

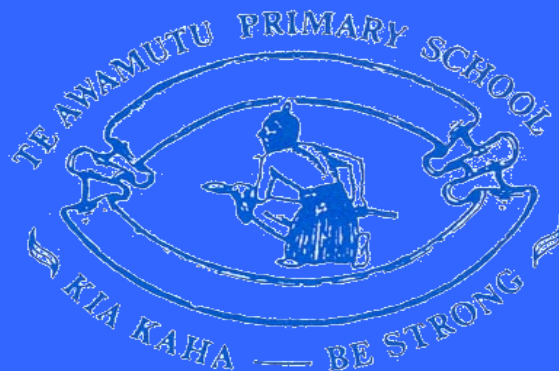
Te Awamutu Primary School

Together Achieving Personal Success

Maa Mahi Tahī Te Eke Panuku A Teetahi



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Te Awamutu Primary School

Together Achieving Personal Success



Hey everyone,
Here we are at the end of week 3 already.

A few of our regular, start of year plans have had to be put on the back burner while we anticipate what might happen with the COVID situation. Thankfully, the first stint at Level 2 only lasted three days. This has meant we have put our usual 'Meet the Teacher' bbq on hold for now. Remember you are always welcome to pick up or drop off your child to class and you are allowed to have a look at their art displays, goals and books at the same time, if you'd like. Teachers are happy to work with you.

This year, Michelle Galbraith in Room 15, is studying to complete her Masters in Literacy. She is only working 4 days per week in class, and is on study leave each Friday. Kylie McKay teaches in Room 15 on this day.

Kylie operates 4 days per week as our designated literacy specialist. TAPS has adapted our whole school literacy curriculum to delve into the Structured Literacy approach this year. We are so committed that we have budgeted to spend around \$150,000 in staffing and resources to improve learning outcomes for ALL children despite their achievement levels. It is particularly great for students who struggle in literacy. We have also written it into our 3 Year Strategic Plan. Staff are very excited and they are invested and engaged in learning about how the brain learns. We've had a call back day at the end of the holidays and a staff meeting for this purpose, already. On the last day of term, **Friday 16th April, we will be having a teacher only day** to continue our professional learning journey as a team. That week, we will also conclude the term with Parent Interviews. These are held over two afternoons/evenings. The interviews will be held on Wednesday evening finishing at 7pm and school will finish after lunch on Thursday so interviews can be held between 2pm and 5pm. We have organised it in this way with the hopes it will reduce pressure on our community - perhaps you can start your school holidays early on Thursday afternoon (15th April). More specific dates and times will come out in the next newsletter.

The TAPS team are elated to share that we made a very large purchase to support our Year 3-6 student's learning in Maths - especially in the event of any more COVID lock-downs. Keep an eye out on our Facebook post for a photo and further explanation.

Next Wednesday the 24th Feb, we have our first board meeting of the year. Anyone is welcome. It starts at 5.30pm in the office.

I'd like to thank everyone for a positive start to 2021. We are all looking forward to facilitating some amazing learning experiences, this year!

Sharon



TIMATANGA NEWS

Timatanga—The beginning of the learning journey for our pipi paopao (tapping out of the egg shell)



Te Awamutu Primary School -
Together Achieving Personal Success



Team 1 Timatanga YO & Y1 Parent Information

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to Term 1 2021

Thank you for your support with helping your child settle into school and to their classroom routines. We have worked extremely hard to create exciting learning spaces for your children and we can't wait to get to know you and your child. Please let us know any information that may help with your child's independent habits; ie letting them do as much as possible for themselves. We welcome any queries or questions you may have.

Team One Expectations.

Team 1's main focus is building your child's skills with Reading, Writing, Spelling through a Structured Literacy approach, Maths and using our TAPS Values to grow independent, kind learners.

At TAPS we know that for children to become confident Readers and Writers they must know all their alphabet sounds and be able to record the symbols for these sounds. You can help your child strengthen their brain pathways by practising alphabet sounds every day in your normal conversations. This will help develop the neuro paths in their brain.

Once they have consolidated and committed these sounds to memory and can record the matching symbol we will move towards Reading.

Reading:

Your child may bring home reading books during the week. Encourage your child with this by reading to and with them. Initially, these will have simple text and pictures, usually with a specific letter sound or sight word focus for the week. These readers may be new, or one your child has brought home before. This is because children enjoy reading and rereading familiar stories and it helps to build their known vocabulary and their reading confidence. On Friday your child will bring home their Poetry Folder to share their poems with you.

Please check that all readers are returned to school each day and that the Poetry Folders are returned to school on Mondays. Remember to keep reading enjoyable.

