



# TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Together Achieving Personal Success'



**NEWSLETTER Term 1, 2016 – Week 7 – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March.**

Hi the TAPS Family.

As I write this letter, I reflect on another successful week of learning here at TAPS, with a Junior school trip to Kawhia and Ocean Beach, Splash and Dash for our Seniors and our mufti day today. A huge thank you goes to you, our Mums and Dads, for supporting these happenings at TAPS. Without your assistance many of these opportunities would not be possible.

This coming week is a short one. All children are on holiday from this Friday - Good Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March and then not returning to school till Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>.

I have an urgent and important Road Safety message for all families who use the Teasdale Street side of our school to drop off and pick up children. We are currently reviewing the safety of this school entrance as we have a large number of students and parents who enter and depart from here, many of whom choose not to use the kiwi crossing provided. We also have parents who use the bus zones and no parking zones to drop off and pick up students. We are monitoring this area and a safety plan will be implemented by the Board of Trustees in the coming weeks. You will need to be vigilant and keep an eye out for the new safety changes. You must use the crossing at all times and be role models to your children on road safety.

## **Before school safety**

All children are able to access their classrooms at TAPS from 8:30am. If children are earlier than that to school, they are to wait quietly on the deck outside rooms 5 and 6. This area is **not supervised** by teachers before 8:30am as they are preparing for their instructional teaching day. Please do not drop your child at school before this time thinking that we have teachers supervising them. Morning school care (Oscar and WINZ approved and financially supported programme) is available to all TAPS families and opens for breakfast and monitoring of the children from the hall every day at 7:30am. Please see the Office for enrolment forms if you would like to access this programme.

## **'Respect' is our virtue this week**

**Goal:** To encourage the children to accept challenges, and risk failure, in learning new skills and attempting unfamiliar activities.

- i. I will try new things... (Syndicate 1 and 2)
- ii. I will try new things even when I feel scared... (Syndicate 3 and 4)

## **Reminders**

- Bus tags and all bus information can be attended to at the Office. Please do not hesitate to call us if you need any clarifications.
- Pre-enrolments to TAPS. Please get your pre-school child's enrolment form in as early as possible before their starting date. This allows us to organise class visits so your child can transition smoothly into school.
- Wednesday Wonderland continues till Week 10, Wednesday 6 April and begins again Term 2 Week 2; 1.45pm in Room 6 with Di Gudsell. All 4 ½ year olds are welcome to attend if they are enrolled at TAPS.

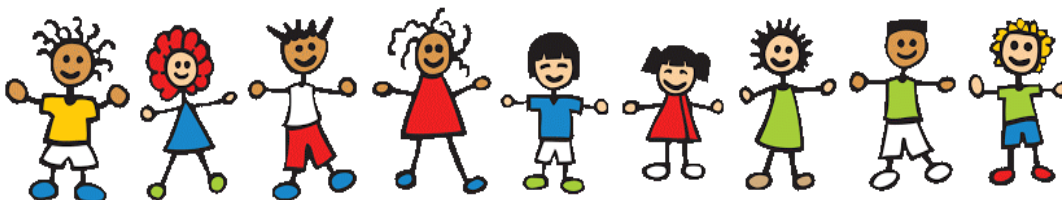
## **Swimming**

All children are to bring their togs and towel as this is a compulsory part of the PE curriculum. Please try to ensure your child has named swimming gear, including togs, towels and underwear. At school every 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.

## **Uniform**

The uniform room is open every Wednesday morning from 8.15 - 9am in the school hall. We have lots of summer stock on hand, including the compulsory school bucket hats for \$10 each. 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. EFTPOS is available.

**PLEASE NOTE: Hats are available to purchase from the office at any time.**



## **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**

Our school follows the tradition of being divided into four houses named after some of the early Maori migration waka.

Tainui – Yellow

Te 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.

Yours in learning

*Gareth Duncan*  
Principal

Room 17, the TAPS enviro-warriors would like to thank the following people and companies for their generous donations to our environmental projects.  
**FARMSOURCE** and **FARMLANDS** for chicken food and **NEAL AND TANIA SAVAGE** for the hay for the chicken houses. We really appreciate your generosity.



Room 22 would like to thank **Te Awamutu Glass** for our fantastic new 'dance studio' mirror wall. We would not have been able to achieve this without the generosity and support of Deb & Deni at TAG. Thanks guys.

*A HUGE shout out to **Bunnings Te Awamutu** for the recent donation of swimming pool chemicals. Your generosity is also greatly appreciated. Thank you.*

## **A Kawhia Cameo**

Large, grey seagulls were circling and landing on the tall, cylindrical poles as we approached the steel ramp that led down to the little wharf. Other white seagulls were already fighting for the bread lying at the end of the wooden wharf. We knelt and lay in the warm sunshine as the bait catchers had oats and bread added to their interiors. Parents then dropped them over the edge and almost immediately shoals of tiny, grey sprats were swarming in the muddy, green water. Following a little dangling and jigging, wriggling fish were soon captured in the transparent holders and squeals of delight were all around as they were emptied into ice cream containers. Children stroked their slippery scales as they flipped in and out of the containers. When sufficient were caught, we all mounted the ramp and made our way back along the jetty to our waiting bus, stopping en route, to throw the excess bread to the hungry gulls.

Our Newsletter covers have nearly been printed. We would like to thank the following businesses for their continued support.

**The Safe & Happy Club – Ph Laille 027 727 8521**

**Unichem Marshalls Pharmacy – 8714918**

**Crowe Harworth – Phone**

**Paper Plus Toyworld – 8715257**

**Mad Cow Drums Phone Glenn for more info on 021 2020 269 or 871 4738**

**Tony Fabish Panelworks – 871 5069**

**Power Chill New Zealand Ltd**

**Rosetown Print – Phone 8717786**

**The Handyman – Ian (Slim) Goodrick – 021 613 611**

**Otto Inc – Award Winning Stylists – 870 4474**

**Te Awamutu Glass – Call Deb & Deni 871 2126**