

# Te Awamutu Primary School

*Together Achieving Personal Success*



2 November 2022—Week 3—Term 4 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week 3 whānau! As always thanks for being a part of our community and for everything you contribute to make it a better place to learn and work.

Today's newsletter is mainly an administrative one, to ensure we are communicating openly and to the best of our ability; things coming up. Forewarned is forearmed, as they say, and we acknowledge the 'busyness' of everyone leading up to the end of the year and the stress that comes with it.

If there is anything you would ever like to know, please ask. We are only a phone call away.

Something that was asked toward the end of last term was 'why didn't TAPS participate in the free lunch scheme like other local schools?' The simple answer is we aren't eligible. Ka Ora, Ka Ako or the Healthy School Lunches Programme is targeted at the top 25 percent of students in schools and kura facing the greatest socio-economic barriers nationally. Now that the Ministry has changed the system from deciles to equity index numbers, they say they will be able to review eligibility yearly from now on, so who knows what the future may hold. We do not currently fall in the top 25 percent nationally.

You are probably aware that this Friday the 4th is Gumboot Friday. Gumboot Friday is an initiative created by I AM HOPE to provide FREE kids counselling in a timely manner. We believe this is an excellent cause and it is one that we have referred many of our community members to, but we also acknowledge that we have donated a lot to other charities recently and families and whānau may be overwhelmed. **Therefore, TAPS is pledging \$1 for every child enrolled at our school on Friday 4th of November** (approximately \$586). If any whānau wish to contribute further to our donation then you are welcome to send your child with a gold coin, but it is completely optional. It is a uniform day as usual, but if your child/children wish to wear gumboots for the day, then that's all well and good with us!

I am now able to share that both Emily Nash and Charlotte Brough have tendered their resignations for next year. Charlotte is taking some time away from teaching to recharge and try something new. Emily is a Palmy girl and is heading home to be with her family before jetting overseas on her big OE mid-year. As always, the loss of these two amazing teachers is a hard one to bear but they will always be a part of our TAPS extended family and we will endeavour to keep in touch and follow their progress through their future adventures. We currently have a number of positions advertised in the Ed Gazette and will announce appointments in due course.

It is that time of the year when we invite parents to write a letter to Senior Leadership to share information about their children as learners, so that we can best place your child in their 2023 classroom. Please note we **do not take requests for teachers**. Placements are made by considering the balance of gender, learning abilities, experience of the teacher, ethnicities, behaviours, as well as other factors that effect the dynamics of the learning environment. All letters can be emailed to [kimt@taps.school.nz](mailto:kimt@taps.school.nz) or [chrisr@taps.school.nz](mailto:chrisr@taps.school.nz) no later than **Friday 18th November at 3pm**. We will be using computer software to generate draft lists initially, before consulting with staff regarding relationship considerations. No last minute submissions will be considered as the timeline for the process is too tight.

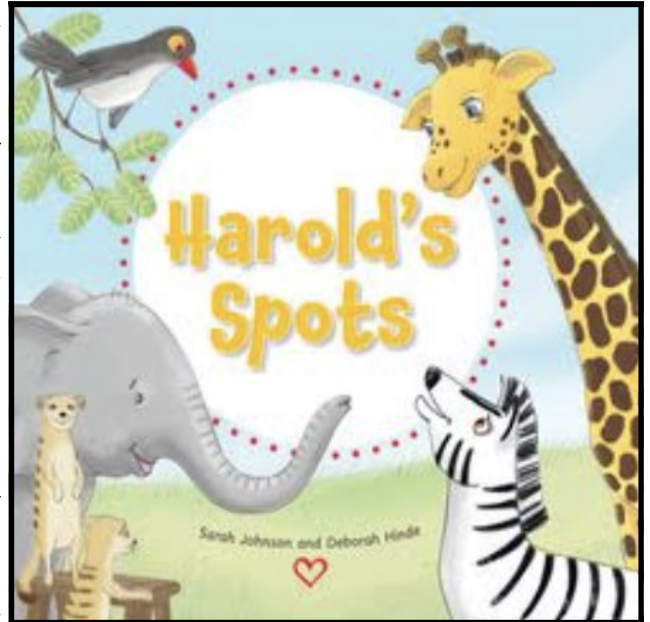
If you know that your child or children will not be attending TAPS in 2023, please advise the Office as soon as you are able by emailing [office@taps.school.nz](mailto:office@taps.school.nz). There is also a process for removing students from the roll and transferring learning profiles to other schools. The earlier we can get this done, the more advantageous for your child. It also helps to know this information when we do the classroom placements for 2023 so we don't spend time potentially agonising over relationship issues or classroom imbalances.

Likewise, if you have a 4 year old who is due to start at TAPS in 2023, please let us know asap so that we can plan for their arrival well in advance. For example, securing excellent teachers at the start of the year when they tend to move around, rather than trying to source someone mid-year when teachers are generally more reluctant to shift. It also enables us to make more informed decisions about the organisation of Wednesday Wonderland due to its popularity, especially at certain times of the year.

