



Taihape Area School

Monday 26th September, 2011

Term 3 Newsletter Number 9

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Tena koutou katoa

Week nine and the end of term looms. However there are a number of important events coming up including the Primary School Cross Country, the Ohingaiti Cross Country, the Krypton Factor, and a Teacher's Only Day. Of course the core business of any school is teaching and learning, and this will remain a priority for the next two weeks.

Cross Country training this term has gone extremely well, with buy-in from a big proportion of our junior school community. We acknowledge that many children find distance running a big challenge, but the attitude and effort of most children has been great. Children have been encouraged to set personal goals, and take responsibility for managing their training. They have been encouraging and supportive of each other, and the benefits have been huge. The fact

that some teachers get along-side the children and run with them also helps – children and teachers working together!!

Unless you were a natural runner, memories of cross-country running at school are probably not very pleasant. My personal experience of cross-country was running at Strath Taieri District High School, in Middlemarch (Central Otago). Our course was through the ploughed paddocks next to the School - over fences, across creeks, and involved dodging thistles, cowpats and other things. Unfortunately the only training we ever did was a run over the course the day before the big event!!

Memories of the race were of a massed, mad sprint at the start – it seemed so important to be first to the first obstacle – and the pain and discomfort that started, growing gradually worse as the race proceeded. The suffering at the end of the race is still a vivid memory – and I was usually one of the fitter runners.

There was certainly no science involved in our cross-country training, and in fact it was a rather brutal experience. Thankfully schools now pay more attention to the differences of children, to their individual needs and physical attributes, and do endeavour to provide them with an experience that is more positive.

Obviously not all children are born to be whippets, but it is important in this day and age when most people are



involved in less physically active pursuits (such as spending more time sitting behind computer), that they develop positive attitudes towards personal fitness. It is also a matter of developing positive self-esteem, and of people feeling good about themselves.

Children are all winners if they give of their best, try hard, and demonstrate determination, perseverance, and courage.

Richard McMillan
Principal

The Week Ahead

Wednesday 28th Year 1 - 8 Cross Country

What's on this Term

October

Monday 3 rd	Ohingaiti Cross Country
Wednesday 5 th	Krypton Factor (Waiouru)
Thursday 6 th	End of Term
October 7 th	Teacher Only Day

Term 4

November

Wednesday 2nd	Level 1 Technology portfolios submitted Level 2 Art portfolios submitted
Friday 4th	Year 9 Gala
Wednesday 9th	Level 3 Arts portfolios submitted
Thursday 10th	NCEA exams begin

December

Thursday 1st	Final day for NCEA course assessments.
Thursday 8th	Prize Giving END OF TERM

NCEA Information Evening

Last week we held an **information evening** to provide an overview of **NCEA** and the courses on offer here at TAS. For a comparatively small school it is exciting the quality and variety of programmes we can provide for our Year 11, 12, and 13 students at NCEA level. In fact the range of options is virtually infinite because our staff adopt the attitude that anything (everything) is possible.

However the subjects a student chooses is obviously very important to ensure that a range of pathways are available in the long term. If students are unsure which path to pursue, we encourage them to seek advice from their Deans or from other “experts” here at school.

Thank you to the large number of parents who attended this presentation evening. A special thanks as well to the teachers who took the time to present their course overviews on the night.

Teacher's Only Day

School is closed for a **Teacher Only Day next Friday (7th October)**.

The term will finish for our students on Thursday 6th.

Junior A Netball

The TAS Jnr A Netball team can be immensely proud of their efforts and achievements during the 2011 Netball season. All 7 players have showed unique skills, character and dedication during the netball year, proving this to themselves by taking out their grade on Opening Day & moving up two grades, Placing 4th in the Western Junior Yr 9 & 10 Tournament in August and finishing off the season by earning themselves a place in the SS3 grade final and winning last Saturday over TMGC.

Starting the season off in May & not dropping a game over the Opening Day weekends meant the girls not only took out their grade but gave themselves a real confidence boost for the rest of the season. TAS Jnr A was relegated up two grades and therefore we started our Round Robin games in SS3. Over the following months these talented young girls proved time and time again the unique set of skills each of them carry and their dedication to trainings by losing only one game during these Round Robin matches. The match they lost was against TMGC and by quite a margin. Knowing we would eventually come up against them again, the girls were determined not to lose and this showed in their trainings and after being split into top four bottom four we eventually got our chance. On the 31st August, both Senior and Junior A teams

from TMGC came through to play TAS Senior and Junior A teams in the Multi Function Centre at TAS in front of a very supportive crowd. Both games were nail biters and some very spectacular skills were on display from all players. But with huge efforts from both TAS teams they were able to both come through winning their games by one point.

For TAS Jnr A this meant a place in the Semi Finals against High School which they played with great confidence and won. Knowing we would be playing TMGC again but in the final brought on a few nerves, but they also wanted to prove they could beat them again, and so they did. With the nerves humming but feeling the challenge the girls put in a massive effort, with Monique persevering after going over on her ankle, some big defence by Chick, Alana and Paige, quick attacking movements from Jess, Mindy and Mere the team came out on top with a convincing win 20 – 9 over TMGC for the SS3 grade Final.

