

Welcome back to Term Three - 2011

Principal's Diary...

Kia Ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau,

Welcome back to a new term, I hope you all had a great holiday and managed to escape for a few days. I would like to extend a very warm TAPS welcome to our new families and all those returning for term 3.

Earlier this week a number of very important information sheets regarding the measles epidemic and the basic requirements for keeping your child/ren safe and others around them. Can I please encourage us all to be vigilant when facing symptoms that are talked about in the circulars. Please work together to minimise the risk of infection across the school. **TAPS has NO cases of measles to date, so we are very lucky.**

Can I remind all parents to check children's bags this week for the syndicate newsletter which has more detailed information for you and your family regarding the learning overview for the term and other information pertinent to your child's syndicate.

Our Syndicate leaders for 2011:

Senior School Deputy Principal – Mrs Gill Gibbs

Junior School Deputy Principal – Miss Tracy Findlay

Syndicate 1 Leader is: Mrs Diane Darlington (responsibilities for all Year 0 - 1 learners and teachers in Rooms 1 - 5)

Syndicate 2 Leader is: Mrs Kim Tautari-Scott (responsibilities for all Year 2 learners and teachers in Rooms 7 - 10)

Syndicate 3 Leader is: Miss Helen Garland (responsibilities for all Year 3 - 4 learners and teachers in Rooms 6, 12 - 16)

Syndicate 4 Leader is: Mrs Tara McAuley (responsibilities for all Year 5 - 6 learners and teachers in Rooms 17 - 22)

Term 3 dates:

Monday 1st August to Friday 7th October

Yours in learning

Gareth Duncan

Principal

Check out our web site:

www.taps.school.nz

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS/CAREGIVERS OF TAPS STUDENTS

From the beginning of this term, all students arriving before 8:30am will be required to be pre-booked and attend the Breakfast Club. This is to allow our teachers to prepare lessons, attend meetings etc before the 8:30 bell. Currently most teachers are tied up in their classes with students who are arriving before 8:30am. In recent terms, we have responded to a need for many parents to have their children supervised before school by developing our Breakfast Club (7:00am – 8:30am). This has been a successful addition to the facilities offered at TAPS. Our programmes are OSCAR approved which means we have met the strict standards required by Child, Youth & Family to provide and care for children. For you as parents and caregivers, OSCAR accreditation means that you can apply to WINZ for the relevant subsidies to help pay for this service. Children are served breakfast if required. This consists of choice of cereals and toast and a drink. Enrolment forms and further information is available at the school office or downloaded from www.taps.school.nz

Gill Gibbs

Deputy Principal

Community Strategic planning meeting:

Board of Trustees and TAPS Community Strategic Planning Meeting **16th August at 6:30pm** at Kelly and Bryant Accountants, Taylors Hill. Everyone is welcome to attend this session and share thoughts and ideas for the future direction of TAPS. If you are unable to attend the evening and you would like to have you say or share a few ideas then we would like to invite you to come into school and record your ideas on the sheets of paper in the school Inquiry Centre (Library). Please see Mrs Hardy if you need any help.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – 30st AUGUST @ 6pm IN THE STAFFROOM

Inquiry Centre News:

Our latest Scholastic Book Fair is on its way.....

From Monday 12th September to Thursday 15th September (week 7) there will be an exciting range of children's books and educational products for you to view and purchase in our new Inquiry Centre. Remember that 30% of all sales come back to our school, helping us purchase inspirational new books for our students to enjoy. So, note these dates on your calendar and get ready for an "Inter-Galactic – Out of this World" experience.

Uniform clarification:

We would like to clarify that during the winter months children are able to wear thermals under their school shirt. The colours that are allowed are: Black, blue and white only. Please do not send your child in any other colour or stripy thermals under their school uniform, as they will be asked to take them off. Thank you for helping with consistency of our uniform policy.

Student Safety

We continually have a number of children in the park after school, waiting to be picked up. Please remember that the children are unsupervised during this time and they need to be picked up as close to 3pm as possible. We understand the parking issue at the front of the school, however, to have children waiting as late as 3.20pm is a concern. Also, it has been noticed that some children from Syndicate 1 & 2 have been walking to and from school on their own. Once again this is a safety issue as 5 & 6 year olds have not yet established secure skills to cross roads and to monitor driveways by themselves. We thank you for your anticipated support around these issues as the care and safety of our children is paramount.

School Fees:

Statements for the outstanding compulsory consumables fee and the school donations were sent home last term and are now overdue. If payment in full is difficult, part payments will be accepted over time to clear the debt. Eftpos is available at the main office.

PTA Support:

We would like to remind families that the PTA is a very small, but active group in our school and needs you to join and support the 2011 fundraising efforts. Our major school fundraising event is coming up - Our Quiz Night coming up this term. Please call the school to find out more information if you are able to support in anyway.

