



Taihape Area School

Monday 8th November 2010
Term 4 - Newsletter Number 5

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"Leading me to lead my learning"

Tena koutou katoa

Week 5 already and only 5 weeks to go until the end of the term, and the school year!!

We are at the business end of the year and for our senior students this is a particularly busy and stressful time with examination preparations in full swing. NCEA exams begin next Monday, and for the students involved these are the culmination of a busy year, and a signpost for the effort and commitment they have demonstrated.

Futures, both short and long term, hang on the results they achieve. And the funny thing about life is that the harder you work, the better the results.

Something that continues to amaze me about our senior students is the focus and vision they display on an ongoing basis. When I left High School I naturally gravitated to studies at University, not because it was an overwhelming goal, but because it seemed the right thing to do. It was only after two years at University that thoughts of a

possible career in teaching began to surface, and that was eventually the path I chose. But talking to many of our year 12 and 13 students, they know already the path they hope to follow. They have mapped out the scaffolding required to achieve their goals, and the steps required. Encouragingly a high proportion are pursuing an academic background as the foundation for their future career.

Something I must highlight once again is the commitment of our staff, and the efforts they make to ensure their students have every opportunity of success in the examinations. As mentioned in a previous newsletter some teachers were at school virtually every day during the recent holidays to assist students with their study. The same situation occurred over Labour Weekend with a number of teachers and students spending Labour Monday hard at work. Last weekend was the same. This situation does not occur in many schools, and is a graphic demonstration of the quality of the relationships that have developed over time between teachers and students, as well as the value placed on academic achievement.

Teachers at TAS have a genuine empathy for our students – and they are proactive in providing them with support, guidance, and ongoing mentoring. I thank them for that.

It is a big week ahead for the children in Room 9 who are off the Kawhatau for a Camping experience. They spend Wednesday through Friday at this wonderful facility. We wish them all the best for a fantastic few days.

January

Monday 31st

Start of 2011 School Year

The World Rowing Championships have been a real highlight of the past week, in particular the incredible success achieved by our rowers – as Hilary Clinton said, we are “a small country that operates well above its weight”.

The organizers deserve congratulations for the amazing job they have done, and also for presenting New Zealand in such a positive light on the World stage.

Wonderful to see another young cricketer (Kane Williamson) emerging on the International scene as well.

Have a great week!!

Richard McMillan
Principal

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 9 th	Reo Rua Day Trip to Whanganui
Wednesday 10 th	Room 9 Camp (Kawhatau) 5.00 Cricket Practice
Friday 12 th	Year 11-13 Study Leave begins Room 9 return

The Term Ahead

Monday 15 th	NCEA Externals begin
Tues 16 th -Fri 19 th	Year 9 Camp
Thursday 18 th	Primary Cricket begins
Thurs 18 th - Fri 19 th	Room 1-3 Zoo Trip
Wednesday 24 th	School closed for Stopwork Meeting
Thursday 25 th	BOT Meeting
Friday 26 th	Year 11-13 Courses finish Short Courses for Year 11-13

December

Thursday 2 nd	School Athletics Championships
Thursday 9 th	Prize Giving Last day for Students

Planning for 2011

Planning has already started for next year. It would be hugely helpful if we knew of anyone who is intending to enroll their children here in 2011 – or if you are shifting. This definitely makes planning easier. An issue we face is ensuring that classes are set up as well as possible from day one – we endeavour to avoid disruption to classes, but unknown enrolments can make this difficult at times.

Stopwork Meeting

This is early notification that School will be closed on Wednesday 24th November, from 12.30pm. This is a compulsory meeting for Area School Teachers. We regret any inconvenience that this may cause.

The buses will leave from school at 12.30, except for the Mataroa Bus.

Duddings Trust

Excellent news last week of a grant of \$3,500 from the Duddings Trust to assist with the purchase of materials for the Technology Department.

Youngest Fireman (Woman!!)

Kate Swanson has just made history by becoming the youngest female



from Taihape to be accepted as a volunteer with the New Zealand Fire Service -

she is following in her father's footsteps.

This is a wonderful achievement, and testament to her sense of civic duty. Well done Kate!!

Options Programme

The **Options Programme** implemented here at TAS is a very important part of our unique culture. However effective practice determines that it is important to continually reflect upon how things are working.

As part of our internal review, we have been looking closely at our Options Programme with the goal being to develop year long programmes that provide a structured pathway for our students.

Year 7-10 students will be provided with an **Options Booklet** before the end of the year. This will provide an overview of the programmes to be offered, and therefore the opportunity for students to plan the

year ahead according to their interests and passions.

Interschool Cross Country

On Friday a team of 26 students competed in the annual Inter-School Cross Country Championships, held in Hunterville..

There were up to 100 competitors in some of the races and our students all ran their best.

Top 20 results were: -

Jack Inwood 14th Year 4-5 boys;

Brooklyn Walker 14th Year 6-7 girls;

Warren Cooper 14th Year 6-7 boys;

Mercedes Inwood 10th Year 8 girls;

Paora McCarthy 18th Year 8 boys.



Thanks you to Mrs Whale and Ms Pedersen for supervising our runners.

Kiwi Can

Kiaora Kiwicanners

First of all a huge shout out to our Students who participated in the Ohingaiti Cross country. Good on you for getting out there and giving it your best. Mean Kiwican Mean.

We've had a great Week with our Students at Kiwican. Introducing new energizers and new games enabling the Students to participate and try there hardest.

