

Welcome to Week 1, Term 4 - 2011

Principal's Diary...

Kia ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whānau,

Welcome back to a new term, I hope you all had a great holiday. I trust you all managed to catch our fantastic All Blacks win the World Cup in style. It's a great feeling for all of us and we should all be proud to be a part of such an amazing event. I would also like to extend a very warm TAPS welcome to our new families and all those returning for term 4.

Syndicate 4 are involved in another exciting project is coming up this term. They have been stripping down a vehicle and getting it ready for the March 2012 Kihikihi Speedway demo derby. This is a promotional stint that the Schools' commerce group and 107.8 TAPS FM have been working on to create extra sponsorship for the station. If you know of anyone who would like to sponsor a panel on the car and have their business raced around the Kihikihi track then just call school. You will get a chance to see the car at the Santa Parade and it will also be parked outside school on Teasdale Street once all the sign writing is completed. This is a project that is being completed by Syndicate 4 children and Sunil (Caretaker) and we thank everyone for their fantastic work.

We started our term with a whole school assembly talking about 'Friendliness' as our leading value for the term. The information I shared at assembly with your children was:

Goal: To develop positive relationships between teachers and pupils foster friendliness and amongst children.

I will smile and say hello to all the people I meet. (Syndicate 1 and 2 - Juniors)

I will greet people with a smile and make sure that they are included in my games. (Syndicate 3 and 4 - Seniors)

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

Yours in learning
Gareth Duncan ☺
Principal

SCHOOL NOTICES

Year 5 & 6 Camp

All camp fees should now have been paid in full. No pay, no go. The students & staff are hyped and ready for their camp adventures next week. Please remember to name ALL items of clothing, bedding and personal items. Any queries should be directed to the classroom teacher.

Bus Tags

Term 4 bus tags must be purchased no later than Friday 4th November. No current tag - no ride. Tags are \$30 per term and are payable to the school office now.

2012 Classroom placements

Now is the time for you as parents & caregivers to put thoughts into writing to the Principal and the management team regarding the requirements you believe your child has in relation to their placement for the 2012 academic school year. This is not a time to request a particular teacher or to ask for your child to remain with their best friend, but a time for you to share what you feel are the learning, personal and social needs of your child. We then compare your thoughts with those of their current teacher and the syndicate leader. The management team and teaching staff will make the best choice for your child based on the data and knowledge we have. Any thoughts need to be in writing and sent to the office by the end of **Week 2, Term 4 - Friday 4th November**. Classrooms for next year do not have the teacher assigned to them until mid-December when we will notify everyone via the school newsletter.

Uniform

As the weather finally decides to warm up and the sun decides to shine, please remember that **school hats are now compulsory**. Hats are available from the uniform room and the office at a cost of \$10 each. The Uniform Room is open every Wednesday morning in the hall from 8.15 - 9.00 am. We have stock on hand and EFTPOS available.

Milk Monday

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

Lunch Orders

Lunch can be ordered Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings at the office before 9am. Orders are to be put into a clearly named and sealed envelope. A copy of the menu can be requested from the office at any time.

Lost Property

We have a large number of school jerseys, shirts, shoes and socks in our lost property room which is beside Room 14. Students recently went through these and found homes for a number of items. We ask that you be extremely vigilant when naming school clothing especially during the summer months when school hats are compulsory. We also have a collection of watches, sunglasses, necklaces and even car keys at the office.

An Important Reminder for all parents & caregivers.

The Bank Street entrance to the school grounds is for staff and trade vehicles only. The gate will be closed during these busy times (8.30 - 9.05am and 2.30 - 3.15pm) for child safety.

Community Strategic Meeting

The Board of Trustees will be hosting a Community Strategic Planning Meeting in November in the School Inquiry Centre (Library). The date will be confirmed shortly. 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.

Check out our web site: www.taps.school.nz and please tune into:

107.8 TAPS FM - 'Your Education Station'

Wednesday Wonderland Early Childhood Programme 2011

We would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school community (children 4.5 years and older) to take up the invitation to attend our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon 1.30pm - 3pm with Maree Parkes, one of our talented new entrant teachers. Please come to the main foyer of the school for directions as to where this is being held. This programme is funded by the school and therefore free of charge.

Term Dates:

- **The last day of school for 2011 is Tuesday 20th December**
- **We return for the 2012 year on Tuesday 31st January**

School fees & donations:

Thank you to those families who have already paid their fees, we appreciate your support. If you have not paid your school donation & compulsory fee we ask that you do so as soon as possible. The consumable levy is a **compulsory fee** which covers paper, photocopying etc. We rely on this income to help us provide up to date resources for your children. Unfortunately the funding we receive from the Ministry is simply not enough to cover every need. Eftpos is available at the office and part-payments are most welcome.

Bicycles & Scooters

With the weather warming up, students often enjoy riding to and from school. Please note that police regulation requires all cyclists to wear helmets at all times on public roads. Bikes, scooters and skateboards are not permitted to be ridden in school grounds at any time. It is also highly recommended that students Year 4 and below do not ride to school. Locking bikes is very important and is the responsibility of the student not the school.

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. **The Bank Street driveway, is for staff and trade vehicles only.** For child safety, please use the footpath alongside this 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.**



**HAVE YOU ENTERED
ROUND THE BRIDGES?**
roundthebridges.co.nz

Set yourself a challenge of staying active as a family, take part in Round the Bridges on November 13 and celebrate being active together!

new zealand HOME LOANS
ROUND THE BRIDGES 2011

McDonalds Kihikihi Speedway Season Opener & Fireworks Extravaganza.

Friday 28th October 6pm. Racing and heaps of fun. Guy and banner competitions. See the Te Awamutu Courier for more details or visit www.kihikhispeedway.co.nz.

Pokuru School Kids Quiz Night

Tuesday 8th November starting at 6pm. This is a fun quiz night for year 5 & 6 students of any school. For more information phone Pokuru school on 871 2844 or email office@pokuru.school.nz

Waikato Fireworks Fiesta

Ohaupo School – Saturday 5th Nov @ 5pm held at the Ohaupo Rugby Club, Forket Road, Ohaupo. Rain or Shine. Featuring live entertainment, stalls, raffles and much much more. Adults \$10 Children \$5 Family \$25.00. For more information visit: www.ohaupo.school.nz

TERM 4 DIARY

Term 4 - Week 1

Wed 26th Oct – PTA Meeting (Tonight)

Week 2

Oct 31st – Camp Rooms 19 & 22

Nov 2nd – Camp Rooms 17, 18 & 20

Nov 4th – Last day for class placement letters

Week 3

Nov 10th – Sydicate 3 & 4 Athletics

Nov 11th – Kawhia Moana

Week 4

Nov 15th BOT Meeting

Week 5

Nov 24th Interschool Athletics

Nov 25th – Sydicate 2 Athletics

Week 6

Nov 29th – Sydicate 1 Flower Show

Week 7

Dec 8th – Sydicate 1 Athletics

Week 8

Dec 13th – Year 6 Graduation

Week 9

Dec 20th – Mufti day and second hand uniform sale.

Last day of 2011

*all dates are subject to change