

Syndicate 3 – every Friday at 2.40 in the Syndicate 3 courtyard

Syndicate 4 – every second Friday starting 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm in the hall

## GRANDPARENTS DAY THIS FRIDAY

It is with pleasure that we invite our Grandparents to Te Awamutu Primary School from 10am to 1pm.

10am – Meet & Greet – Grandparents meet in the hall for light refreshments.

10.40am – Morning tea – join your grandchild/ren for their playtime

11am – Class activities – please class activities – please feel free to visit the classroom.

1pm – End of morning programme.

*This is a special memory making event and we look forward to meeting you all*



