



Taihape Area School

Tuesday 14th November, 2011

Term 4 Newsletter Number 4

Phone: 06 388 0130

Email: rmcmillan@tas.school.nz
office@tas.school.nz

Website: <http://tas.spikeatschool.co.nz>

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome to another busy week, week 4, and surprisingly half way through this the final term of the School Year.

One of the challenges schools face is that there is no such thing as an even playing field for children. We all come from different backgrounds, some wealthy, some poor, most in between. All people are born with various talents, skills, attributes, aptitudes, abilities, and in some cases gifts.

Our goal as teachers is to enable all children, from whatever background, to achieve their potential. Unfortunately the playing field isn't even, and many children face barriers, and almost insurmountable obstacles right from the day they are born.

In a sense the way we live replicates our home lives and backgrounds. Attitudes towards school generally reflect those of our

parent. If school and education is valued in the home, most children will develop positive attitudes towards learning. If achievement is valued, children will generally aspire to achieve and excel.

On the other hand if little value is given to school, children will often turn up at school with poor attitudes, and be ill prepared for school life. For them a poor attitude generally equates to poor behavior, apathy, and learning difficulties, issues which compound over time.

The support and encouragement parents provide their children is priceless, and essential to their overall growth, development, and mental and physical well-being. By showing an interest in their school work, by attending Learning Conferences, by transporting them to and from sport, by talking to them about school generally, parents are providing positive and invaluable input into the lives of their children. This can have massive repercussions in the long term and impact positively upon their achievement, attitude, and quality of life.

A big week ahead for our Year 9 Students with their annual **Camp at Whakatane**. The venue for this Camp was in some doubt until recently because of the stranding of the Rena off Mount Maunganui, and the environmental issues that this has caused. However we have received the green light and the original plans are in place.

Best wishes to Barb, Karen and their students for a wonderful few days in the sun and surf of the Bay of Plenty.

Richard McMillan
Principal

The Week Ahead

15 th – 18 th	Year 9 Camp
Tuesday 15 th	Room 6 Challenge
Wednesday 16 th	Huntermville Cross Country (Postponement date)

The Term Ahead

November

22 nd - 24 th	Girls into Science
30 th – 1 st December	First Aid Course

December

Thursday 1 st	Final day for NCEA course assessments. Professional Development Day – No school for Year 9 – 13 students
Friday 2 nd	Interschool Softball- Huntermville
Wednesday 7 th	Top Town
Thursday 8 th	Prize Giving - 1pm

END OF TERM

Teacher Only Day

On Thursday 1st December, the Senior School (Year 9-13) will be closed for a **Teacher Only Day**. This will impact mainly on our Year 9-10 students.

It will be school as usual for our Primary (Year 1-8) students.

The purpose of the Teacher Only Day is to allow our Secondary Teachers to do work around the realignment of the

NCEA Standards. This is a massive task, and has been on-going this year, and will continue for the next two years. The Government has granted all Secondary Schools 2 PD Days this year, and 2 more next year. Currently Schools have been responsible for their own Professional Development in this area - for isolated schools this is a huge cost, particularly financial, as we have been required to cover the cost of the PD, relieving teachers, and travel.

Sun Safe in Taihape



In New Zealand the incidence of **sun cancer** is growing, so much so that it is now regarded as being a major health problem. The intensity of the sun, and the lack of natural shelter at our school has really highlighted this very important issue. We encourage our students to wear Sun Hats when they are outside for school based activities, interval and lunch-time play.

We ask your support and assistance in encouraging all children to be sun safe – i.e. to wear sun block and sunhats when not at school.

The macho attitude “it won’t happen to me” is naïve in the extreme, as constant and regular exposure to the harsh New Zealand sun does most definitely cause serious long term damage, the effects of which are not pretty, and can even result in death. As parents we have a responsibility to keep our children safe – protecting them from the sun is an important part of this.



2011 School Prize Giving
Thursday 8th December
1pm

Taihape Swim Centre

Some admission fees for the **Taihape Swim Centre** have increased for the 2011/12 season. Please see the new prices below: -

- **Facility Hire:**
\$60.00 per hour (includes 2 lifeguards)
- **School Prices:**
\$1.20 juniors
\$1.50 seniors (9am - 3pm)
- **School Swimming Sports**
\$50.00 per hour + GST
- **School Lessons:**
\$4.00 (TCDT Lifeguards)
- **Carnivals:**
\$60.00 per hour
- **Child/Toddler:** \$2.00

Cricket

Cricket for Year 4-8 children began again last Thursday - this runs from 3.30-4.30pm.

More information on the careers website:
www.careers.govt.nz

Taihape Cricket

After the exciting win of the week before, the Taihape Cricket Team suffered a disappointing loss against Old Boys on Saturday.

Old Boys won the toss and decided to bat on a poorly prepared and wet pitch. Conditions favoured the bowling, and an excellent effort in the field from Taihape, saw Old Boys

dismissed for a modest 125. Matt Jacobson 2 wickets for 13 runs off 5 overs, Wayne Davies 4 for 16 off 7 overs, Tremain Gilbert 2 for 23 off 8 overs, Mark Riley 1 for 24, and Nathan Chaney 1 for 14 shared the spoils. Nathan also did well in a stint as wicketkeeper taking an excellent catch, as did Alex Hawira in the outfield.

