

TE AWAMUTU PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Together Achieving Personal Success'

16 February 2012

Welcome to Week 3, Term 1 - 2012 Principal's Diary...

The staff & students at TAPS would like to welcome Miss Kelly Armstrong to Room 6 (Syndicate 3). Kelly has come from Oaklands School in Christchurch. She is a talented multi-sport athlete & netball player and we are excited and pleased to welcome Kelly to TAPS.

Over the coming weeks, we have some exciting things happening... On March 12th, the whole school will be hosting "Mish Mash" a popular children's programme on Central TV (Freeview Channel 30). The programme will be covering a variety of school activities and will broadcast them to the wider community.

Constable Steve Ryburn from New Zealand Police along with several Waikato Chiefs players will be visiting over the coming weeks to share the "Kia Kaha" NZ Police Anti-bullying Programme. This programme delivers very strong messages to our school and community that bullying is unacceptable and that we ensure a zero tolerance to bullying.

Sharon Holt will be returning for a visit on Thursday 1st March. Sharon is a talented local author and has written many popular books. The children of Kihikihi & Te Awamutu were the inspiration behind her new Te Reo Sing-along books that make learning Te Reo Maori, fun. Sharon will also be visiting Kihikihi Kindergarten on Wednesday 22nd February from 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

I would like to congratulate our 2012 leaders. These students have shown leadership skills and responsibility throughout. The school ambassadors are Katrina Amituanai and Justice Henry-Brown. Our house leaders are as follows:

Aotea – Sam Patel with Tyrah Rowland as deputy leader
Tokomaru – Chloe Cox with Reagan Rockcliffe as deputy leader
Tainui – Rhys Davies with Abby Addis as deputy leader
Te Arawa – Katrina Amituanai with Jordan Ferrier as deputy leader
Well done to you all.

Yours in learning
Gareth Duncan ☺

SCHOOL NOTICES

Strategic Plan/School Charter

The Board of Trustees would like to invite all parents to take a look at the school website in the coming weeks under 'Strategic Plan 2012 – 2014' for an understanding of our learning targets. The document is available for viewing at the school office and will be posted on the web site in early March with the 2012 targets outlined.

Student led Conferences - Meet the teacher:

To start the academic year we will be holding a meet the teacher and goal setting evening for you and your child during week 4 (21st & 22nd February). We would like to advise all parents/caregivers that **school will close at 2pm on these days** and we would ask that you pick your child/ren up from school at 2pm or arrange alternative collection for your child/ren. After School Care will run as usual for those children who attend this service with an earlier start time of 2pm on these days to accommodate the early school closure. Interview times can be made online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/home - The school event code is FTR&J.

Wednesday Wonderland

We would like to extend an invite to all our pre-school community (all children 4.5 years and older) to take up the offer of attending our preparation for school programme run every Wednesday afternoon with Maree Parkes (new entrant teacher and TAPS community connector). The programme is fully funded by the school and therefore free of charge. The 2012 programme will commence today, Wednesday 15th February and runs from 1.30pm – 3pm. For more information, contact the school office on 871 5378 or office@taps.school.nz *PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Wednesday Wonderland on Wednesday 22nd February.

Swimming

Swimming is an important part of our school programme and is compulsory for all children. Please try to ensure your child has named swimming gear, including togs, towels and underwear, each day during the swimming season (Term 1), unless he or she is unwell. Parents are requested to send a note to school if they wish their child to be excused from swimming on any particular day.



School Dental Clinic Service

The dental technicians have advised us that they will be on site as of 20th February 2012. For all general enquires, phone 0800 TALK TEETH. The new mobile dental unit will be located in our car park at the rear of the school.

Uniform

All children are required to be in correct uniform at all times unless you have been advised otherwise.

