

# THE TAWHAI TIMES

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Naumai e te whanau o te kura Tawhai  
Tena koutou katoa

A very warm welcome to all our new families who have recently joined the Tawhai School community.

Tawhai School continues to be a very busy place with lots of exciting opportunities and activities for the children. The autumn leaves look amazing and the school is absolutely thriving thanks to the dedicated staff and wonderful community support. With the weather starting to cool please ensure your child has warm clothing and is well prepared for school each day. The cooler months usually bring with them colds and the flu and we want to maximize student attendance so they can maintain the momentum necessary for them to achieve their individual learning goals.

## BOARD NEWS

It has been a very busy start to Term 2 for the Board of Trustees. There are a number of exciting challenges that we are facing at the moment and it is certainly keeping us busy. One of our key focuses is the appointment of the new Principal. We are well underway with this now and we were delighted to be able to appoint Karen Poole as the Acting Principal for Term 3. A vital part of the process is gaining some feedback from the Tawhai School Community about what sort of person you would like to see as the new Principal. To this end, we have been working with the staff and students to gain an understanding of their views. The Student Council did a fantastic job speaking to the students on our behalf and the feedback has been very interesting. The final part of the consultation process is to hear from the parents and caregivers. **We would really appreciate it if you could take a few moments to complete a survey for us in order to help guide our decision making process.** This won't take up too much of your time and will give the Board some valuable information. Please follow the link to complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PrincipalCharacteristics>

Another key focus is the upcoming Board of Trustees elections. You will have received in the post a nomination form for this. If you have any questions about the process please feel free to email me on [chairperson@tawhai.school.nz](mailto:chairperson@tawhai.school.nz)

Keep an eye out on the Website and Facebook page for more updates as they happen.

Kind Regards

Stu Berkeley  
Chairperson

## PTSG NEWS

On Thursday 5 May the PTSG held the AGM. The election of officers are as follows:  
Chairperson – Brenda Barnes  
Treasurer – Sharon Judd  
Secretary – Sharon Marshall

Teacher Representative – Jill Finlayson

Committee members – Sarah Gray, Rachael van Diggele, Wayne Hardgrave, Linda Richmond, Debbie Cooper, Cathy O'Grady, Gemma McLean, Mark Cohen, Shelley Steer, Melinda McGinty and Angela Whitmarsh.

Our next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 1 June. All are welcome to attend our meetings.

### Upcoming Fundraising Events:

- Coffee Cart: We have arranged for the Startex Espresso Coffee Cart (from Caltex Stokes Valley) to sell Tea, Coffee and Hot Chocolate during the Cross Country on **Tuesday 24 May**. **This is a Cash Only facility** with prices ranging from \$3.50 - \$5.00. **Caltex Stokes Valley** will donate a generous percentage per cup sold to the PTSG. Your support would be appreciated.
- Sausage Sizzle: It has been a while since the PTSG held a sausage sizzle. This will take place on Friday 3 June.
- ABC Photography Fundraiser: We have booked Amanda Williamson from ABC Photography for this fundraising event. It has been several years since we have done anything like this so please put **Sunday 19 June and Sunday 26 June** on your calendars. More information will follow closer to the time.
- Gate Combo: Friday 8 July

Kind Regards  
Brenda

## **WELCOME TO ASHLEE AND ALYSE**

I'd like to introduce Ashlee Killen who is the new teacher in Room 6. Ashlee is excited to be at Tawhai School and loves being in the Year 3/4 syndicate. Ashlee has taught a range of age levels but more recently was teaching at Maidstone Intermediate. I am sure you will help make Ashlee feel welcome and we look forward to seeing the students of Room 6 shine under her guidance.



Alyse started with us at the end of term 1 and was working with Deb Barnden (room 10) to help support the transition of the new students. This term Alyse has her own classroom which is room 16 and is enjoying working with her lovely little learners to Tawhai School.

## **TAWHAI BOYS HAKA PRACTICE**

While writing this newsletter I heard the boys practicing the haka out on the courts next to the stage. They sounded fierce with their voices booming across the school. So much that I had to go out to see them in action and what



I saw made me incredibly proud as a Principal. The group were respectful and listened attentively to matua Whaitiri's feedback, worked well as a team, responded in unison to Tama's lead calls and demonstrated a true sense of pride in themselves, each other



and the school as a whole. Well done boys and keep up the positive attitude and commitment towards training. Can't wait to see you perform at the cultural festival later this term!

## MATHLETICS

Well done to all the children who have been using Mathletics at home to support their learning. Here are our top point scorers so far:

Zeph Olive	Yr 3	27,148
Joel Wood	Yr 4	23,367
Quentin Howsan	Yr 5	20,357
Brianna Garrety	Yr 5	18,836
Ethan Austin	Yr 3	17,033
Ollie May	Yr 6	15,354
Meah Brown	Yr 3	15,057
Jessica Wiggins	Yr 3	14,421
Cooper Philips	Yr 3	14,397
Casey Kyle	Yr 3	14,197



Keep up the great work!

## SPORTS

This term is a busy one for sport with Netball, Tiniball, Miniball, and Waterpolo commencing.

A big thank you to Jacinta Glynn, Samantha Smurthwaite, Chelsea Sullivan, Sharon Judd, Shelley Howsan, Junior Bates, Craig McMillan, Melissa McGinty, Colleen Taylor, and Dominic Wright for coaching teams.



**Sport uniforms will be given out when the fees have been paid.** Attending practices is just as important as playing on the day to enable teams to work together and for players to improve their skills. Please could this be reinforced to students as this will determine the amount of game time players will have. The draw for each sport will be posted on the website when available.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Don't forget we are selling Entertainment books for \$60.00. \$12.00 from each book purchased will go towards the uniforms for Pasifika/Kapa Haka. Thank you to those who have purchased books.



## IMPORTANT DATES

*[Please keep checking our school website for the most up to date events calendar]*

- 20 May – Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying day)
- 23 May – Student Council visit Stokes Valley kindergarten
- 24 May – School cross country (26 May postponement date)
- 31 May – Science ICAS exam

- **6 June – Queens Birthday (public holiday)**
- 7 June – Northern zone cross country (9 June postponement date)
- 14 June – Writing ICAS exam
- 15 June – Spelling ICAS exam
- 21 June – Interzone cross country (23 June postponement date)
- 28 June – 1 July – Polyfestival
- 4-8 July – 3 way conferences (days to be confirmed)
- 5 July – Regional cross country (7 July postponement date)
- 8 July - Last day of term 2 and Gate Combo.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kia pai tō rā

Kia ora

Matt Skilton

Principal

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Free Slides | Live DJ | Spot Prizes  
Spa | Inflatables

**AQUA BEATZ**  
Friday 27 May  
7 - 10pm

**Youth week**

supported by

H<sup>2</sup>O Xtream, Corner Blenheim & Brown Streets Upper Hutt  
For more information tel: 04 527 2113 or visit: [www.h2oxtream.com](http://www.h2oxtream.com)