Writing:

We will build your child's writing skills with identifying letter sounds, reading sentences aloud, writing the sounds they hear, and recording their ideas. Personal experiences and observations will be used to stimulate ideas for writing.

Spelling: Please help your child learn the alphabet letters and their corresponding sounds or spelling words in their Home Spelling & Reading Log Notebook. These letters or words will be tested on Fridays and a new list added once all the letters or words are known.

It is essential for this Notebook to be returned every day.

Maths:

Our main focus each term is Number. This involves counting, forming sets, reading numerals, counting forwards and backwards, and it will involve many hands-on tasks and number games. We will also be covering some work on Statistics this Term; grouping items and constructing simple graphs and also measuring using Volume.

Term 1 Inquiries: We will cover:

Setting the scene for learning, Belonging - Our place at TAPS, getting to know their environment.

Walk around our town- Friday 12th February to make links with our community and the familiar places we go.

Proposed trip to Kāwhia- tentative date - Monday 22nd February - Notification will be forwarded this week.

Maths - Number Knowledge, Statistics, Volume

PE - Swimming, PMP, Small ball skills.

Values - Responsibility, Respect, Relationships and Resilience.

Staying healthy - lunchbox food, Sun safety

Team Assemblies - Every 2nd Wednesday (even weeks) starting in week 2 (10th February) at 9.15 pm in our school hall.

Whole School Assemblies - Monday 10 am (odd weeks)

You are all welcome to attend.

Te Reo - Greetings, Numbers to 10, Simple Instructions, Pepeha

Art - Painting

Technology - iPads, - Sound Rumble, Steps, Starfall, explain everything.

Swimming:

Swimming will take place 3 days a week, weather permitting. All children are expected to participate unless they have a written note to say they are unable to do so. This is a very important part of our PE programme. Children need appropriate swimwear. If you have any queries, please contact us.

Room 3 and 5A swim on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Room 1B swim on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Ruma Kowhai and Kakariki swim on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Arts:

Children will develop their observational skills and our programmes include many visual art activities. We also include drama, dance and performing arts in our programmes. Classes alternate sharing at Timatanga Assemblies.

Homework

It is especially important for children to share their day with you to help support oral language and to read their book and find letters and words that they know. Please ensure homework tasks are done and that these tasks are returned to school each day, in their Book Bag.

Team 1 Teachers

Karen Sykes	Room 1B
Maree Parkes	Room 3 Team Leader
Toni Densem	Room 5a
Nic Edwards	Ruma Kakariki
Caroline Jones	Ruma Kowhai
Lanah Gibbes	New Classroom

karens@taps.school.nz
mareep@taps.school.nz
tonid@taps.school.nz
nice@taps.school.nz
carolinecj@taps.school.nz
lanahg@taps.school.nz

TAIOHI NEWS

Taiohi—Young minds growing, developing their flight feathers and learning to fly

Welcome back to Term 1. It's hard to believe we are already in Week 3 of the term. The first two weeks flew by as we set up our classrooms and got to know each other. We have welcomed two new classroom teachers into Team 2. They are Mrs Elizabeth Ellis in Room 2 and Miss Liarna Slade in Room 11.

Our new classrooms are coming along nicely and the children have enjoyed seeing them take shape. Hopefully R 1, 2 and 4 will be moving soon to become Rooms 8, 9 and 10.

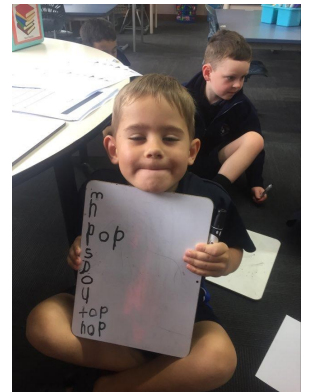
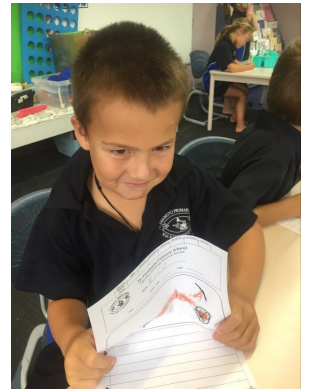
We have been keeping fit doing daily Jump Jam and we are continuing to swim in the school pool. Please make sure students have togs and a towel each day and that they are named. Even if your child's class does not have a swimming slot there is the possibility of a free lunch swim.

Hats are compulsory in Term 1 and need to be brought to school each day. Your class may have a place these can be stored at school if they are not needed at home.