NEXT PTA MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10TH AUGUST IN THE SCHOOL STAFFROOM – ALL WELCOME.

Pedestrian Crossings and School Driveways

We have noticed a number of parents crossing their children on either side of the school crossing on Teasdale Street. As we like to instil good road sense, we ask that all parents/caregivers and especially children, use the pedestrian crossings only. The Bank Street driveway, is for staff and trade vehicles only. For child safety, please use the footpath alongside the driveway when entering and leaving the school grounds. Please note: vehicles are not permitted to park (whether picking up or dropping off) in the bus bay on Teasdale Street. **This is a bus park only.**

shop located in the foyer of the hall.

Late Students

The school day starts at 8.55am and students must be settled in class by 9am when teachers take the roll. Should any students arrive after this time, they must sign in at the office.

Children's Absences

It is school policy that you notify the office, before 9am daily if your child is going to be absent. All unexplained absences are marked as truant. PROVIDING SATISFACTORY REASONS FOR ABSENCES IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT ENFORCED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. Please phone on **871 5378** (ext 702) with an explanation as to why students are absent or txt on the school mobile on **0212760505** with a brief reason of absence. Please remember to include the child's name and room number or provide a note to the teacher on the first day back to school. THIS IS THEN NOTED IN OUR SYSTEM FOR THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

Wednesday Wonderland Early Childhood Programme 2011

I would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school community (all children 4.5 years and older) to take up the invitation to come to our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon at 1.30pm till 3pm with Maree Parkes (trained teacher and TAPS Community Connector) Please come to the main foyer of the school for directions as to where this is being held. This programme is free of charge and funded by the school.

Community Notices

GKR KARATE has classes running throughout your community. Karate is great for the whole family ages five and up. Karate has many benefits like, confidence, discipline, fitness and of course self defence. For more information on class times and locations please call Callum on 021 2999 560 or 07 211 7929.

TERM DIARY

Week 2	Wed 7th Aug 7pm - PTA Meeting Fri 12th 6-7pm - Syn 1 & 2 Disco - Gruffalo Fundraiser
Week 3	Tues 16th 6.30pm - Strategic Planning Meeting - Interschol speech competition
Week 4	Tues 23rd 6pm - BOT Meeting
Week 5	Fri 2nd - Syn 3 & 4 Cross country - Gruffalo Show - Syndicate 1 & 2 - PTA Quiz Night - Adults only (cash bar available)
Week 6	Mon 5th Sept - Class Photos Fri 9th - Interschol cross country
Week 7	Mon 12th - Fri 15th - Book Fair Wed 14th - Thur 15th - Student led conferences
Week 8	Thurs 22nd - Syn 1 & 2 cross country
Week 10	Thurs 6th Oct - Jump Rope for heart

GEMS OF THE WEEK

Throughout our school, we have been concentrating on our literacy programme and the work that is coming from the students is exceptional. Some of the language features the children are learning are: Onomatopoeias (words that sound like the things they describe e.g. **roar, bang, smash, pop**), similes (similes say something is like something else e.g. **he ran as quick as lightning**) and personification (this is when we give human characteristics to animals, abstract concepts or inanimate objects e.g. **The sun smiled down, wrapping me in her warm embrace**). All our classes have been learning and writing about Matariki. I would like you all to take the time to read the gems of the week from Syndicate 4 - Well done, fantastic writing.

Mr Duncan

A beautiful bright colourful arch that droops down like a dripping waterfall - Achesha

*Shadows shut the door leaving me in the twilight of the stars
by Gisa*

The fearsome avenger strikes the glass with a wall of fiery venom - Sheldon

Despair ripped savagely as he wept his sorrows away - Lachlan

The misty void of darkness glistens like holes in a shadow blanket - Josh

Greyed ruffled pages reflect with faded letters - Spencer

NETBALL DRAW FOR SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST 2011

TAPS Kelly & Bryant vs Puahue Sapphires

10.40am Court 2

TAPS Elevations vs Shiloh Juniors

12.20pm Court 6

TAPS Vetent vs Korakonui Crazy Chicks

1.10pm Court 6

FUTURE FERNS

TAPS Silver Ferns vs Pakerau Primo Pearl

9am Court 7

TAPS Wildcats vs Pirongia Seagulls

11.30am Court 7

TAPS Mini Magic vs Korakonui Rockets

12.20pm Court 7

TE AWAMUTU JUNIOR BASKETBALL DRAW

Monday 8th August

TAPS Breakers - Court 1 5pm

TAPS Tall Blacks - Court 2 5.45pm

Milo Monday

Every Monday at morning tea children can purchase a milo & cookie for \$2 from the tuck shop located in the foyer of the hall.



Coming up Fri Sept 2^d
The politically incorrect Strictly Adults R18 Quiz Night
For Grown Ups Details to follow



