

## TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Absentees - text only 021 276 0505**

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

10 June 2009

### WEEK 7 2009

#### Principal's Diary...

Kia ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau,

There has been a lot of information coming through schools on the likelihood of the Swine flu reaching our schools. Regardless of whether or not we actually get a case of flu here at TAPS the Board of Trustees have reviewed its pandemic procedures and made funding available for sterilizing hand wash in every room and that we have the resources on the school site to ensure we are ready if we should ever be put in that position.

There are some basic measures which will slow down the spread of viruses like influenza. These include promoting basic hygiene like very regular hand washing (before anyone puts anything in their mouths), students and staff covering their coughs and sneezes, and any staff or students with symptoms of possible influenza should stay home until they are well.

You will have heard yesterday that the DHB has been granted interim power by the Government to stop children who have just returned from overseas attending school for up to 7 days after return. Please be very vigilant in checking for any flu-like symptoms before sending children back to school from any overseas trip at the moment.

If a school or early childhood service was directed to close it could happen very fast – students would be sent home at the end of the day and told not to return.

There is material on both the [moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1](http://moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1) and [Pandemic Planning \(www.mindedu.govt.nz\)](http://Pandemic Planning (www.mindedu.govt.nz)) websites and any questions should be directed to your local Ministry of Education office, or **Healthline 0800 611 116**.

#### PTA MEETING

The monthly PTA meeting will be held tonight in the staffroom at 7.30pm. All welcome – the heater will be on!

#### **All mothers with daughters currently attending TAPS are welcome to attend the breakfast 11<sup>th</sup> June from 7:15am**


We have a very special guest speaker this term. Tegan Morris is a young woman who has set and achieved amazing personal goals. Tegan lives with multiple disabilities and is happy to share her story with us. She is an inspiration to all and was also a key note speaker at the Down Under Institute Conference in February that was attended by some of our staff and our student ambassadors.

**This is on 11<sup>th</sup> June from 7:15am.**

*Gareth Duncan*

Gareth Duncan  
Principal

**Proud sponsor of our J-Rock Team 2009 – Stewart & Cavalier**

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## **DP's Snippets**

Thank you for the feedback regarding the assessments shared last week. It was good to know it was helpful. Following is information about Six Year Surveys and Running Records. We hope that this is just as useful.

### **Six Year Observation Surveys**

This is a comprehensive survey which has produced a systematic way of observing children through a carefully selected set of tasks with standardized stanines.

These tasks help the teachers to observe:

- The child's use of oral language and how they control sentence structures
- Concepts about print (how print encodes information )
- The reading of continuous text (taking a running record )
- Letter knowledge
- Reading vocabulary (words the child knows when reading )
- Writing vocabulary (words the child knows when writing )
- Hearing and recording sounds in words (both phonemic awareness and the linking of phonemes to letters).

### **Running Records:**

Running records are an effective monitoring technique which describes what occurs in the course of reading. The information gathered from the accurate collation of this data provides helpful insights about the strategies a child is using to reconstruct meaning and about what needs to be learned next.

The running record is a systematic way of providing evidence and must be administered correctly in order to understand how the children are using what they know to get to the message of the text. This information provides teachers with a child's next learning steps.

## **SCHOOL NOTICES**

**A number of schools in this area are holding a teacher only day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June. Please note that TAPS will be operating a normal school day.**

### **Thank You**

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Andy MacNicol and his team from MacNicol Logging for donating their services to our school and felling the dead trees on the perimeter of the field. Their contribution is greatly appreciated

### **Wednesday Wonderland**

Just a reminder that Wednesday Wonderland will not be running next Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Uniform Room News**

The Uniform Room is open every Wednesday morning in the Hall from 8.15am – 9.00 am. We have stock on hand for sale. EFTPOS IS AVAILABLE.

On **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July** we are holding a second hand uniform sale in the hall from 8.15am – 9.00 am. CASH ONLY.

If you have items for sale please send to the office with your name, phone number, details of item for sale and price pinned (NOT STAPLED) to items of clothing.

### **Music Lessons**

Music Lessons for Yr 5 and 6 students: Guitar and Key Board lessons on site here at TAPS. If you are interested please let Mr Duncan know via this return slip. This will be a user pays opportunity and costs will be shared with you once we have final numbers.

Return slip: .....

**NAME**..... **CLASS**.....

**GUITAR – KEY BOARD** (*Please circle the instrument you would like to learn*)

**PARENTS SIGNATURE**:.....