Our Team 2 garden will continue this year, however we are still preparing it for planting again. The weeds got away on us over the holidays. If you wish to lend a hand in our garden please see your child's teacher.

We hope you are enjoying the lovely summer weather.

Team 2 Teachers

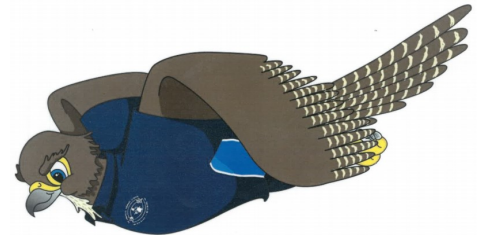


TAUIHI NEWS

Tauihi—First flight of the young Karearea, gliding and developing flight confidence

Team Tauihi children have had a fantastic start to their new year of learning! A big welcome to all of our Year 3 students who are new to our team and to those who are new to TAPS. It is also lovely to see our Year 4 students return to school with positive attitudes and big smiles. We are looking forward to learning together throughout the year ahead. As part of personalising our classroom environments we have been doing self portraits. Here are some of our finished ones. Children had to do some careful thinking to make their portraits look realistic. They have done a great job. We have also been thinking about special people in our lives and how we can acknowledge them.

Room 13 made some beautiful valentines cards.



Classes are looking forward to our museum trip in week 4. We will be walking to the Te Awamutu Museum to learn more about The Treaty of Waitangi and the history of our local area. This fits in with our inquiry topic for the term, 'We're All In This Together'. Notices have been sent home about this trip and only need returning if a parent/caregiver is able to help on the day and time of their child's scheduled museum visit. Thank-you to those who have already offered to come with us.

We have been enjoying our swimming sessions and are already seeing lots of children gain confidence in the water. It is important that all children participate in these sessions and have uniform items and swimming gear clearly named. If your child is not swimming, please supply a note stating the reason, as this is part of our compulsory Physical Education activities at TAPS.

A reminder that our Team Tauihi assemblies are held every odd numbered week on Wednesday afternoons, at 2:15pm in the hall. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join us as we celebrate our learning.





Term 1

February 10th 2021

Topa Newsletter

Together Achieving Personal Success
Mā mahitahi te eke panuku a tētahi

Term one overview:

Kia Ora and welcome back to 2021! We are so happy to be back and it has been amazing to see how well all of our wonderful tamariki have settled into their new classes. A big welcome to all of our lovely new students and their whānau who have started with us at TAPS this year.

In 2021, each term we will have a different 'inquiry' where the students will find out about the world around them. Each class will be based on the same big idea but the teachers will work with their class to differentiate the learning to suit their passions and needs.

This term, we are looking at Social Sciences where the students will learn about rules vs laws, Waitangi Day and laws around the world which will culminate in the students creating a school-wide day of games and activities based around countries they have learned about. Keep an eye out later in the term to find out more about this fun filled-day!

In Topa, we are focussing on being Visible Learners - this means that throughout the year, our students will be able to say what they are learning, why they are learning it and what their next learning steps are. Over the next few weeks, ask your child if they know what level they are for Reading, Writing or Maths - hopefully, they will be able to explain some of their learning to you!

In Maths, we are looking at statistics and addition/subtraction. Throughout the term, your child should put some work on Hero showing what they are learning.

In Reading and Writing, we are looking at a variety of different skills and strategies to help us with any genre.

In Te Reo Māori, we are learning how to introduce ourselves in Māori. This might involve asking whānau at home about their ancestors to help them create a pepeha.

Homework:

This year, Topa students will be receiving a homework sheet each week with some Maths, Spelling, Writing and Reading.

The Topa homework requirements are:

- Spelling - 10 spelling words (these could be commonly misspelt words, related to a sound they are learning or topic words to build their vocabulary).
- STEPSWEB will be available to all students. It is an online literacy programme suitable for all levels and can be used on all digital devices at school and at home.
- Mathematics (basic facts, place value, before and after number sequence). This too can be accessed on all digital devices.
- Reading (children should be reading at home each night, either a book from school or one from home).

Homework sheets will start Monday Week 3 (our first full week) and will be due back every Friday. In preparation for Intermediate, we encourage our students to do some sort of learning at home. The homework will be the same across the whole Topa Team. Please check in with your child/children's teacher if you have any concerns. Communication is key when it comes to enhancing Home-School Partnership.

Swimming:

We have already started swimming for Term 1. Topa students swim a minimum of three times a week. Please ensure your child brings their named tags and towel each day. Swimming is compulsory and an important life skill.

