

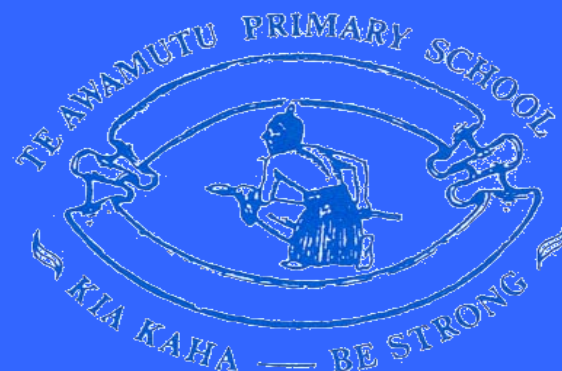
Te Awamutu Primary School

Together Achieving Personal Success

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Te Awamutu Primary School

Together Achieving Personal Success



Hey everyone,

I would like to start the newsletter by acknowledging what a positive start to the year we've had. We've noticed the great attitudes of the majority of students, the willingness to apply effort, take responsibility and build relationships with others. What a great school to be a part of!

Last Friday, one of our amazing cleaners finished up after over 7 years of service cleaning at our kura. I would like to wish Barb Ross a fantastic retirement and we hope to see her again as a relief cleaner. We would like to welcome Courtney Barnes to the team, as Barb's replacement.

Also last Friday, we announced our new Student Leaders for the 2021 year. Congratulations to the following students;

Brea Taitoko (Kaiarahi), Elias Herrick (Kaiarahi), Mia Haimona-Kay, Junior Tamani, Madison Cleaver, Nate Gibson, Ella Harrop, Brody James, Eva Pivott, Jezreel Alota, Ruby Pryor, Cortez Moana-Tui, Charlotte Buchan, Tarn Sutton, Michele Magalei, Blake Murrell, Leah Quinn, Kelly Mathews, Lucy McKay, Kaleb Wilken, Kate Mitchell, Lola Fitzpatrick, Armani Eccles, Cindy Dilley.

We will be celebrating their success at our next whole school assembly on Monday the 15th of March at 10 a.m. We warmly welcome parents to attend as we present the Student Leaders to the rest of the school and also, with their badges. Please ensure students are in perfect, correct uniform.

This week, our new Student Leavers have been given their first community service task. That is, how can we support The Regent Theatre through some tough times as a result of COVID-19. Mr Webb has done so much for T.A.P.S in the past by donating hundreds of dollars worth of free entry tickets and he never asks for anything in return. The history of The Regent Theatre in TA is a part of our community's identity and the children are going to do their best to help maintain it. Therefore, they have organised "**Movie Muffi Madness**" - so the students can have a uniform free day, dress up as a movie character and bring a gold coin donation so we can raise funds for the Regent Theatre. This fun day will be on Wednesday 17th March. Please give generously.

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to Heidi Osborn-Dunn and Vanessa Filer for putting in an application to the Tū Manawa Fund via Sports Waikato. They have been awarded \$3,385 to purchase equipment and storage units to keep our tamariki busy at morning tea and lunch times. Great work, ladies!

It has been reported that we've had a few cases of students with impetigo (or school sores). Impetigo is a common skin infection that causes blisters, often on the face around the nose or mouth, but they can be anywhere on the body where the skin has been damaged in some way, eg. cuts or scrapes. Impetigo sores are crusty-looking and they are very contagious. That means they can be spread easily to other parts of your own body or to other people by touching. We strongly advise you to see a medical professional if you are concerned about sores on your child. They may prescribe a dose of antibiotics. All cuts should be covered to prevent spread and NO children with any cuts, abrasions or sores will be allowed to swim in our school pool, regardless if they are diagnosed as school sores or not. The school has our carpets professionally cleaned on a cyclical basis so they are washed once per year. Keeping children's fingernails clean and short, can also prevent the spread. More information can be found at the [Ministry of Health](#) website.

On behalf of the school, thank you to our community of parents for following our Level 2 protocols over recent weeks. The silver lining of all of the alert level changes is the fact that we get to see increasing independence in our younger students in coming into and out of school each day. It has been a pleasure to stand at the gates to welcome and say farewell to students each day. If the alert levels change we feel that T.A.P.S is in an excellent position to support learning at home although one thing that we've noticed is that parents contact details are out of date all parents are asked to email the office all the teacher to alert to any new information just in case it might be a typo has been done in in putting your data so please check.

Parents, please ensure you role model the importance of using the pedestrian crossings outside of the school every morning and afternoon. Crossing from the intersection of Princess Street across to the busy road, to the middle gate is a disaster waiting to happen. While you may be able to navigate the traffic, your child is far less likely to and may attempt it in your absence. We implore you to use the crossing. We have also been conversing with our neighbours from the Croquet Club on Bank street. Parents are welcome to use their carpark for pick ups and drop offs however please be vigilant when using this entrance as it can be very busy and little people often rush to the car without being aware of their surroundings. We ask that those who use this carpark please keep an eye out for each other. At times the Croquet Club host tournaments for other clubs and therefore their carpark will be full therefore parks will be minimal. Do not park on the broken yellow lines and on the grass verge.

