

3 March 2010

Principal's Diary...

Kia Ora Te Awamutu Learning Family/Whanau,

Over the next few weeks there are key dates to take note of. The BOT information evening/National Standards information evening tomorrow, Thursday 4th March 6pm in the school hall. I will be holding an interactive coffee chat regarding the new Literacy and Numeracy Standards this Friday 5th March at 11.30am in the school hall. On the 17th March, 7pm in the school hall there is an information evening/workshop about sexuality education which is part of the New Zealand Curriculum.

We were informed late last week that the paid union meeting for the teachers is **POSTPONED** until next term. More information will be out soon about the dates. Please disregard previous notices sent home.

Meet the teacher nights have been a great success and we thank you all for taking the opportunity to come and talk to your child's teacher.

This week the main content of our newsletter is our community consultation on the delivery of;

Health and Physical Education at TAPS

Introduction:

Our requirement, as part of the Education Act, section 60B of the Education Act 1989 (as amended in 2001) is to consult the community every two years to update our statement. As such we would like to invite you to review this document and respond with thoughts and ideas that you would like us to take into consideration as we review our statement on the delivery of the health and physical education curriculum.

Board of Trustee's responsibility, in consultation with management is to:

- Resource this curriculum area
- Ensure professional development has been provided for the teachers
- Ensure the teaching and learning programmes cover the School Curriculum Content Objectives (which were identified as our priorities by our parent community).

Health and Physical Education at Te Awamutu Primary School:

The New Zealand Curriculum specifies eight learning areas, with health and physical education being one of those areas.

"Through learning and by accepting challenges in health-related and movement contexts, students reflect on the nature of well-being and how to promote it. As they develop resilience and a sense of personal and social responsibility, they are increasingly able to take responsibility for themselves and contribute to the well-being of those around them, of their communities, of their environments (including natural environments), and of the wider society."

Teachers at Te Awamutu Primary School will follow, in conjunction with gazetted statements and recognised publications of work from the Ministry of Education, the school's health and physical education curriculum programme of work. At Te Awamutu Primary, the focus is on the well-being of the students themselves, of other people, and of society through learning in health-related and movement contexts as prescribed in the New Zealand Curriculum.

We believe that students develop physical and social skills through engaging in play, games, sport, exercise, recreation, adventure, and expressive movement. We need to provide a carefully planned approach to ensure that this development happens in a variety of physical and social environments. Students develop resilience and an understanding of their bodies needs through support, guidance and provision of learning programmes/opportunities appropriate to their age. Strengthening self-worth and personal identity is vital for our students which lead to the development of positive relationships

Concepts:

Four underlying and interdependent concepts, as stated in the New Zealand Curriculum, are at the heart of this learning area:

Hauora (Well-being) – a Māori philosophy of well-being that includes the dimensions taha wairua, taha hinengaro, taha tinana, and taha whānau, each one influencing and supporting the others.

Attitudes and values – a positive, responsible attitude on the part of students to their own well-being; respect, care, and concern for other people and the environment; and a sense of social justice.

The socio-ecological perspective – a way of viewing and understanding the interrelationships that exist between the individual, others, and society.

Health promotion – a process that helps to develop and maintain supportive physical and emotional environments and that involves students in personal and collective action.

These concepts are developed through four strands and seven key learning areas

The four strands are:

- Personal health and physical development - maintaining and enhancing personal well being and physical development.
- Movement concepts and motor skills - develop motor skills and positive attitude towards physical activity.
- Relationships with other people - developing skills and attitudes that enhance relationships with others.

- Healthy communities and environments - students learn to contribute to healthy communities by taking responsible and critical action.

The seven key learning areas are:

Mental health / sexuality education / food and nutrition / body care and physical safety / physical activity / sports studies / outdoor education.

The following activities are provided at our school to address the seven key learning areas and to reflect the New Zealand Curriculum guidelines.

Annual programmes (or integrated in daily programme)

Aquatics & water safety	Ball and striking skills
Cross-country	EOTC – Education Outside The Classroom
Athletics	Sun safety
Daily fitness	Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) - Year 1
Peer mediation training for senior students	Physical Activities Leadership training for senior students
Invasion games	Striking/fielding games
Net/wall games	Run, Jump, Throw
Movement and dance	Playground games
Adventure games	Specialist coaching through Sport Waikato personnel

Biannual programmes

- **Keeping Ourselves Safe** - a positive personal safety programme which aims to provide children and young people with the skills to cope with situations that might involve abuse.
- **Life Education** - Self Esteem, Social relationships, Body Systems, Food and Nutrition. This includes knowledge, understanding and skills relating to sexual development – physical, emotional and social.
 - Developing a knowledge in changes in growth patterns and identifying body parts, stages of growth and development needs.
And for senior students (Year 5 and 6)
 - Developing a knowledge of puberty and positive body image
- **Road Safety, Bike Safety, Bus safety** –With the support of the Police Education Officer (PEO)
- **Jump Rope for Heart** - Jump Rope For Heart makes physical activity fun. It helps children to develop lifelong skills such as balance, rhythm and hand eye co-ordination. It also helps to develop an understanding of the importance of leading a physical and healthy lifestyle. This is done in partnership with The Heart Foundation.

We would appreciate feedback on our present Health and Physical Education topics as we review the programme and plan for the next two years. If there are any aspects you wish to comment on, or any programmes you would like considered for inclusion (or exclusion), please record your ideas in writing or email them to office@taps.school.nz by Friday 19 March.

Please note:

We have had a number of inquires about the sexuality education learning area. We welcome your enquiries and are pleased to invite you to an information sharing evening that is also part of this consultation process.

Date: Wednesday 17th March
Venue: TAPS Hall
Time: 7pm

Gareth Duncan

Principal

SCHOOL NOTICES

Room 17

This year Mrs Mackey is planning to do a big mosaic with a lunch time art group. We are looking for old tiles (broken tiles are fine), so if you have any that you would like to donate to this art project could you please either let Mrs Mackey know to arrange pick up, or drop them into room 17 anytime. Many thanks in anticipation.

PTA Meeting

Monday 8 March at 7.30pm in the staffroom. Please come along and support your school, all new members welcome.

Lunch Orders

If you are able to spare 45 minutes on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, we need your help!!! You will be required from 8.30-9.15am to collate the classroom orders. Please phone the school office on 871 5378 if you are able to help.

Milkshake Monday

Milkshake Monday will resume next Monday. The cost is \$2.00 for a carton of flavoured milk and a choc chip biscuit. We still require 2 more helpers. You would be required every second Monday from 10.15am until approximately 11.15am. Please phone the school office 871 5378 if you are able to help.

Kai and Kōrero

Wednesday 10th March, 6pm in the hall. Bring some finger food, and the whānau! We'll be showcasing what the Te Reo and Tikanga Enrichment class do in their lessons. See you there! **Whaea Erin**