Hats:

In Terms 1 and 4, we have a 'No Hat - No Play' policy. This means students with no hats can only play or sit in the shade. Hats can be purchased at the office.



Uniform:

The school has a school uniform and we have always prided ourselves on the high standard we have. It is expected that all students wear the correct clothing. If your child does not have the correct uniform please provide them with a written and signed notice. Visit our website to view the schools uniform policy. <https://tinyurl.com/taps-uniform>

Before School:

NO students are to be in their classroom before 8.30am. If students are at school before 8.30am they must go, with their school bag, to the deck of Rooms 5/6 if they are not enrolled in Before School Care.

Absences / Sickness:

If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the school office by 9.00am.
Phone: 871 5378 or Text: 021 276 0505

Assemblies:

Whole school assemblies will be held from the first Monday of the term and then every second Monday morning (odd weeks) in the hall at 10.00am.

Topa will be having assemblies to celebrate the learning of our students. These will be on the opposite Monday to whole school assemblies (even weeks) and will start in Week 4 at 9.30am. We welcome any whānau that want to come.

Named Items:

To minimise your child's personal belongings getting lost or misplaced, please ensure all uniform items, hats, jockets, shoes, etc are clearly named. A named item is very easy to find its owner.

Camp 2021:

Last year, only our Year 6's attended camp. This year all six classes (Year 5 & 6) will be going to Totara Springs. Topa camp will be in Term 3 and more information will be sent home as the planning for this develops.

Friday Fun:

Each Friday, the Topa syndicate have a rewards afternoon from 2-2.45. This is to reward our students who are showing positive behaviour. Those children who have not made good choices throughout the week will work with a teacher during this time to learn and work on strategies to manage themselves better.

Staffing / Classes:

With Mrs Neustroski off looking after her baby, we welcome in Miss Kelsey White who has joined us from Mahihi school. A few teachers have changed classes and are as follows:
Whaea Sara Sabin (syndicate leader) - now in Room 20
Miss Kelsey White - now in Room 19
Miss Emily Nash - now in Room 22
Mr Dylan VanDeventer - now in Room 6
Ms Carey Magalei remains in Room 18 and Mrs Candy MacWilliam remains in Room 21.

Topa Term One Events:

February

24th-25th - Senior classes First Aid lessons

March

10th - Topa swimming sports
23rd - Inter-School swimming competition

Please also check the Facebook page and our website for more information and other school dates. Teachers will also send information home regarding class trips and activities.

Good communication skills are essential to achieve positive home - school partnerships.
If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please pop in to see us or email us:

Sara Sabin (syndicate leader) - saras@taps.school.nz
Emily Nash - emilyn@taps.school.nz
Candy MacWilliam - candym@taps.school.nz
Kelsey White - kelseyw@taps.school.nz
Carey Magalei - careym@taps.school.nz
Dylan van Deventer - dylanv@taps.school.nz

Learn to Sail this Summer @ Lake Ngaroto

Weekly on Fridays through Term 1

3.30pm—5.30pm \$200.00

No experience necessary—ages 8+

For more info and to sign up go to

Sailwaikato.com



Kyle Britton

T 020 4025 8041

E kyle@workforyou.net.nz

f @workforyounz

HOUSE GARDEN MECHANICAL WELDING



Te Awamutu Sports JUNIOR RUGBY



2021 Muster Rugby WEIGH-IN Dates!

Thursday 25th February – 5:30pm-7pm

Tuesday 2nd March – 5:30pm-7pm

Thursday 4th March – 5:30pm-7pm

Te Awamutu Sports Clubrooms

Online Registrations NOW OPEN.

Please pre-register prior to attending weigh-in.

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/tasports/Junior-Rugby/Registration-Form>

Email tasjuniorrugby@gmail.com with any queries, or PM via FB.



@TASJuniorRugby

Are you up for fun, friends and
adventure?

The Girl Guiding could be for you!!

We have some spaces in our units for
girls aged between 5-17.

Email

michellegirlguide@gmail.com to find out
more

SIGN YOUR KIDS UP FOR RIPPER OR TACKLE RUGBY NOW



WEIGH IN DATES 2021

1ST MARCH • 5PM-6.30PM

6TH MARCH • 10AM – 12NOON

@ TE AWAMUTU MARIST CLUBROOMS

YOU MUST BE ENROLLED BEFORE YOU COME TO WEIGH IN!!

**Ages 3 - 13 years old
SUBS \$50
(INCLUDES SOCKS)**

Current Juniors can register online:

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/143656>

Contact Junior Delegate: Sophia Powell 021 215 1875 (text only) tamaristjunior@gmail.com