Finally, please check in with the school if you have changed phone numbers, addresses, emails or custody arrangements at any time in the last year. We keep this on file and use it if we need to get a hold of you in case of emergency. We understand that life happens, relationship break ups, rental agreements, job opportunities etc can all have an impact. Please just let us know via a note or email - even if it's just to double check we have the right details. All information is loaded against your child's profile on Hero and is strictly confidential.

Regards
Sharon



TIMATANGA NEWS

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



Timatanga children, parent helpers and teachers had a wonderful time exploring Kawhia. A huge **thank you** to all those parents who were able to support us on this trip. The children thoroughly enjoyed catching sprats off the wharf, visiting Kawhia Museum, as well as playing on the playground. Two of the main highlights were our bumpy bus ride and digging hot pools at Ocean Beach.

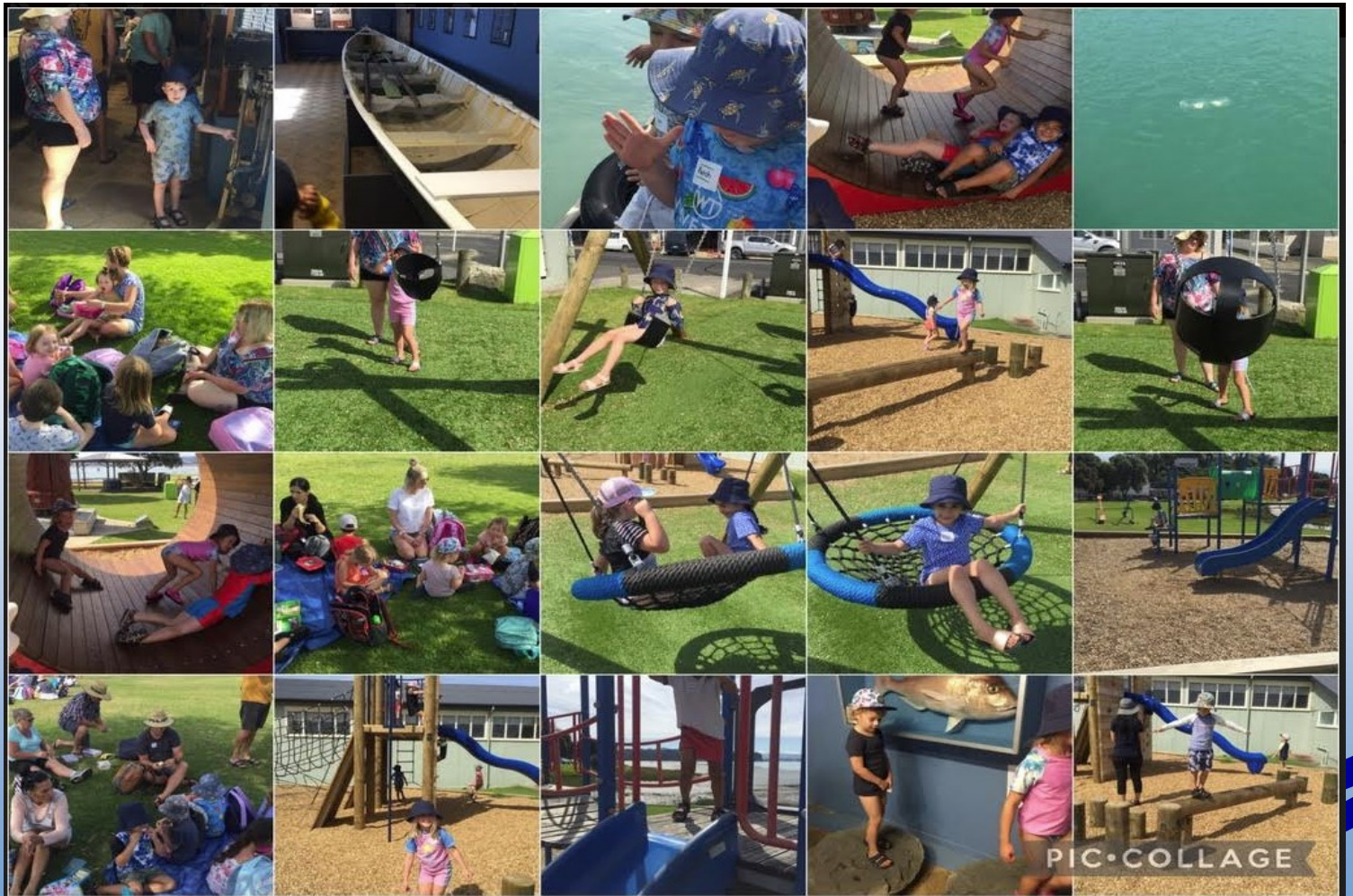
We would also like to thank all of our Timatanga families for supporting children with their alphabet sounds and building automaticity with sounding and blending letters together to build words.

Reminder that toys are to be kept safe at home.