In reply the Taihape batsmen found the conditions too much and were dismissed for a very disappointing 40 runs, with Wayne Davies the only batsman to reach double figures. Nathan Chaney, Kerryn Clark, and James Morrison fought hard.

Panui from Learning Street

Celebration Assembly

Last Monday the Junior House Leaders (students from our Year 7-8 classes) took the opportunity to lead the Celebration Assembly. For some of these students it was the first time they have stood in front of the entire school. It was a really full on assembly, we had lots and lots of achievement awards to share. The highlight for me was hearing and seeing the Year 1-8 students performing on stage. We had singing, dancing, and the newly formed TAS Junior Band was awesome! Hopefully this will be the first of many opportunities for the Year 1-8 students to share their

talents. A very big thank you must go to Tim Pekamu. Tim ensures every celebration assembly runs efficiently. He had a group of students from years 9 and 10 working with him and they made sure the lights, and technical aspects kept rolling smoothly. The other thank you must go to the number of parents and whanau who were able to boost the audience numbers on Monday. It was wonderful to have so many of you enjoying the performances.

I like the singing and the flips – Tawera

At the celebration assembly I liked it when they did hiphop and a song –Hauwaho

Yesterday I went to the celebration assembly. My favourite part was when Aliyah and Harmon and

Maddy were the best dancers in the whole entire earth because they were rockstars! – Nevaeh

At the celebration assembly I liked the lights because they changed colours. I liked Harmon doing a fantastic flip. I liked them singing. I liked them dancing – Kierah

Huntermville Cross Country

Due to the very soggy conditions underfoot, the Huntermville cross country had to be postponed on Friday. The event will take place on Wednesday of this week.

And finally I'd like to share some wisdom from Miss B.

During the holidays Mrs Brew and Miss Buchanan went to a Learning conference in Rotorua. They came back with lots of new ideas to share with the staff and students. I think this piece of advice and thinking is worth sharing.

Ownership

Acknowledgement

Responsibility

----- The Line of Life -----

Blame

Excuse

Deny

You choose:

Live below the line, stay in BED be a victim and learn nothing

Or

Live above the line, grab the OAR and start paddling!

Have a great week

Deb Logan



2011 School Prize Giving
Thursday 8th December
1pm

Summer Camps

Scripture Union Camping offer a range of Summer Camping experiences for Year 7-13 Students. In our region they offer the *Tongariro Eco-Adventure* and *Surf Classic Camps*.

More information about these, plus other camping options, and application forms are available from the School Office.

School Magazine

Work on the **2011 School Magazine** is finished, and it is currently at the printers. The Magazine is a wonderfully comprehensive history of the 2011 School Year, complete with individual profiles, class profiles, sporting and academic results, and a wide range of interesting articles.

The Magazine will be available soon at a cost of \$12.00. Order your copy now from the School Office.

A huge vote of thanks to English Teacher Rachel Scott, who stepped in at very late notice to produce and edit the magazine. A special thanks as well to the large number of local businesses who purchased advertising spots in the magazine.



Year 7-10 Technology

Safety is paramount and a very important consideration for all students taking **technology** – this includes hard materials (e.g. woodwork, metal work), and cooking. To ensure their safety students must wear suitable footwear, which for technology can include covered in sneakers. Canvas shoes are not permitted as they provide no protection.

These rules are universal, and even for those of you who remember when technology was previously called manual, the rules haven't changed.

Parents we need your support with this – please ensure your child/children

arrive at school on their technology day with suitable footwear.

Quotes of the week

"Life isn't about how many breathes you take but about the moments that take your breathe away."

"You can't always get what you want, but if you keep trying & look hard enough, you could just end up with what you wanted, something worthwhile."

Scholastic Bookclub

Issue 7

Closes Friday 18th November

Please make cheques payable to Taihape Area School

Girls Night Out at The Majestic

Cocktails, Finger food, Chick Flick

Thursday 24th November, 6.30pm

\$25 p.p

Dress up in cocktail dresses for a real kick up your heels night at The Majestic with your girlfriends.

R.S.V.P. ESSENTIAL by 20th Nov

Lianne 06-3881173 or hotartz@xtra.co.nz



UTIKU OLD GIRLS NETBALL



XMAS QUIZ NITE

FRIDAY 2nd Dec 2011

@ UTIKU RUGBY CLUBROOMS

7PM START

\$50 Per Table – 4 people per table

20 Tables available

Each team can come in a theme of their choice

There will be prizes for the winner of each round and

1st prize for the overall winner.

Supper will be provided

Bar will be open (cash only)

To Register contact

Hina on 3880029

Stacey on 0211428372

so come along and test your knowledge



It is getting to that time of year again and we have documented lots of the year's happenings at TAS.

We have put everything together in a wonderful TAS magazine.

Full colour copies are \$12.00 each and will be available at the school office from the 5 December.

Would you like to have a copy to treasure and look back on? Would Grandma like one for Christmas?

Then book yours now!

Name

Number of Magazines required

Payment enclosed \$

(Please hand this into the school office)