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LEADING ME TO LEAD MY LEARNING



WHĀIA TE PAE TAWHITI

Taihape Area School

Monday 17th February, 2020

Term 1 – Newsletter Number 4

Important Dates

This Week		Next Week	
Monday 17 th	No Tamariki Programme today	Monday 24 th	Tamariki Programme today
Mon 17 th –Wed 19 th	Year 10 Camp Makahika	Wed 26 th	Senior Athletics Championships
Friday 21 st	Heart Foundation Mufti-Day (Gold Coin)		

Principal’s Corner

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back to another busy week. The new School Donations Scheme will have a number of direct advantages for families. One obvious benefit is that this Term all Year 1-8 children will be participating in Swimming programmes. The Year 1-6 children will receive intensive coaching from Aquatic Centre Coaches (8 Lessons), while the Year 7-8 Children will have 5 Teacher Lead Lessons. It is important that all Children in the Primary School have their swimming togs every day, to maximise the learning opportunities available.

Water is a constant in our lives, and most New Zealanders have access to water on a daily basis. It is also an essential element in our lives. While an undeniable friend, and great source of recreation and fun, treated without respect, water can be a terrible enemy, and annually takes a large number of lives.

Previous generations attended School when swimming was an accepted, and enjoyable, part of the curriculum, and generally a highlight of the first Term each Year. The right to learn to swim should be a given for all kiwi children. However, for whatever reason, many schools no longer have swimming pools, and while the curriculum states that “*all students will have had*

opportunities to learn basic aquatics skills by the end of Year 6”, the provision of swimming lessons has become problematic, and often extremely expensive.

While the occasional natural does surface from time to time, competitive swimming events, such as the Interschool events, are generally dominated by those students who have access to regular (expert) coaching and training sessions, particularly in heated pools. It is difficult for children to learn to swim in cold water.

Today the Year10’s leave for **Camp Makahika**. Makahika is an Outdoor Pursuits Centre, situated in a beautiful River Valley behind Levin. This Valley is the home of a number of waterways, including the Ohau River, and is a spectacular natural environment. We wish them well for the challenges this will involve.

Another major activity scheduled this week is a Mufti-Day for the **New Zealand Heart Foundation Appeal** on Friday.

Have a great week.

Nga mihi nui
Richard McMillan



The TAS School Wide Behaviour Expectations

Rangatiratanga:

We are Learners
We show Rangatiratanga

Whanaungatanga:

We are Caring
We show Whanaungatanga

Wairuatanga:

we are Reflective
we show Wairuatanga

Manaakitanga:

we are Respectful
we show Manaakitanga



Tall Poppies

The following Taihape Area School students rose above the crowd last week as outstanding achievers, and members of our Learning Community:

Jordyn Thompson (Room 1)- for a great start to School;

Leon Troon (Room 1) - for progress in reading;

Josiah Bennett (Room 4) - for his amazing reading this week. Reading with great fluency and confidence which is great to see;

Unity Rose Crow-Lucas (Room 4) - for showing Rangitirantanga. Great to see you leading your own learning and working hard in all areas!



Taylor-Jane Nelson (Room 5) - for being kind towards her classmates in class and in the playground.

Ardijah Rewai (Room 5) - for having outstanding manners and displaying the TAS Values;

James Moore (Room 6) - for seeking extra responsibility and demonstrating leadership;

Chevvy Judge (Room 6) - for 100% effort in all subjects but especially in literacy and swimming;

Shiloh Taumata-Niania-Taputoru (Room 6) - for showing courage and overcoming her fears in swimming;

Blake Lamb (Room 7) - for displaying the TAS values and being a role model to our new Room 7 students;

Kainda Troon (Room 7) - for producing some fantastic art work;



Tall Poppies from Learning Street – Week 3

School Donations

Schools that have joined the new Donations Scheme cannot ask parents for any donations, with the exception of donations towards the cost of a 'camp' (defined as an overnight curriculum activity, and extra-curricular activities such as sport).

TAS has joined this Scheme on a trial basis for 2020. Therefore you will not be asked for donations, and if you have set up automatic payments please stop these.

One benefit of the new Scheme is that all Junior Students now have access to Swimming Lessons as the cost is covered by the Donations Scheme.

Heart Foundation Mufti-Day



Wear Red on Friday when we are holding a **Mufti-Day** to support the New Zealand Heart Foundation Gold coin donation!!

