

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.

It is my great pleasure to be in the role of Acting Principal this term and what a fantastic start we have had to the term already! The children have started their learning on our school wide environmental focus for this term Land and Native Bush. The classrooms are already looking great with truffula trees growing everywhere!

A continued focus for teachers is developing their knowledge and understanding of student agency practises. Teachers will be attending professional development "twilight" sessions next week to support their on-going learning.

Some ways that you can support student agency at home is by asking the questions below:

- Tell me about your learning today?
- What are your next steps?
- How can I support you with your next steps?

"Empowering students to become more self-directed learners and helping teachers and parents further develop these skills in their children can significantly increase students' motivation and achievement in school."

Clery and Zimmerman, 2004, cited in Gibbs and Poskitt, 2010, page 21

A big thank you to those parents who attended the Three Way Conferences with their children at the end of term. We had a large turnout which reflects how committed you are in supporting your child's learning. If you were unable to make the times allocated last term, please contact your child's classroom teacher and arrange a time.

My change in role has led to a few other changes for Term 3:

- Lynley Poole Acting Deputy Principal Year 0-3.
- Deb Barnden Acting Team Leader Year 0-2 (shared)
- Ginny Treadwell Acting Team Leader Year 0-2 (shared)
- Sarah Simpson Mutukaroa Co-ordinator

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

At Tawhai School we take the safety of our children and road safety very seriously. We have had major increases in congestion around our School gate, and therefore this increases safety issues.

We would like to relieve some congestion by setting up some Walking School Buses and drop off Posts.



These are both simple and effective ways to get your children to school in a healthy and safe way with little effort from parents and caregivers.

To find out more about these great concepts please come along for a meeting/cuppa in the School **staffroom on Thursday 4th August at 2.30pm.**

SCHOOL DONATION DUE NOW

As an incentive, we are offering each family who have paid their **2016 school donation** in full by the **12th of August 2016** an entry into the prize draw for a \$200 New World Gift Card. We have one card to give away. This prize will be drawn on **Wednesday 17th of August**. All payments made from 01/01/2016 to 12/08/2016 will be in the draw to win.

ABSENCES

It is important that you let us know if your child is absent. You can do this by either leaving a message on the school answering service (5636329), using our school website facility, or texting the relevant information to 0275159595. **If your child arrives after 9:00am they must first check in at the office to notify the office staff** that they have arrived. This will save valuable time making unnecessary phone calls. For all children marked absent without a reason, we will ring as soon as possible to account for each child.

ARRIVING TO SCHOOL

Some children have already fallen back into old habits and are arriving late to school. Although this can happen from time to time it is important we help teach our children good habits and time management skills. Please ensure your child is at school and to class no later than 8:55am.

The 8:45am bell is not the start of lesson time but ensures everyone is inside and ready to begin learning time promptly at 8:55am. The key is we avoid teachers having to stop lessons to greet and support those students arriving late, or to help catch them up. If you have concerns about not being able to get your child to school on time please feel free to discuss this with your child's teacher or myself. Students should not be arriving to school unattended before 8:15am.



PTSG QUIZ NIGHT – SATURDAY 20 AUGUST

The PTSG will be running a quiz night down at the Stokes Valley RSA, on Saturday 20th August, beginning at 7pm. Teams will consist of up to six people. Tickets will be available from the school office from Friday 29 July. The cost of the tickets are \$15 (includes quiz, entry into raffle and nibbles). Come along for a fun night out and help support our wonderful school.



KELLY CLUB

Kelly Club continues to go from strength to strength under Vanessa Chatfield's leadership. Her friendly and professional team consistently delivers a well structured environment that provides fun activities in a safe setting. It is great to see the Tawhai School Kelly Club build such a positive reputation and we are glad to see families utilize this as a resource to assist

with managing the busy week. With numbers on the rise I recommend you contact Vanessa and lock in a time for your child to attend.



Here are a couple of pictures from the holiday programme. The kids had a blast with art and craft activities.

For more information and to book online, please visit www.kellyclub.co.nz or contact tawhai@kellyclub.co.nz or 027 4185131.

Work and Income OSCAR subsidies are available to help cover the cost of our programme if you are eligible.

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.



SPORTS RESULTS

Miniball / Tiniball

Competition for term 3 starts next week. We had entered **three teams** in the year 3-4 grade. Unfortunately due to the large response and shortage of court space, schools have only just been told that only **two teams** can be accommodated. I am sorry to those who have missed out. **Please could all team fees be paid by FRIDAY 12 AUGUST.**



Netball

On **Saturday 20 August** our netball teams are on duty at the Heretaunga Courts. This will involve making some food, and manning the barbeque etc. All proceeds will go to Tawhai school. Parents will be contacted shortly for their help.



Waterpolo

Wednesday 27 July

Tawhai 7 vs Eastern Hutt 5

IMPORTANT DATES

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

- 9 August – Year 6 visit Avalon Intermediate (15 students).
- 20 August PTSG Quiz Night
- 6 – 23 September – Dental Van.
- 23 September – Last day of term (3pm finish).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kia pai tō rā

Kia ora

Karen Poole
Principal