

16 June 2010

WEEK 9 2010

Principal's Diary

Kia Ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau

Welcome to Week 9

Learning continues at an exciting pace here at TAPS with numeracy and literacy our priority learning areas. These foundation learning areas are given top priority as we review how our learning targets for the year are going. Teachers are currently meeting with our deputy principals and myself, to share professional goals and to share how learning is going for each class. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and teachers for your dedication, hard work and commitment in helping every child to achieve their personal best.

Learning Journeys will be coming home soon and we look forward to that special time of sharing between you and your children. These are just one of the ways that we report back to you. It is a documented journey of their learning, progress and achievement. Please take the time to share this with your child and add a special comment to acknowledge the work being done.

Field Trips

A number of classes head out into the local environment over the next few days to deepen their understanding of life cycles, native environments and the effects we can have on these. Thank you to the many parent volunteers who have put time aside in their busy day to be involved in these enrichment activities.

J-Rockers

A huge congratulations to our large contingent of Syndicate 4 students and their J-Rock lead teachers who presented an award winning performance for this national event at the Founders Theatre. They scooped 3 "Award of Excellence" certificates for Performance Skills, Concept, and Costuming and Character. Well done!

Special programmes and activities

This week we focus on Mrs Mackey's art group and our Song Squad ably led by Mrs Mackey and Miss James.

Each Thursday lunchtime in Room 17 you can find volunteers from Te Awa Syndicate working on an awesome taniwha mosaic which will be going on the outside wall between rooms 5 and 6 when it is finished (under the new veranda). If you would like a sneak preview of the mosaic, by all means pop into Room 17 and have a look at our progress.

Our 2010 Song Squad is well underway with their learning of our songs for the year. Although we are small in numbers, this year the spirit and enthusiasm of our group is amazing. They are looking forward to sharing our new school song as well as the other songs learned at assembly.

Take care everyone

Gareth Duncan

Principal

Message to school community from TAPS BOT.

In March this year the Education Review Office (ERO) carried out their three yearly review of Te Awamutu Primary School. The outcome of this review has recently been released and will soon be able to be viewed at www.ero.govt.nz. In the meantime we have included a copy of the community letter from ERO for you to read. The review reflects the hard work and commitment that Gareth and his team of dedicated teachers and support staff have put in over the past three years.

As a board we are extremely proud of what the school has achieved and wish to take this opportunity to thank not just the current school staff and board members but all people that have been involved with the school over the past three years including all students and the wider school community. Without your support and participation we would not been able to achieve such a great result.

While we need to take the time to pat ourselves on the back it is also important to be reminded that the hard work is not over. We will continue to focus on the future with the implementation of the new school curriculum and no doubt there will be plenty of other challenges to face.

Ultimately we are all here to give our learners the best possible education we can, and along the way we will all be **TOGETHER ACHIEVING PERSONAL SUCCESS**.

Thanks

Bruce Airey

TAPS BOT Chair

SCHOOL NOTICES

Matariki

The re-appearance of the cluster of stars called Matariki signals the New Year in Māori tradition.

Matariki may be translated as mata riki – tiny eyes, or Mata Ariki – eyes of God. The eyes are thought to watch over the land and its people. On 21st June, there will be a fundraising hāngi and Matariki celebration here at school. Tickets are \$10. Contact Whaea Erin for further details!

Jump Rope for Heart

It is that time again where Te Awamutu Primary School participates in the Jump Rope for Heart Skip-a-thon challenge. Over the next four weeks students will be building up their fitness levels through skipping. The purpose is to make physical activity fun, and to help them develop lifelong skills such as balance, rhythm and hand eye coordination.

The students will be bringing home a Skip-a-thon challenge booklet and sponsorship form. The money raised goes towards the Heart Foundation. As it is the 25th anniversary of Jump Rope for Heart, our school will receive 25% of the money raised, so get out there and get as many sponsors as you can. Our jump-off day will be Friday 25th June.

Mangaohoi Stream clean-up this Sunday

Our school is committed to an involvement in keeping our local environment clean, tidy and preserved for future generations. There is a community clean-up day for the Mangaohoi Stream this Sunday 20th June from 10am until 1pm, behind the Rose Gardens. All children must be supervised by an adult on the day and they will need suitable footwear. If they want to – gloves and loppers (secateurs) can be taken along too, but no spades please. We hope to see many of you down there ☺

Breakfast Club (Before School Care)

Thank you to all those families who have chosen to use our Breakfast Club. A reminder to all parents & caregivers, that teaching staff are unable to supervise children prior to 8.30a.m as they have lesson plans to prepare, meetings to attend and administration matters to deal with. Laille & Dawn from the After School Care & the Holiday programme are running the Breakfast Club in the school hall between 7.00am -8.30 each morning. Children are supplied breakfast and have activities they can participate in if they choose. If you are interested in enrolling your child/ren, forms are available from the main office or from Laille at ASC.

After School Care Vacancy

We have a position available at ASC starting immediately. This role would suit someone who is energetic, enthusiastic, happy and prepared to work directly with children aged between 5 & 13 yrs. The hours will be 3.00-4.30pm, Mon-Thur during school terms with flexibility required on occasions. Please drop in your cover letter outlining your experience and contact details to the office or contact Laille Martin on 027 320 9849 for further information

Lunch Orders

We are seeking volunteers to help take & collate the school lunch orders on Friday mornings from 8.30 to 9.15am. Please, let the office staff know, if you can help.

Milo Monday

Milo Monday is back. Every Monday at morning tea children can purchase a milo & cookie for \$2 from the tuck shop located in the foyer of the hall. We are looking for volunteers.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

The school will be having a second hand uniform sale Wednesday 30 June from 8 till 9am in the uniform room in the hall. Purchases for this are cash only.

Absent Students

If your child is away from school for any reason, could you please notify the office on 8715378 or text the school phone 0212760505. Unexplained absences will be classed as truant.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Nutrimetics Lipstick Fundraiser

Vicki from Nutrimetics had kindly offered to coordinate a Lipstick Fundraiser for Te Awamutu Primary School. \$1 from every lipstick sold will go to our school. Enquires can be made directly to Vicki, who will be in the school office on Tuesday and Thursday 8.30-9am with samples. The order will be made on Friday 25th June.

Toolbox Parenting Courses

Toolbox groups are relaxed and informal parenting sessions run over six weeks. Sessions are filled with expert advice, humour and empowering strategies.

Six week course for 6-12yr group starting Wednesday 28th July 2010 7.15 – 9.15pm

Cost: \$67.50pp or \$90 per couple. (Subsidies available if needed)

For further info or to registrar Ph Pat Schwass 871 7394 or visit the website www.parentsinc.org.nz