Bullying

Pink Shirt Day this year is in May, but it is always a worthwhile exercise to re-examine the concept of bullying. Pink Shirt Day aims to create Schools, Workplaces, and Communities where all people feel safe, valued, and respected.

New Zealanders are encouraged to **Speak Up, and Stand Together, to Stop Bullying** by celebrating **Pink Shirt Day!**

The link below covers the following themes:-

- About Bullying?
- What is a Bully?
- Why do some people get bullied?
- Why do some people bully others?
- Is bullying harmful?



It isn't uncommon to hear someone say something insensitive, or mean, to someone else. In fact, probably all of us have said, or done, something that wasn't very nice to someone else, in a moment of anger, or frustration. And although such comments or actions, are not okay, **bullying has some specific features** that make it much more serious, and harmful.

About Bullying

Bullying is deliberate – harming another person intentionally;

Bullying involves a misuse of power in a relationship;

Bullying is usually not a one-off – it is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated over time;

Bullying involves behaviour that can cause harm – it is not a normal part of growing up (Bullying-Free NZ Week website, 2017).

Bullying can be:

Physical – hitting, tripping up;

Verbal – insults, threats;

Social – spreading gossip or excluding people.

Cyberbullying is bullying online, via the internet, mobile phones, and social media. It's a common form of bullying, especially amongst young people (Steiner-Fox, 2016).

<https://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz/assets/PSD-2018/PSD-2018-TEACHERS-TOOLKIT-FS2.pdf>

Supporting Your Child

The most important lessons your child needs for success aren't taught in the Classroom, they're taught at home. Children's performance in School has more to do with parents than with their natural brainpower or even their teachers. One recent study claimed the parental effect on exam results at 16 is 5 times greater than any other factor. So what should we be doing to maximise their chances?



This article provides more information about the Research supporting the need for parental involvement in their child's learning. Ideas for **literacy activities** you can do with your kids: -

1. **Read aloud regularly.** Choose books that are enjoyable and of interest to your child. Your child's teacher can help with choosing an appropriate book. The local library is also a fantastic source of ideas if you are unsure of where to start.
2. With reluctant readers, try **strategies** such as reading one paragraph, or page, each then swapping.
3. **Reread books**, or read the book, of a favourite movie.
4. **Read on a digital device**, e.g. kindle, tablet, or even a smart phone. Often these devices can play audiobooks too, many of which are free or very cheap on iTunes.



5. **Don't feel limited to reading only novels!** Try comics or picture books or online articles or nonfiction or magazines or graphic novels...the opportunities are endless!

6. For other ideas check out this **website**:

<http://www.literacyconnections.com/index.php>

Weetbix Tryathlon 2020

The **Annual Weetbix Tryathlon** is to be held @ Ongley Park, Palmerston North on Wednesday, 18th March, 2020. Last year we had a large number of participants in this fantastic event.

The regular price of entry is \$40-\$45 for early birds, but there are team/group concession rates as well.



<https://tryathlon.co.nz/locations/palmerston-north/>

EVENT DISTANCES

Individual

Age Group	Swim	Cycle	Run
6 years:	50m	–	1.5km
7 years:	50m	4km	1.5km
8-10 years	100m	4km	1.5km
11-15 years	150m	8km	1.5km

Teams

Age Group	Swim	Cycle	Run
Junior Team of Two (7 years):	50m	4km	1.5km
Junior Team of Two (8-10 years):	100m	4km	1.5km
Senior Team of Two (11-15 years):	150m	8km	1.5km

	Early Bird <small>(ends 3 weeks from event date)</small>	Online <small>(valid 20 days from event date until online entries close)</small>	On the Day <small>(available on the day of the event)</small>
TRYathlon - Individual <small>Individual</small>	\$45	\$50	\$60
TRYathlon - Team <small>Price per participant</small>	\$45	\$50	\$60
Splash & Dash <small>Individual</small>	\$40	\$45	\$55

All prices incl GST

Quote of the Week

“The more I see, the less I know for sure” — John Lennon

“The most wasted of all days is one without laughter” — E.E. Cummings

Apology from Former All Black

Former **All Black Norm Hewitt** (hopefully some people can still remember Norm) has opened up on the moment his son called him out for his High School bullying, prompting him to apologise to his victim 20 years later.