UNIFORM SCHEDULE

- Blue/white short sleeve polo shirt with monogram
- Blue/white long sleeve polo shirt with monogram
- Navy polar sweat with monogram or navy polar vest with monogram
- Navy track pants or trousers
- Navy Skort
- Navy Shorts or ¾ pants
- Navy bucket hat
- Navy knee high or ankle socks
- Black or blue shoes or sandals – NO jandals or multi coloured shoes

The uniform room is open every Wednesday morning from 8.15am – 9am in the hall. More information may be found on the school website. www.taps.school.nz

Moo Milk Monday

Your child can purchase flavoured milk & a cookie for \$2 at morning tea time on Mondays from the hall foyer

Lunches

Due to receiving late notification from our supplier that they are no longer able to provide the lunch service we have no alternative but to inform you that school lunches are currently unavailable. We are in the process of seeking a new supplier and will notify you when the lunch service is up & running again. We apologise for the inconvenience.

Lost Property

We have a large number of items in our lost property room which is beside Room 14. Please come and browse through if your child is missing any items. ***REMEMBER TO NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING**

An Important reminder for all parents & caregivers.

The Bank Street entrance to the school grounds is for staff and trade vehicles only. The boom gate will be closed during peak times (8.30 – 9.05am and 2.30 – 3.15pm) for child safety. The bus zone on Teasdale Street is strictly for school buses. It is NOT a drop off or pick up zone for your children. Over the last week, we have had a number of parents parking in the bus zone which disrupts the buses and can result in them running behind schedule. Please refrain from stopping there no matter how briefly

School Fees & Consumables Levy

2012 invoices were sent home last week, thank you to those that have paid these. School fees are set at \$50 per child, \$90 for two children and \$120 for 3 or more children. These are due by the 2nd March.

Unfortunately funding received by the Ministry of Education is not great enough to cover all teaching resource costs. It is your donation that helps us meet the cost of these resources, which in turn enables us to provide a fuller and wider education for your child/ren than would otherwise be possible. The consumables levy is compulsory. The levy assists with the cost of paper and photocopied material supplies throughout the year. This fee is \$15 per child, per year.

Phone Books Fundraiser

Te Awamutu Primary School has again been offered the fundraising opportunity of delivering the local phone books around the Te Awamutu Township. We are currently seeking volunteers to deliver these books into letterboxes around the area. Delivery starts this Friday 17th February. If you are able to help we will have the phonebooks ready now and are available for pick up from 8.30am – 9am in the hall or alternatively please contact Maree Parkes in Room 1 or Kim Fabish in the office.

School Houses

Traditionally our school has been divided into four houses named after some of the early Maori migration waka.

Tainui – Yellow

Te Arawa – Red

Aotea – Blue

Tokomaru - Green

Each house has a particular coloured banner. House competitions are incorporated into various sporting events throughout the year – swimming, cross country, jump rope for heart, athletics etc. If you are unsure of which house your child is in, ask your classroom teacher.

PTA

PTAs have been quietly helping the school community for at least 100 years in New Zealand, and will no doubt continue to do so for many more years yet. PTA, Home and School, Friends of the School etc., are all voluntary, non-profit organisations. They are associations of parents and family based in the school, whose aim is to bring into closer relationship the home and the school for the benefit of the children. These groups form a link between the school and the wider community. The child is at the centre of everything parents and teachers do.

Next PTA Meeting will be Wednesday 29th March at 6pm in the staffroom. ALL WELCOME!!!!!!

2012 Term Dates

- Term 1 Tuesday 31st January – Thursday 5th April
Term 2 Monday 23rd April – Friday 29th June
Term 3 Monday 16th July – Friday 28th September
Term 4 Monday 15th October – Friday 14th December

Statutory Holidays

- Auckland Anniversary – Monday 31st January
Waitangi Day – Monday 6th February
Good Friday – 6th April
Easter Monday – 9th April
ANZAC Day – Wednesday 25th April
Queen's Birthday – Monday 4th June
Labour Day – Monday 22nd October

A few other dates to mark on your calendar

- Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22 February – Student Led Conferences (Meet the teacher/goal setting)
Friday 24th February – Syndicate 2 swimming display
Wednesday 29th February – Leap Year Mufti – gold coin donation
Friday 2nd March – Syndicate 4 swimming sports (postponement date Monday 5th March)
Tuesday 6th March – Syndicate 3 swimming sports (postponement date Wednesday 7th March)
Friday 9th March – Syndicate 1 swimming display
Monday 12th March – Inter-schools swimming sports

