

# THE TAWHAI TIMES

VOLUME 18 30 November 2016



69 Glen Road

Tele 563 6329

Fax 563 6313

[admin@tawhai.school.nz](mailto:admin@tawhai.school.nz)

[ol.nz](http://www.tawhai.school.nz)

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.

Reports have been written, assessments are almost complete (except for the Junior area of the school) and although routines and classroom programmes will continue, it is also a time to enjoy some fun activities together.

We can now confirm the new structure for 2017 and some exciting staff changes. Next year we will have two teams, as opposed to the three teams currently (Junior, Middle and Senior). The Student Council worked through a process to name our two teams which included an opportunity for every child to suggest a name. We will announce our team names in the next newsletter.

## 2017 STAFFING STRUCTURE

### Year 4-6

Deputy Principal - Sharon Boese,

Overall responsibility for Year 4-6 team, SENCO co-ordinator, ORS teacher, classroom release for teachers.

### Teaching Staff

Dave Whiteman - Team Leader

Andrea Sinclair

Chelsea Sullivan

Janette Page

Ashlee Killen

Raewyn Young

### Year 0-3

Assistant Principal - Lynley Poole

Overall responsibility for Year 0-3 team, Mutukaroa Co-ordinator, classroom release for teachers.

### Teaching Staff

Deb Barnden - Team Leader

Ginny Treadwell

Chenee Dempsey

Julia Dorgan

Joshua Pearce

Nicola Priestley

Anna Sissons

Zara Anderson

Ryan McGarry

Sadly we are having to say goodbye to several staff members;

- Nisha Bhana has accepted a position at Wilford School in Petone
- Aroha Kale has accepted a position at St. Josephs in Upper Hutt
- Alyse has accepted a position at Oxford Crescent School in Upper Hutt
- Brooke is also leaving us to travel the world, but she will be back on the team in 2018
- We hope to see lots of Tim around next year relieving.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Nisha, Aroha, Alyse and Tim for all the contributions they have made to Tawhai School in their various capacities. Nisha began her career here and has taught for 8 years in the junior and middle area of the school. She has led the Enviro schools team and always supported school events such as the Art Splash choir, Pasifika Performance etc. Aroha also began her teaching career at Tawhai and has helped to establish our Whanau Group. Alyse and Tim have supported a seamless transition to school for many of our five year olds. We will certainly miss you and we wish you all the best in your new adventures.

## END OF YEAR REPORTS – SCHOOL INTERVIEWS



Children's end of year reports will be coming home on **Monday 5 December**. On **Wednesday 7 December** there is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher for 10 minutes to discuss reports or any concerns. **School will be finishing at the usual time of 3pm**. Please follow the instructions to book a time;

The meeting only takes 10 minutes and bookings can be made either by calling the school office on [5636329](tel:5636329) or online. To make a booking online simply visit <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> and follow the 3 easy steps below:

1. Enter the Tawhai School booking code: **FHFQX**
2. Enter your name and email address.
3. Select your child's class from the list provided and choose a time that best suits you and your family.

The following **Wednesday 14 December** children will bring home information regarding their class for 2017 and stationery requirements.

## NEW STAFF

On Monday we were fortunate to have 3 of our new staff, Anna, Dave and Joshua, visit us for the day. A big thank you to the wonderful Ollie and Jasmyn (Room 15) for being such informative hosts and showing our new staff members around the school.



## HEALTH SURVEY

The Board of Trustees have created a health survey which is to be completed yearly. We would really appreciate if you could take the time to complete the survey. Please click on the link below;

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CXK8ZVG>

## REGIONAL ATHLETICS

Tawhai School was represented by 6 students at the Regional Athletics today, which took place at Newtown Park in Wellington. Quentin Howsan, Coco Zhou and Wesley Faitele took part in the sprints, Quentin ran the 1,000m, Tayla Miles threw the quoits and Lukas Lafrentz, Noah Pikari and Quentin Howsan took part in the Long



Jump. They all performed to the best of their abilities, demonstrating skill, determination and sportsmanship.