Remember our Korero of the Week that to show perseverance you need to keep trying and don't give up.

Ka Kite Wanda and Moo

Year 9 Gala

Thank you

Our thanks to everyone who supported the Year 9 Gala. The students raised just over \$1700 towards their trip to Whakatane next week.

The Chocolate Raffle (run by Ella, Alana and Baylee) was drawn by the police and Harry Nichol won this.

The other raffles are yet to be drawn.



Quotes of the week

"Death and taxes may always be with us, but death at least doesn't get any worse" - Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

"No matter what happens, there's always somebody who knew it would" - Lonny Starr.

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.



School Prize Giving

Thursday 9th, December,
2010, at 1.00pm

Sports Uniforms

ALL sports uniforms need to be returned to school immediately.

Un-returned uniforms will be invoiced to individual students

Uniforms are to be placed in a named plastic bag and placed in the green bag next to the office.

*THE HUTT
TWILIGHT SPORT*

*SOFTBALL
3-5pm
Recreation Grounds
Every Thursday*

Message from the Library

Year 11 – 13 students need to return all their library books before going on leave.



Public Health Nurse

Hi, My name is Vicki Andrews and I am the new Public Health Nurse for your school.

My clinic days are Wednesdays 10am - 12pm. You can make a time to see me at the office.

I can help with things like:

- Health information
- Assessments
- Advocacy
- Support
- STI checks
- Contraception
- Assist with health concerns
- Referrals to other services/agencies

This service is free and confidential.

You can contact me on : 0274 912 183 or email:
Victoria.Andrews@wdhb.org.nz

Taihape Kindergarten Presents:

GILL CONNEL

MOVING TO LEARN

Thursday 18th November 2010 7.30 pm

St Josephs School Hall

(Admission Free)

FOR: *Parents and Educators of pre-schoolers and young school age children.*

Come and hear how Movement through a child's early years plays a vital role in brain development and future learning success!

Gill Connell is a renowned expert in child development and has produced many books and papers on the importance of movement in brain development.

A must see!!

Promoted and organized by Taihape Kindergarten.

Contact 3880368 for further details.

TAIHAPE CHRISTMAS



PARADE 2010



SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER
11AM - 12PM



HAUTAPU STREET - SHI



Entry is free and forms are available from the Taihape Information Centre. For more information or queries please phone TCDT on 3881307 or email info@taihape.co.nz

Improving NCEA Results

Each year the Ministry of Education analysis's the mountain of data they receive from schools on a wide range of performance. The graphs below (TAS is the first bar in each graph) are an analysis of Taihape Area School's NCEA results for the past 5 years for level 1 and 2. It is extremely encouraging that over time the results have improved significantly. Even more pleasing is that our results compare more than favorably with similar decile schools.

Graph : Year 11 Students who obtained a NCEA Level 1 Qualification

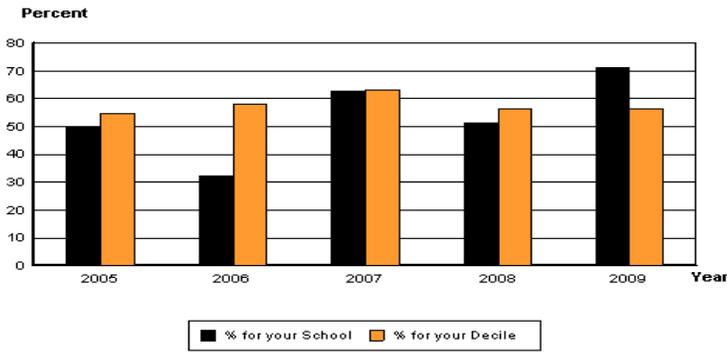


Table : Year 11 Students who obtained a NCEA Level 1 Qualification

Year	Your Decile	% for your School	% for your Decile	Difference
2005	5	50.0%	54.6%	-4.6%
2006	5	32.5%	58.2%	-25.7%
2007	5	62.9%	63.1%	-0.2%
2008	4	51.3%	56.2%	-4.9%
2009	4	71.4%	56.6%	14.8%

Graph : Year 12 Students who obtained a NCEA Level 2 Qualification

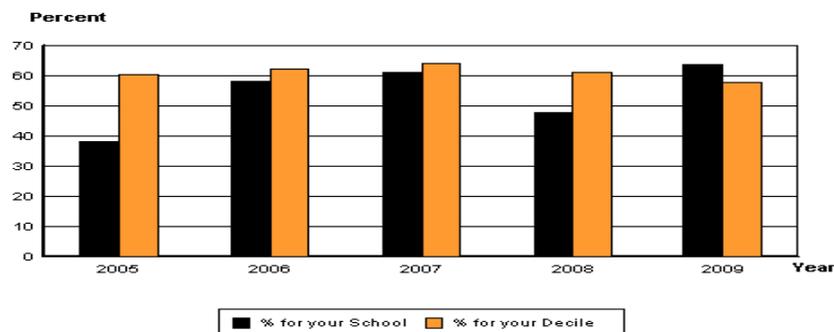


Table : Year 12 Students who obtained a NCEA Level 2 Qualification

Year	Your Decile	% for your School	% for your Decile	Difference
2005	5	38.1%	60.6%	-22.5%
2006	5	58.1%	62.2%	-4.1%
2007	5	61.3%	64.1%	-2.8%
2008	4	48.0%	61.1%	-13.1%
2009	4	63.9%	58.0%	5.9%