Community Notices

Waipa Mayoral "FUN" Cycle Challenge

The 10km annual cycle challenge will be held Thursday 23rd February starting at the Leamington sports ground, Carlyle Street, Leamington at 5.30pm. Normal road rules apply; the roads will not be closed. Be in to win a new bike. Children under 10 years must be accompanied by an adult during the cycle ride. Younger children can remain at the park for fun cycling activities with Team Energise. Contact Kerin McDonald for more information on 07 823 2510 or email kerinm@sportwaikato.org.nz

Music Lessons

Would your child like to play a musical instrument? Weekly lessons are available with gifted & enthusiastic teachers from the Te Awamutu Auxiliary Brass Band. Students must be 9 years and over. Very reasonable rates for lessons and instrument hire. Please contact Steve on 871 6391 or Jenny on 871 6789.

Pool Party

This year's Pool Party will be at the Te Awamutu Events Centre on Saturday 31st March. Bring your friends and family for a nice relaxing day out at Te Awamutu Event Centre. Lots of fun and laughter and prizes to be won. For more information phone Te Awamutu Event Centre on 8712080. You can start booking in from Monday 20th February.

Student Exchange – Australia & New Zealand

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is currently looking for people to become Community Coordinators in Te Awamutu and the surrounding area. We are a not-for-profit company registered as a secondary exchange organisation with Departments of Education around Australia and with the New Zealand Ministry of Education. Our Community Coordinators are men and women who believe that student exchange is a life changing experience for young people and for the people they come into contact with in the local community. Coordinators assist with interviewing potential host families. If you would like to request a copy of the Coordinator Reimbursement Rates sheet or have any questions about becoming a local coordinator you can either respond to this email or contact me on 1300 135 331 (Australia) or 0800 440 079 (New Zealand).

Waipa Kite Day

Join our community in the FREE, fun event as we celebrate what it is that makes Waipa, the Home of Champions, a great place to live, work and play. Get together with your family and friends, make a kite that shows off the Waipa District Council and win prizes!! You can enter as many kites as you like. All you need to do is: Make your kite! Register on the day and be there at 3.30 for judging. 2 great fun filled days! Albert Park, Te Awamutu on Saturday 17th March from 2pm – 5pm & Leamington Polo Grounds, Cambridge on Saturday 24th March from 2pm – 5pm. For kite making instructions and help visit www.waipadc.govt.nz.

Dynamic Speech Classes – 2012

Roslyn is a passionate oral specialist with over 25 years teaching experience and her aim is to give students from years 1-13 confidence to cope with school and "life's" speaking challenges.

Dynamo classes: specialised for years 1-3 for confidence and clear speech

Effective classes: for years 4-13 to extend oral skills, give confidence and develop speech.

All enquires to Roslyn on 027 248 2888 or email info@chatterbox.net.nz or visit www.chatterbox.net.nz for more information.



Leap-Year Mufti -Wednesday 29th February
Gold coin donation

McDonalds Kihikihi Speedway Demolition Derby 2012

Te Awamutu Primary will be selling family passes (2 adults & up to 4 children) on behalf of Kihikihi Speedway for any event in the 2011/2012 season calendar as from Monday 20th February. The cost of the pass is \$30 with a percentage being donated back to our TAPS 107.8FM radio station. Tickets are available from the office or money can be sent to school in a sealed, clearly marked envelope. The pass will be sent home with your child. Voting will be open shortly for the driver of our TAPS Demo Car. Thank you to all of the brave people who have put their names forward, the response was over whelming.



*****Demo Derby date - 21st April*****



TAPS X FACTOR

Prizes to be won! Get practising now! Singing, dancing, Haka, poi, waiata ...
Show us your talents and be into win. The TAPS X Factor will held
in conjunction with the TAPS Gala on Friday 30th March at 5.30pm.
All enquiries to Whaea Erin.

Te Awamutu Primary School
Twilight Gala



Friday 30th March, 5.30pm at TA Primary School, Teasdale Street



Raffles ... Face Painting
Food & Drinks Games Galore... TAPS X Factor
White Elephant Stall
plus so much more

If you have any items for our White Elephant stall i.e. clean, washed clothing items, appliances (in working order), ornaments, furniture etc. We will be taking donations from Monday 19th March, for enquires please ring the school office 8715378