In addition to the above these girls along with Taylah Barrett and Lauren Donne-Gregory also competed in the Western Junior Yr 9 & 10 Tournament in Palmerston North on the 13th & 14th August. Never having had a TAS team compete in this tournament before, we were unsure of what to expect. The girls were pumped and ready to go and after warming up they took the court to face

Wanganui High School. We went down in a tough game, but the girls stayed grounded and continued on to win their next 3 pool games against Solway College, Waiopahu College and Fielding High School. Knowing the girls had big games the following day they took time out at the lido to soak their sore muscles and had a relaxing night back at the motel. Sunday brought a whole new day including the weather, RAIN. The girls first match was a Quarter Finals match against Cullinane College, they went on to win this 19 – 17. Making the Semi's but also coming back up against a very strong High School side the girls had mixed emotions. But they played their best and put up a good fight. High School went on to the Finals and placed 2nd, while we played off for 3rd & 4th, placing 4th against Kapiti College in another tough match.

The girls can be really proud of their efforts over this weekend, they played well and ended up placing 4th out of 20 teams. Huge huge achievement!!

Having had the privilege of coaching these fantastic young girls during the 2011 season, I have had the opportunity to watch them grow and develop both individually and as a team. There is amazing talent amongst the girls and are definitely players to keep an eye open for in the future.

Hockey

Last Monday of TAS played PNBHS 6 in the semi-final of our hockey competition. Sadly our season is over as a result of a penalty shoot-out after the game ended 1-1 in normal time. The TAS team was severely disrupted by injuries to key players, and the unavailability of another, but despite the considerable odds, played heroically, demonstrating huge courage and commitment. The game was an even affair with both teams creating scoring opportunities. The game remained a stalemate until 10 minutes from the end, when 2Nathan scored for TAS after a strong attack.



TAS looked to have the game in hand until PNBHS forced a penalty corner with only two minutes to go. After the TAS backline had successfully and comfortably saved several penalty corners earlier in the game, this time the goal was scored.

Unfortunately we lost the penalty shoot-out, which is a terrible way to exit any competition. Interestingly the other semi-final ended exactly the same way with the two top qualifiers both eliminated.

This was a tough game but all players can be proud of the effort they made in very difficult circumstances – it was painful watching some of them struggle through the

game, and their disappointment at the end was intense.

Nevertheless it has been a wonderful season, a season which began as long ago as February. When all players were fit and available, we were almost unstoppable, but a lack of depth (basically playing numbers) eventually counted against us when injuries struck. Well done to Ryan for his inspired leadership, and to his support team of Boyd, Nathan, Oliver, Eden, Kayla, Zoe, Luke, Rowan, Kerryn, Shelby, Hannah, and Marewa – it has been a privilege to work with you!!

Thank you to Manager Karen Clark, Sue Whale, and also to the large number of parents who have been regular and positive supporters this season. We have all been very proud to be associated with this team.

Cricket

The cricket season is approaching, and practice begins this Thursday at 5.00pm. **N.B. This is for Adults and Senior Secondary Students.** If you are interested or know anyone who is, we look forward to seeing you on Thursday evening.

Winter Tournament

My thanks for your support with Winter Tournament. I love these events when our students get to show their true spirit...our values on show!

The Year 9-13 students who refereed, managed or coached teams were without question exceptional.

Robbie McFarlane, Dylan Sincock, Beau Walker, Anthony Hansen, Jess Elwin, Mereana Dehar, Maia Martin, Kerran Clarke, Max Sage, Mercedes Inwood, Nathan Chaney, Josh Fellingham, PT, Russ, Renee and Chelsea.

Of special mention were Manaia Lomax and Renee Sullivan. Manaia ran the netball office. She was incredibly organized and with Renee Sullivan as her able assistant, they really were focused to make sure the netball draw ran on time with little fuss.

Thanks again.

Deb



Cross Country

On Thursday the Year 1-8 Cross Country is to be held on our course around the Recreational Ground.

Cross Country Events

This Term

Wednesday 28th September:

TAS Year 1-8 Cross Country – Start Time: 1pm

Monday 3rd October:

Ohingaiti Cross Country

Term 4

Friday 11th November:

Interschool Cross Country Hunterville

The World According to Vijay

It would appear we are heading into a recession, likely to last the next 3-4 years. According to Head of Math's Vijay, the best place for students to be is at school learning new skills, as there will be few good jobs available. It is pointless rushing into a workforce with few jobs available when additional skills will make a young person more employable in the future.

Yummy Sticker Promotion



Closes 7th October -
two more weeks to go.
Make sure your sheets
are in to the office.

Scholastic Bookclub

Issue 6

Closes Wednesday 28th September

Please make cheques payable to Taihape
Area School

Prize Giving Cups and Trophies

Please could all students who received cups
and trophies at last year's prize giving
please return these to school asap as they
need to be engraved for this year's prize
giving.



Quotes of the week:

"If you can dream it, you can do it" - **Walt Disney.**

"If you want to conquer fear, don't sit home
and think about it. Go out and get busy" -
Dale Carnegie

Hunterville Huntaway Festival



29 October 2011



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OHINGAITI KIDS HUNT

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3rd ANNUAL TAKE A KID

HUNTING & TROUT FISHING COMPETITION

13 – 16 October 2011