Despite the COVID protocols being long gone, we still have a number of parents picking up their children very early or dropping them off late. Either way, they are missing core learning time that is needed in order to catch up after three years of disrupted learning. It might not be the academic learning they are missing, but the social interactions and the comfort of regular routines that children usually thrive under. Please ensure your child is at least here by 8.55am every day and stays in class until 3pm. If you need to pick them up early for a medical appointment etc, they must be signed out in the office as per our safety protocols (imagine if there was a fire or earthquake and their absence wasn't accounted for on our roll). Our Office staff have been instructed that they are no longer allowed to send children out to meet their parents in the car. Parents must sign their children out themselves (also because of safety reasons)



Every second year we are lucky enough to host Life Education Trust and Harold the Giraffe in their large mobile classroom unit. Through fun interactive sessions, the Life Ed Teacher and Harold help young people build their identities and make positive choices in a complex world including how all our body systems work and what they need to do to keep healthy. In order to help raise funds to operate the mobile classroom across Waipa and the King Country, the trust has a \$200,000 annual fundraising target. Life Education has a special children's story book titled, *"Harold's Spots"* written by Sarah Johnson and illustrated by Deborah Hind, for sale. It is an uplifting story about learning to love the skin you're in and is suitable for primary aged children.




Te Awamutu Primary are taking orders for the purchase of the book, on behalf of Life Ed. For \$20 you are getting a great and endearing story and helping to support the continuation of the mobile classroom across the rohe. Orders can be placed through the school office and TAPS even gets a portion of the funds raised, back! The mobile classroom will also be visiting us at Christmas in the Playground so families can visit and explore the classroom for themselves and perhaps buy a book then.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish our amazing Kapa Haka Rōpu the best of luck for their up and coming performance at the festival on the 11th November. It's such an inspiring event to go and watch and parents are welcome to attend, even if your child isn't participating. Kia Kaha!

Nga mihi

Sharon



Te Awamutu Primary School will donate \$1 per student (at school this Friday) to the I am Hope initiative.

We have Students are welcome to wear your gumboots on Friday.

For more information on this charity, check out the website [www.gumbootfriday.org.nz](http://www.gumbootfriday.org.nz)

**Raising funds to provide FREE and timely counselling for young people**



## Te Awamutu Primary School

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*Maa Mahi Tahī Te Eke Panuku A Teetahi*

### Principal's Award Winner

## TIMATANGA

Term 4 2022 - Week 2

### Asher Collins

You have become a wonderful role model in Room 2 Asher. It is an absolute pleasure to have you in our class. You show our TAPS values all the time. You look out for others during our day and like to see everybody happy. You can always be relied on to take care of our classroom and keep everything in the right place ready for learning.

You also show great common sense and responsibility out of the classroom. You even look after parent visitors very politely and without being asked which is fantastic to see.

Through the year you have given more and more focus to your learning and always try your best.

Congratulations Asher. You are amazing.



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### Principal's Award Winner

## TAIOHI

Term 4 2022 - Week 2

### Yvah Ferreira

Yvah is an absolute delight to have as one of our class members in Room 7. She is very conscientious and consistently shows the TAPS values. Yvah is a fantastic role model with her positive attitude to all her learning and responsible choices. She gets on well with all her peers and willingly helps others. Yvah is very patient and has a kind and caring nature. She achieves at a high level because she always tries her best and takes pride in everything that she does. She gives everything a go and is actively participating in lots of out of school activities as well, such as Competitive Gymnastics and Cheerleading. Yvah, you are amazing and we love having you in our class. Keep shining and be very proud of your wonderful you!



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### Principal's Award Winner

## TAUIHI

Term 4 2022 - Week 2

### Akadius Collins

Akadius, you are such a shining star in our class. During production you stood out as a leader and a role model, stepping out of your comfort zone and giving it your all. We love the way you approach your learning with passion and pride, rising to each new challenge and pushing yourself further and further, always with a beaming smile on your face. Akadius, you are so kind and caring to those around you, you exemplify the TAPS values in every way possible. We can always count on you to act with integrity, you are a real leader in our class. Other students often look to you for guidance and support and you're always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. Akadius, we know you will continue to be a high flyer as you move up into Team 4 next year.



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### Principal's Award Winner

## TOPA

Term 4 2022 - Week 2

### Caileigh McCullough

Caileigh you have stepped outside of your shell this year and impressed both your peers and teachers. You are kind, confident and very helpful, and have been a role model for others. You are very trustworthy and I always know that you will do the right thing. You are often the first to offer to help around the classroom and you use your initiative to notice when things need to be done. Caileigh, you have a positive attitude towards all areas of schooling and you have shown great perseverance and resilience this year, taking advantage of opportunities where given. You try your best and it is showing in the progress you have been making with your learning. Keep being you Caileigh, you are going to do extremely well at Te Awamutu Intermediate next year.





## **Put these dates on the fridge:**

11th November - Kapa Haka Festival.  
14th November—Team 3 & 4 Athletics Day.  
18th November—Team 1 & 2 Athletics Day.  
2nd December - Year 6 Orientation at TAI starting at 9.15am. &  
Thank you Morning Tea.  
4th December—TA Xmas Parade.  
6th December—Road Patrol Reward day &  
Tauihi Final Assembly.  
7th December - Year 6 Graduation Evening - A formal event.  
8th December—Year 5 Prizegiving.  
12th December - Meet your 2023 Teacher, class swap at 12pm &  
Christmas in the Park 5pm onwards.  
14th December—Timatanga Xmas Concert & Graduation  
15th December - School closes at 12.45pm.

# **Enviroschools**



**DID YOU KNOW** it is estimated that every New Zealander throws away 159 grams of plastic waste per person a day. That's 58kg per person each year! A huge plastic that is thrown away is plastic wrap. Here are some alternatives for the lunchbox:

- Beeswax wraps
- Containers

Or nude foods (no plastic at all) plastic waste per person a day. That's 58kg per person each year!

**A huge thank you to  
FMG for supporting our  
Ag Day students with  
some giveaways.**

**FMG**  
Advice & Insurance