Speaking to **The AM Show**, he said bullying was a vicious cycle usually carried out by people who are bullied themselves. "I became a bully because I was bullied," he said, "there was violation and violence in my home."



He recalled being beaten by his father, and said when he later became the bully it was like "when I was nine years old, and my father was standing over me".

Mr Hewitt talked about the moment he apologised to actor Manu Bennett, who he bullied as a boy at school.

"My son and I were watching *The Arrow*, and I said 'I know that man,'" he explained. "'I gave him a hiding at school', that was the first thing that came out of my mouth."

"My son was nine years old and he goes 'how did that make you feel Dad?' and I went 'far out, that's a big question, it makes me feel pretty stink!'"

Two weeks later he saw Mr Bennett at the airport and it was a sign that he needed to "stand up and just go over".

He said he was terrified of what Mr Bennett may say to him, but the feeling of apologising was "liberating".

Mr Hewitt said if he was to look back on his past he would "not have recognised" himself. "When you're in a world of absolute despair, and pain, you're so self-centred that nothing else matters."

He is currently working with companies in Wellington, such as PCL Construction, mentoring employees on safe workplace interactions, which he said is extremely rewarding.

"We have to own the behaviour to change the destiny."

Develop a Partnership with your Child's Teachers and School Staff

1. Meet your child's teacher. As soon as the school year starts, try to find a way to meet your child's teacher. Let the teacher know you want to help your child learn. Make it clear that you want the teacher to contact you if any problems develop with your child. [Talk with your child's teacher](#) offers some great tips for developing a partnership with your child's teacher.

If you feel uncomfortable speaking English, don't let a language barrier stop you. What you have to say is more important than the language you say it in! Ask the school to find someone who can interpret for you. There may be a teacher or parent liaison who can help. Or you can bring a bilingual friend or relative with you.

2. Get to know who's who at your child's school. There are many people at your child's school who are there to help your child learn, grow socially and emotionally, and navigate the school environment. [Who's Who at Your Child's School](#) describes the responsibilities of teachers, administrators, and district staff. Each school is different but this article will offer a general introduction to personnel of your child's school.



3. Attend parent-teacher conferences and keep in touch with your child's teacher. Schools usually have one or two parent-teacher conferences each year. You can bring a friend to interpret for you or ask the school to provide an interpreter. You can also ask to meet with your child's teacher any time during the year. If you have a concern and can't meet face-to-face, send the teacher a short note or set up a time to talk on the phone. For more ideas about how to prepare for parent-teacher conferences, see [Tips for Successful Parent-Teacher Conferences at Your Child's School](#).

Support your Child Academically

4. Find out how your child is doing. Ask the teacher how well your child is doing in class compared to other students. If your child is not keeping up, especially when it comes to reading, ask what you or the school can do to help. It's important to act early before your child gets too far behind. Also be sure to review your child's report card each time it comes out. For more information, see [How To Know When Your Child Needs Extra Help](#).

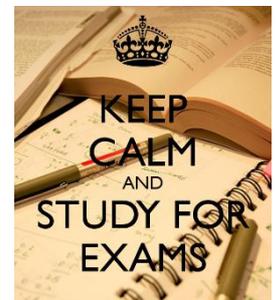
5. Apply for special services if you think your child may need it. If your child is having problems with learning, ask the school to evaluate your child in his or her strongest language. The teacher might be able to provide accommodations for your child in class. If the school finds out your child has a learning disability, he can receive extra help at no cost. For more information, see [Where To Go For Help](#).

6. Make sure that your child gets homework done. Let your child know that you think education is important and that homework needs to be done each day. You can help your child with homework by setting aside a special place to study, establishing a regular time for homework, and removing distractions such as the television and social phone calls during homework time. [Helping Your Child With Homework](#) offers some great ideas for ensuring that your child gets homework done.

If you are reluctant to help your child with homework because you feel that you don't know the subject well enough or because you don't speak or read English, you can help by showing that you are interested, helping your child get organized, providing the necessary materials, asking your child about daily assignments, monitoring work to make sure that it is completed, and praising all of your child's efforts. Remember that doing your child's homework for him won't help him in the long run.

7. Find homework help for your child if needed. If it is difficult for you to help your child with homework or school projects, see if you can find someone else who can help. Contact the school, tutoring groups, after school programs, churches, and libraries. Or see if an older student, neighbor, or friend can help.