Wesley ran extremely well in his sprints and was places first 1st in his heats in both the 100m and the 150m. Quentin placed 2nd in his heat of the 150m and was 4th in the 1000m. Overall an amazing result for all the students. They did themselves proud!

Thanks to Janette Page for taking some great photos!



## SIGNMEE

Tawhai School is very excited to announce a new online service for managing home-school communications from 2017. We have chosen to use SignMee as it allows our school to create and send online forms that can be filled, paid and signed by parents without the need for printing and returning. Here are a few things we plan to use SignMee for:



- Newsletters
- Excursion forms
- Camp forms
- Medical forms
- Notifications and updates (including emergency notifications)

- Booking forms
- Sports events
- Performing arts events
- Fundraising forms
- Filling and signing forms

Next week you will receive a form for you to sign up to the SignMee which will contain more information about SignMee.

## LLOYD'S WORKSHOP

It has been a long time coming but our awesome caretaker Lloyd, has now got his workshop up and running. He is taking a small group of children to teach some basic woodwork skills, e.g. hammering, drilling, sawing. We look forward to having a "workshop" programme underway early in 2017.



## SCHOOL DONATIONS

Thank you to all the families who have paid their school donation. Every dollar helps. The winner of the \$150 New World Gift Card is the Philip's family. Congratulations!! It is not too late to pay the school donation.

## WEET-BIX TRYATHLON 2017

Tawhai School are very excited to be putting together a team for the 2017 Weet-bix Tryathlon. The cost of the event is \$37 per child which includes a t-shirt. At this stage we are just gauging interest. Please see Kelly in the office to put your child's name down. More information will follow.



## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In light of recent earthquake and flooding events it is a timely reminder to ensure all emergency contact details are up to date. If you are unsure please communicate with Kelly in the office. Students will not be released to go home after a major incident until they are signed out by a caregiver and this caregiver **MUST** be on our contact list. Thank you for your support over the last couple of days. Ensuring the safety of the children is paramount.



## SPORTS RESULTS

### Touch

This week is the last week touch. Unfortunately, the weather has not been on our side this term, which has been frustrating. There is a double header on Thursday for the Tawhai Titans team. To compensate for the shortage of games, next week we will have some games in the afternoon where the teams will play each other. Thank you to coaches and helpers who have done a great job in spite of the setbacks.

Next year we plan to play most year 3-6 games at Fraser Park on a Thursday afternoon. The year 1-2 teams will play at Tui Glen School on a Friday after school in a more relaxed competition with the local schools which will attract more players with transport not being a big issue.

Please note that unless you hear through the school office in the afternoon, or on Facebook, Touch will always be on.

Could **ALL** touch uniforms be returned to Mrs Gilmour by **Friday 9 December**. It would be much appreciated if the uniforms could be washed and returned in a plastic bag with your child's name on the bag. The first team to return their uniforms will receive a little Christmas treat.

## IMPORTANT DATES

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

- 1 December – Parent helper morning tea
- 2 December – Art Splash Choir performing at the RSA (1.45pm-2.45pm)
- 3 December – Stokes Valley Christmas Parade (Saturday)

- 5 December – Reports sent home
- 6 December – Senior Syndicate Trip to Days Bay (12 December postponement date)
- 7 December – Parent interviews (3.10pm – 7.30pm)
- 8 December - Road Patrol Pool Party
- 13 December – Junior Syndicate Avalon Park trip
- 13 December – Year 6 Leavers' Dinner 6pm – 8.30pm
- 14 December – Middle syndicate fun day
- 14 December – Class and stationery lists go home
- **15 December – Last day of term (1pm finish)**
- **30 January 2017 – Term one.**

**2017 term dates;**

- Term 1: 30 January - 13 April
- Term 2: 1 May - 7 July
- Term 3: 24 July - 29 September
- Term 4: 16 October - 14 December (1 pm finish)

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kia pai tō rā

Kia ora

Karen Poole

Principal