Keep up to date with school communication through the TAPS facebook page and Hero. We appreciate your efforts in keeping your children calm and school ready throughout the changes we continue to experience due to COVID-19. Our children model what they see and hear. We are proud of the way they carry out our hygiene practises throughout the school day.

Kind regards

Team 1 Timatanga Teachers



TAIOHI NEWS

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

Our new classrooms and playground / sandpit area is coming along well. Students are enjoying the excitement with the diggers and all the builders. Often sharing in conversations and finding out what they are doing. Team 2 are showing great resilience and patience while waiting for the construction to be completed.

Swimming

As a team we would like to thank everyone who came and supported our Team 2 swim display on Monday 8th. Swimming is an important part of our curriculum and a real highlight for a lot of our learners. For the remainder of the term while we continue swimming, we will be focusing on water safety exploring concepts such as buoyancy, sun safety, appropriate swimming attire and general water safety skills.

Upcoming events in team 2:

Team 2 assembly - Week 8. Wednesday at 2.30pm in the team 2 court yard.

Community walk - date TBC

What's happening in Room 11

This term we have been exploring who we are. As a part of this we have been discussing heroes in our community, what makes us a hero and creating our pepeha to show who we are as individuals.

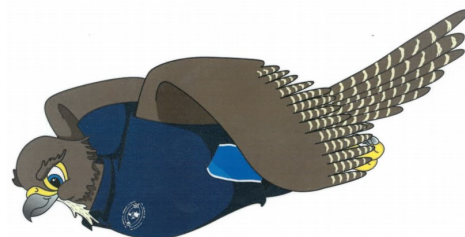
Nga mihi

Team 2 teachers



TAUIHI NEWS

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



What a busy few weeks the students and teachers have had!

On Monday we celebrated our new class councillors for 2021. There were so many brave children who stood up in front of their class and told them why they would make a good class councillor. Well done to you all. Class councillors for 2021 are:

Room 5b - Anika Spires and Jude Oram

Room 12 - Jayela Walton and Noah Ngati

Room 13 - Stanley Stewart and Presley Saunders

Room 14 - Ronan Hinchcliffe and Miley Williamson

Room 15 - Peyton Van Groenedaal and Tay Smart

Room 16 - Tre Magalei and Saffron Cavanagh

Last week we were lucky enough to visit the museum. We learnt all about Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the events that led up to the signing of this. Some of us got to dress up as historical figures from that time. Thank you to the parents who supported us by coming on this trip. We couldn't have done it without you.



TOPA NEWS

The last 2 weeks have been full of productive learning in Topa. Yesterday we had our swimming sports, everyone should be very proud of themselves for the excellent swimming skills but more for the encouragement shown to others.



Here is some fabulous writing from some students in Room 21: The focus was on using conjunctions and adjectives to describe the vegetable gardens and orchard area at TAPS.

Outside Nature, by Teegan Sargent

I heard kids screaming with lots of joy because they were having a bunch of fun but it was too loud.
I heard birds singing but sadly it doesn't sound good.
I saw trees dancing in the wind with joy and the tree leaves were falling off.
I felt a cold wind blowing past my face but it was really nice so I didn't mind.
I felt a bumpy and hard tree.
I wondered why the birds were singing a lot because they were singing super loud but I couldn't see them.
I wondered how much sticky, golden honey the bees were making but we couldn't go close otherwise we would have got stung.

An Area of Peace, By Kaleb Crowley

I heard birds chirping loudly in or around the tree.
I heard kids screaming happily but they will drain energy.
I saw bees flying quickly around their hive and getting pollen.
I felt the wind quickly bash against my back and it was freezing.
I felt the freezing whiteboard on my knees and the grass stabbing my legs.
I wondered how many bees are in the hives but they will sting me furiously like a bullet.
I wondered how many years it will take for tomatoes to grow yet they are still very tiny like a seed.

Beautiful Nature, By Charlotte Buchan

I heard brown birds chirping gracefully so I felt like having a nice peaceful sleep.
I heard little kids having fun playing around in the ocean blue pool but let's hope they will get out soon.
I saw yellow bees buzzing around the place and I hope they won't sting me.
I felt the cold frosty breeze make me shiver but I started to get goosebumps.
I felt the itchy watery grass rubbing across my legs so I got a bit cold.
I wondered if the yellow and black bees were having fun so they were in a good mood to not sting me.
I wondered when the trees would softly calm down so it would start to warm up.



JOIN US FOR A GLAMOROUS

DRESS UP DAY

Dear Parent/Caregivers,

On Wednesday 17th March the TAPS Student Leaders are going to host a Movie Dress Up Day.

Your child/children can dress up in whatever movie character they choose (as long as it's appropriate for school).

Please donate a gold coin to lay on our Oscar outline. All proceeds raised will go to the Regent Theatre.

The owner of the theatre, Mr Allan Webb, has donated hundreds of dollars worth of movie tickets to our school in recent history, so in return we are doing something to help him.

We look forward to seeing your children dressed up as fun movie character(s) next Wednesday.

Thank you!
TAPS Student Leaders