

Te Awamutu Primary School



Together Achieving Personal Success

Friday 9th July 2021—Week 10 Term 2

Happy last day of term everyone! From the look of the attendance statistics and the tired eyes around the school, I think everyone is looking forward to a restful school holiday break.

Sadly, I need to share with our wider community that Vanessa Filer has handed in her resignation. She has been successful at winning a position at Patricia Avenue School, supporting students with special needs. This is an area of strength and passion for Vanessa and Patricia Ave are very lucky to have recruited a dedicated professional like Vanessa. Vanessa's last day at TAPS will be Friday August the 13th. Vanessa's resignation coincides with the return of Vicki Neustroski from maternity leave. Originally, we had planned for Vicki to establish the seventh new entrant classroom later in Term 3 but, in consideration of all factors, it has been decided that Vicki would be an ideal replacement, mitigating many of the challenges of a mid-year (and potentially a mid-term) transition between teachers. We are now on the hunt for a new entrant teacher to join our TAPS whānau mid-term three.

There are a few TAPS families moving out of the area, and today is their last day at our school. We wish you well at your new schools, near and far. We know that the values and learning you have been instilled with during your time at TAPS will set you up for personal success at your new schools. Please keep in touch.

At the moment our school roll is sitting around the 540 mark, with some new enrolments coming in we will increase to 546 quickly - this being the number that we finished 2020 at.

During this roll growth, we are proud that we have maintained quality learning opportunities. Kylie McKay summarised the progress made in Structured Literacy to our Board of Trustees in the latter half of June (now termed nationally as "The Board"). The improvements have been phenomenal. From parent feedback and teacher observation, we know we have to keep the learning occurring at pace in new and exciting ways in order to maintain this level of accelerated progress. Interestingly, a common area where performance was lower across the school was in student's ability to generate rhyme (goat, boat, stoat, float, moat, coat...) So if you read to your child during the holidays, perhaps pick a book with a bit of rhyme in it and have a go at making up funny words that rhyme. Boys love this when the rhyme is generated with rude words like art, cart, f...! The other learning areas are being reported to The Board in the July meeting. I will share some of that with you in the next newsletter.

Today, all of your child's mid-year progress report comments will go live. You may have seen further narrative posts through the term. You will have seen evidence of your child's work, a 'learning intention' with indicators for success called 'success criteria', followed by a comment written by the teacher effectively marking the piece of work against the criteria. These will be in reading, writing and maths and inquiry. A general comment will also be posted. Please feel free to write a comment below the post to your child to share any positive praise. Teacher's don't get notifications when comments are made, so please understand they are not being rude if they don't reply.

Property wise...we are still waiting for Room 17 building to start. Also, it is likely that in the next holidays our administration area will be undergoing a refurbishment for the first time in over 20 years. Other than that, we are tracking along nicely and fielding kind comments from the community saying how lovely

Other than that, we are tracking along nicely and fielding kind comments from the community saying how lovely our school is looking.

Have a wonderful and restful holiday break with your children.

We will see you in two weeks.

Ngā mihi Sharon

Website: www.taps.school.nz	Phone: 078715378	Email: office @taps.school.nz	Facebook.com/taprimary	Absentee text only: 021 276
				0505



What a busy time the last few weeks of learning have been! We celebrated the shortest day with a Pyjama Day. We had a delicious time trying a healthy breakfast of porridge, just like the Three Bears and Goldilocks. We were very lucky to have the choice of healthy peaches or some of our very own TAPS produced honey to add on top - YUM!

We have had the pleasure of visiting Nicky & Harold from Life Education Trust over the last couple of weeks.

On Tuesday night we had a Matariki disco and WOW did we have a great time or what.

Today we are having Matariki Kai Day with the profits from our disco. At lunchtime, we will be flying kites and eating pizza ... YUMMMY!

We hope you all have a fabulous term break and spend time with loved ones. We can't wait to see you all on Monday 26th July for the start of another busy, fun filled term of learning.



Tauhi

It is hard to believe, but here we are halfway through the school year with the end of Term two. We have had a fun term with our Inquiry learning about Space. There has been alien madness and space journeys.

Congratulations to the big crowd from Team Three who ventured off to Ngaruawahia for the Tough Guy mud run. A big thank you to Miss Filer and Miss Kerrison for organising the fifty TAPS students and getting everyone there and back safe and sound.

Thanks to Nikki and Harold we have enjoyed learning about our bodies, beginning with our circulatory system and then learning about our brain.

Production is next term (week 8), please let your teachers know if you can help out before or after production. We need sewers and costume organisers. Also, parent helpers that could possibly help out during performances.

Team Tauihi teachers hope you have a safe and happy holiday.



Wow, another Term is over! Team two have had an awesome and productive few weeks. We planted our team garden with lots of winter vegetables and a border of colourful

pansies. All classes came out to help plant and then we sang "Let it Grow" together. We are looking forward to the produce being ready next term.

Room 8 and 10 made some kites to celebrate Matariki last Friday. They collected sticks from the gully and then used bits and pieces to create their kites. All classes are continuing to celebrate with Matariki activities this week.

Over the last few weeks all classes have visited the Life Education truck and met up with Nicky and Harold. We have been learning about our wellbeing and healthy eating.

From Team 2 we wish you a happy and safe holiday and we will see you back next term. Team 2 Teachers.





Topa Sports News

Last Thursday, Topa team sent 4 sports teams to the Winter Sports Tournament. They competed in Hockey, Soccer, Turbo Touch and Tapu ae. Teams played 3-4 games over the day with some impressive final results.

Our soccer teams came 3rd and 4th.

Our hockey team came 2nd.

Our turbo touch teams came 1st and 2nd.

All students showed great sportsmanship and represented our school with pride. TAPS ended up winning the tournament overall which is an awesome achievement. The sun shone, the kids smiled, and we are so proud of them all!

Term 3 Preparations—Camp & Production

The whole team will be preparing for both camp and production next term. A form has gone out to all Topa parents/caregivers with relevant information for both events. Please get in touch with your tamariki's teacher if you are willing or able to help with either of these massive events.

Have a great school break everyone!

Nga mihi

Topa Teachers

Production News

A reminder our production is week 8 **next term**. Shows are Wednesday 15th and 16th September. Some teachers are beginning to send newsletters home to explain what is happening with routines and costumes. Please let your teacher know if you are able to help out in any way. Our lead cast have been super busy with rehearsals, and loving it!!

"Hi, I'm Tom, (A.K.A Frederick.) I'm the cheeky kid, meaning, I crack jokes at the most awkward moments. I put specific gross things down people's backs and do everything possible to annoy people. I try to get out of boring things.....and I HAVE FUN!!!!! So yeah that's me, Tom(AKA Frederick)"

> Many thanks Production Team, Erin Westgate and Caroline Jones