8. Help your child prepare for tests. Tests play an important role in determining a student's grade. Your child may also take one or more standardized tests during the school year, and your child's teacher may spend class time on test preparation throughout the year. As a parent, there are a number of ways that you can support your child before and after taking a standardized test, as well as a number of ways you can support your child's learning habits on a daily basis that will help her be more prepared when it's time to be tested. Learn more standardized tests and general test-taking in [How to Help Your Child Prepare for Standardized Tests](#).



Get involved with your Child's School

9. Learn what the school offers. Read the information the school sends home, and ask to receive information in your native language if necessary. Talk to other parents to find out what programs the school offers. Maybe there's a music program, after-school activity, sports team, or tutoring program your child would enjoy. Remember to keep track of events throughout the school year.

10. Volunteer at your child's school and/or join your School's Parent-Teacher Group. Teachers appreciate it when parents help out at the school! There are many ways you can contribute. You can volunteer in your child's class or in the school library. You can make food for a school event. If you work during the day, you can attend "parents' night" activities or your child's performances. At most schools, a group of parents meets regularly to talk about the school. This group is usually called the PTA or PTO. The meetings give you a good chance to talk with other parents and to work together to improve the school. [How to Get Involved in Your Child's School Activities](#) offers some more ideas that you can get involved, especially for busy parents.

Get informed and be an advocate for your Child

11. Ask questions. If something concerns you about your child's learning or behavior, ask the teacher or principal about it and seek their advice. Your questions may be like these — What specific problem is my child having with reading? What can I do to help my child with this problem? How can I stop that bully from picking on my son? How can I get my child to do homework? Which reading group is my child in?

12. Learn about your rights. It's important to know what your rights are as the parent regarding special services, English instruction, immigration status, and more. Learn more in [Your Rights as the Parent of a Public School Student](#).

13. Let the school know your concerns. Is your child doing well in school? Is he or she having trouble learning, behaving, or studying? Is there a problem with another student, teacher, or administrator? If you have a concern, [How to Let the School Know About Your Concerns](#) describes some steps to take.

Support your Child's Learning at Home

14. Demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your children. What we say and do in our daily lives can help them to develop positive attitudes toward school and learning and to build confidence in themselves as learners. Showing our children that we both value education and use it in our daily lives provides them with powerful models and contributes greatly to their success in school.

In addition, by showing interest in their children's education, parents and families can spark enthusiasm in them and lead them to a very important understanding-that learning can be enjoyable as well as rewarding and is well worth the effort required.

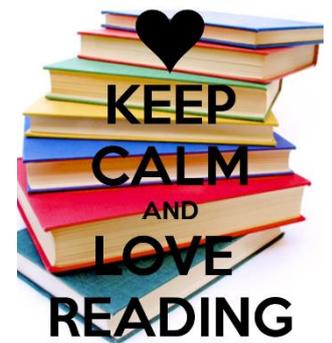
15. Monitor your child's television, video game, and Internet use. American children on average spend far more time watching TV, playing video games and using the Internet than they do completing homework or other school-related activities. [How to Monitor TV Viewing and Video Game Playing](#) and [Help Your Child Learn to Use the Internet Properly and Effectively](#) offer some ideas for helping your child use the media effectively.

16. Encourage your child to read. Helping your child become a reader is the single most important thing that you can do to help the child to succeed in school-and in life. The importance of reading simply can't be overstated. Reading helps children in all school subjects. More important, it is the key to lifelong learning. Learn more in [Fun Reading Tips and Activities](#) and [Fun and Effective Ways to Read with Children](#).

17. Talk with your child. Talking and listening play major roles in children's school success. It's through hearing parents and family members talk and through responding to that talk that young children begin to pick up the language skills they will need if they are to do well. For example, children who don't hear a lot of talk and who aren't encouraged to talk themselves often have problems learning to read, which can lead to other school problems. In addition, children who haven't learned to listen carefully often have trouble following directions and paying attention in class. It's also important for you to show your child that you're interested in what he has to say. [Talking With Your Child](#) offers some great ideas for using conversation to stimulate language development.

