

17 March 2010

Kia Ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau,

What a buzz there is around TAPS.

Our new classrooms are fully operational and the deck fronting Teasdale Street is being enjoyed by everyone. There has been and continues to be deep and profound learning happening throughout the school and parent feedback has been positive and helpful over the past few weeks in a number of areas. We thank you for your input.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Syndicate 3 whose sustainability project with the vegetable gardens has won first prize in the New Zealand Gardener Schools Competition. We are so proud of you. TAPS will be featured in their magazine later in the year.

TEACHING STAFF UNION MEETING POSTPONEMENT

The paid union meeting for the teachers, which was to be Thursday 18th March, is **POSTPONED** until next term. We will advise you of the date as soon as it comes to hand.

ICAS

Students from Year 5 and 6 who are above average in a number of curriculum areas may bring home a letter about ICAS tests for 2010. These tests provide insight into areas for growth as well as highlighting strengths. They are not compulsory. The last day for entry is Thursday 1st April (last day of term). Students bringing letters home have the individual enrolment form attached.

GATE Programmes

Gifted and/or talented students are identified as showing above average ability with a high level of task commitment and a high level of creativity. Generally students who are gifted or talented will be extended in their classroom programme. We also believe that at times it is appropriate to offer GATE students programmes outside their regular classroom programme. We have GATE Science, Computer Skills, Mathematics, Leadership, Arts, Technology and Sport and PE. Some of these programmes are well underway and others begin at the beginning of next term. Students who have been identified as GATE learners in Mathematics, Science and Computer Skills from Syndicate 3 & 4 will be bringing home letters today. Permission slips need to be returned to the school office by Thursday 1st April (last day of term).

ERO

We welcome the ERO team to our school next week. The timetable for their visit is on display around the school. We encourage parents to be part of this process and ERO has set aside Wednesday 2pm to meet with any parents who wish to provide feedback in the staffroom.

Have a great week everyone!

Gareth Duncan 😊

SCHOOL NOTICES

Health and PE Parent Meeting tonight:

Tonight we will be sharing our Health and PE programmes with an emphasis on information about sexuality education and how we work that into our learning programmes at TAPS. We are keen to have you here if you can make it, tonight 7pm in the staffroom.

Whanau Hui last week

Thank you to the many families/whanau who came to share happenings around TAPS. What a fantastic turnout we had with approximately 60 plus people here to share in the kai & korero.

Kids on bikes

- Children over the age of 9 are permitted to ride unaccompanied; under 9 **must** be fully supervised.
- It is not recommended for children under 9 to ride to school.
- Helmets **must** be worn.
- No riding in school grounds at any time.
- Scooters are **not** recommended.
- Any bike/scooter/skateboard riders **must** wear protective headgear, knee pads, elbow pads etc, especially if riding in public areas.

Lucky Book Club

The last day for Lucky Book Club orders is Thursday 25th March. Sorry no late orders will be accepted.

PTA Hawaiian Pizza Lunch

The PTA are holding a pizza lunch fundraiser on Wednesday 31st March, cost \$2.00 per slice. Order forms will be sent home tomorrow. Money and orders need to be back by **Monday 29 March**. We will not be accepting any orders after Monday. (please note there will be no other lunch orders on Pizza Day)

Uniform Room News

Second Hand Sale – This will be held on Wednesday 31 March starting at 8am in the hall. **CASH ONLY**.

If you have items for sale please bring to the school office. Each item for sale must be labeled with your name, phone number, details of item and price.

This netball season we will have a small supply of Mitre black netball knickers for sale at a cost of \$10.50 each
The uniform room is open every Wednesday morning in the hall from 8.15 – 9.00 am. We have a good supply of stock on hand
- EFTPOS is available.

BOT NEWS

Enrolment Scheme/Zoning

It seems there is some confusion regarding the proposed enrolment scheme at TAPS. Please note **we do not currently have an enrolment scheme** in place. The earlier notices regarding this were to advise that we have done our ground work and made provision to put an enrolment scheme in place should the roll continue to climb as rapidly as it did in 2009. The purpose for this was simply to ensure that classroom numbers remain at an optimum level and the schools infrastructure is not compromised further. We will continue to update you about the process should it be deemed necessary to implement an enrolment scheme as we continue through the year.

Board of Trustees Elections

The process for electing Boards of Trustees for all schools will be held from 17 March to 14 May 2010.

Please ensure the school has up to date information regarding your current address.

While the date for the official call for nominations is 9 April 2010, nomination forms and a covering letter will be sent to all parents between 17 – 26 March 2010. We are doing this to ensure you receive these prior to the school holiday period. Once these forms are received nominations may be made by returning the completed forms to the school office. Nominee statements (a brief blurb about themselves) will be available to view at the school office as they come to hand.

Key dates for the elections are:

17 – 26 March 2010	Nomination forms distributed. Voting roll available for inspection during school hours at the school office.
7 April 2010	Main voting roll closes. Supplementary voting roll opened.
8 April	Official notice calling for nominations to be published in the local paper.
21 April 2010	Supplementary voting roll closes.
23 April 2010	Nominations close at 12:00 Noon.

Please note: Voting roll (both main & supplementary) refers to all parents, caregivers and staff members who are eligible to vote in the Board of Trustee elections.

If an election is required ** (see note below) key dates will be as follows****

28 April 2010	Voting papers posted to all people on the electoral roll
7 May 2010	Voting closes at 12:00 noon.
14 May 2010	New Board takes office.

**** Election not necessary in certain circumstances**

If the number of valid nominations received by the close of nominations does not exceed the number of trustees to be elected, the returning officer must immediately declare the nominee or nominees duly elected, and no election may be held.

Ian McLauchlan
Returning Officer

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kihikihi Junior Rugby

Kihikihi Junior Rugby Registration/Weigh In. All junior grades, Thursday 18th March 5.30 -7.00pm Kihikihi Clubrooms.
Please bring a copy of your birth certificate. Subs: 6th – 10th grades \$25 11th – 13th grades \$40
Contact Alex – 8714901 or Brendan – 8715123

Arapuni Fishing Contest

20 & 21 March, Bulmers Landing, start time 6am. Adults \$20, Juniors under 12 \$5. Lots of fun for all!

4Front School of Guitar will be running guitar lessons beginning late in Term 1. They will be held before & after school at the AOG in Alexandra St on a yet to be confirmed day. The lessons include a free CD, a Free Parents Lesson in the second term and a free VIP card for MusicWorks. If you are interested in beginning guitar lessons next term please contact Dave Murray on 027 248 4827 or email david@schoolofguitar.co.nz . Or for more information on 4Front School of Guitar lessons visit www.schoolofguitar.co.nz