



ANZ Proudly supports Te Awamutu Primary

14 October 2009

### Principal's Diary...

Kia ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau

Welcome back to the new term. I hope you all had a great holiday and managed to escape for a few days. A big welcome to our new families to TAPS (Te Awamutu Primary School) and the new teachers: Miss Van Dorsten Room 1B, Ms Garland teaching in Syndicate 2, Mrs Jane Ellis teaching in Syndicate 1, Mrs Picard who is now fulltime in Room 18 and our new teacher aides: Kim Fabish and Debbie Fleming. Welcome to you all.

Our student-led conferences last term were a highlight of the positive relationship we are fostering with parents and caregivers as we share your child's learning journey with you. Thank you all for taking the time to spend with your child during last term. We took time last term to thank the many volunteers in our TAPS community and I would like to acknowledge all those people again who have helped a sports team by coaching and managing during term 2 and 3. Our children are extremely lucky to have a well organised sporting community to live in, and parents that help out like you do.

It is with great sadness that we send our condolences to families in our school that lost loved ones during the recent tsunami. You are in our thoughts.

*The foundation of a shared mission (purpose), vision (clear direction), values (collective commitment) not only addresses how we will work to improve our school, but also reinforces the moral purpose and collective responsibility we have everyday.*

### Mission Statement

Every learner will have the opportunity, support and guidance to achieve and celebrate their personal best.

### Vision

**T**ogether **A**chieving **P**ersonal **S**uccess  
@  
**T**e **A**wamutu **P**rietary **S**chool

Please visit the school web site [www.taps.school.nz](http://www.taps.school.nz) for all your up-to-date information. The schools calendar and syndicate calendars will soon be updated and can be viewed on the web site.

### Concerns, issues and complaints:

All enquiries or concerns go first to your child's teacher and then to the Syndicate Leader. If you have further queries to make you would need to make an appointment with one of the Curriculum Leaders (DP's) Mrs Viv Buchanan or Mrs Gill Gibbs. Our DP's support the following areas in our school – Syndicate 1 and 2 = Mrs Buchanan and Syndicate 3 and 4 = Mrs Gibbs.

**Syndicate 1 Leader:** Ms Jane Coles (responsibilities for all Year 0-1 learners and teachers Rooms 1-4, 11 and 1B)

**Syndicate 2 Leader:** Miss Tracy Findlay (responsibilities for all Year 2 learners and teachers Rooms 5-8)

**Syndicate 3 Leader:** Mrs Anna Booth (responsibilities for all Year 3-4 learners and teachers Rooms 9-14)

**Syndicate 4 Leader:** Miss Tara Walter (responsibilities for all Year 5-6 learners and teachers Rooms 15-20)

See Concerns, Complaints and Compliments Procedures on the school web site.

Gareth Duncan

Gareth Duncan  
Principal

### DPS CORNER

#### **Inquiry Term 4**

At TAPS we are proud of the way in which our students work through their social inquiry. This term the school-wide learning scope is "Serving Others". Serving others allows a major focus on the value of integrity supported by the values of excellence, diversity and equity.

Key competencies focused on by teams is thinking, relating to others and managing self.

Our Syndicate Leaders have put together a brief introduction to an exciting term of learning ahead for their students.

#### Syndicate 1:

Our inquiry question this term is "how can we use our talents in music, dance and drama to serve others?" Key learning for children will be:

- That people can entertain others through music, dance and drama
- That people respond differently to movement and music
- That we can tell stories through puppets and acting. and share their talents with our new entrant children.

We will be inviting children, parents/whanau, and friends from the community to come to school to share their talents. Children will be performing a class item at the Family Picnic Showcase on Tuesday, 8th December.

#### Syndicate 2:

We hope you had a lovely break and you are ready for another exciting and busy term of learning in Syndicate 2.

This term our school wide focus is "serving others". This means we will be looking at how we can help others and recognise the people around us that serve us, for example, roles in our schools. In relation to this focus Syndicate 2 will be entertaining you with a concert for our showcase this term, sharing our learning around "what is a celebration?". There will be a gold coin donation for ticket sales and money raised will be going towards the victims of the Tsunami disaster in Samoa. There will be more information to come and we will be calling on your various expertise for costuming, make up, props etc. Your classroom teacher will keep you informed but feel free to pop in and see us if there are any questions or queries. See our Syndicate Newsletter for key learning areas for Term 4 coming out this week.

#### Syndicate 3:

Syndicate 3 will be working very hard this term to answer the question "how can we show selflessness?" Our team of students and teachers want to show selflessness through the arts by holding an Art Exhibition towards the end of the term. We also are pleased to be showing selflessness by preparing shoe boxes of goodies to send to children around the world who are less fortunate than us.

On Monday morning the students in Syndicate 3 were excited to arrive at school to see a visitor playing the Didgeridoo outside our rooms. This left the students asking many questions about music and our inquiry focus this term. A big thank you to Brodie Howe and his family for getting our students excited about their learning this term.

#### Syndicate 4:

For inquiry this term Syndicate 4 are serving others by offering reading support and athletic training programs to our buddy classes in the junior school. We will be raising money for Maungatautari by having a garage sale on the 7<sup>th</sup> November (please come and support). Our trolleys from the Trolley Derby will also be raffled at the garage sale.

As well as "serving others" within our school with reading and physical activities, Room 16 are also sponsoring a child called Midred Mulenga from Zambia. Along with other possible activities, we will be holding a food stall with Room 15 (sweets/muffins etc) at the garage sale on 7 November.

Syndicate 4 has camps coming in week 9. The dates are as follows:

Rooms 15 and 18 - 8<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> December

Rooms 16 and 19 - 9<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> December

Rooms 17 and 20 - 10<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> December

## **SCHOOL NOTICES**

### **Bus Tags**

Last term Go Bus brought to our attention that many of our students are using the bus without a current bus tag. Please ensure that your child has a bus tag for term 4. These need to be purchased from the office by the 30<sup>th</sup> October at the price of \$30. Any child without a tag is unable to use the bus.

### **Lunches**

Please note that hot food is no longer available. This term we have a large tub of jelly with fruit for \$3.50.

### **Uniform Room**

The Uniform Room has hats for sale - \$10 each. These are compulsory for **all** children to wear after Labour Weekend. Summer uniform is available to purchase and we have stock on hand. EFTPOS is available.

### **School Photos**

School photos are next Thursday, all envelopes must be returned by Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Teachers Only Day**

Our Teachers Only Day for this term will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Our Afterschool Care Programme will be open for those families needing care. Numbers will be limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Zero Limits Gym**, sponsors of our school, has a special Gym month that is well worth talking to them about. Pop in and see them for further information.