18. Encourage your child to use the library. Libraries are places of learning and discovery for everyone. Helping your child find out about libraries will set him on the road to being an independent learner. Remember that libraries also offer a quiet place for students to complete homework, and are often open in the evening. Learn more about resources for students in [Library Services for School-Aged Children](#).

19. Encourage your child to be responsible and work independently. Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success. You can help your child to develop these qualities by establish reasonable rules that you enforce consistently, making it clear to your child that he has to take responsibility for what he does, both at home and at school, showing your child how to break a job down into small steps, and monitor what your child does after school, in the evenings and on weekends. If you can't be there when your child gets home, give her the responsibility of



checking in with you by phone to discuss her plans. Learn more in [Encourage Responsibility, Independence, and Active Learning](#).

20. Encourage active learning. Children need active learning as well as quiet learning such as reading and doing homework. Active learning involves asking and answering questions, solving problems and exploring interests. Active learning also can take place when your child plays sports, spends time with friends, acts in a school play, plays a musical instrument or visits museums and bookstores. To promote active learning, listen to your child's ideas and respond to them. Let him jump in with questions and opinions when you read books together. When you encourage this type of give-and-take at home, your child's participation and interest in school is likely to increase.

Agriculture Programme

Last week the Agri Students tackled one of the ongoing tasks of farming, dagging. There are a number of competent shearers in the group, and they quickly completed the job. Those new to the art of shearing all did very well as they came to grips with the skills of dagging. Pleasingly all sheep survived the ordeal.





SENIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2020

On Friday 14th February 2020, there was a lot of love in the air, but this time it was at the Taihape Swim Centre, where the Senior Swimming Carnival took place. A smaller pool of swimmers entered this year however, we had the best results we have had in the last 5 years or more.

A main highlight was there being 6 records broken throughout the event and the results are very pleasing.

The Junior School joined us in the afternoon for the Novelty events and yet again these proved to be very successful and a whole heaps of fun had by all those participating and the parents and students & staff that were watching and supporting.

Another highlight for the students was the teachers & parent team only managed 4th out of the 5 teams in the relays at the end of the meet!!!

A **very special thank you** to the following who gave up their time to come along and time keep and support throughout the day;

Alysha Bennett, Tash Coogan Tania Maclean, Karen Meadows, Keryne O'Hara, Loretta Dunn, Rochelle McCann, Michael Andrew, & Tyrone Chase.

Also a big shout out to the Taihape Swim Centre staff for their help and assistance as well as allowing our students to have a fun filled time in a real party atmosphere.

Regards

Jude Hardwidge

SENIOR SWIMMING CHAMPIONS 2020

JUNIOR GIRLS

1st Eva Maclean
2nd Kaya Bowers
3rd George Abernethy

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS

1st Keahleigh Dygas
2nd Monique Webb
3rd= Maddi O'Hara
3rd= Charlie Bennett

SENIOR GIRLS

Not Awarded
*(only 2 girls swam 1 race each)

JUNIOR BOYS

1st Ezra Hopa-Cribb
2nd Cameron Robb
3rd Kevin Mason

INTERMEDIATE BOYS

1st Jack Squires
2nd Micah Law
3rd Joseph Coogan

SENIOR BOYS

1st= James McCann
1st= Joe Kennedy

NEW RECORDS

25m Freestyle	Junior Boys	Ezrah Hopa-Cribb	16.15
25m Butterfly	Junior Boys	Ezrah Hopa-Cribb	19.64
4 x 25m Medley	Intermediate Girls	Keahleigh Dygas	1.32.22
4x 50m Medley	Intermediate Girls	Keahleigh Dygas	3.41.62
50m Butterfly	Junior Girls	Kaya Bowers	48.72
50m Butterfly	Intermediate Girls	Keahleigh Dygas	42.44

HOUSE POINTS

1 st	MANU	5780 points
2 nd	AWA	4990 points
3 RD	MAUNGA	2780 points
4 th	RAKAU	2040 points

TAS Behaviour Expectation

Manaakitanga

We use appropriate language in all school settings.

This sounds like:-

- **We use encouraging, supportive words - ‘You can do it’, ‘Well done’.**
- **We use polite words - ‘Please’, ‘Thank you’, ‘May I.’**
- **We use kind words - ‘Can I help you?’ ‘Ka Pai’**
- **We use welcoming words - ‘How are you today?’**

Board of Trustees News

The Board of Trustees had its first meeting of the Year last week. The Board is made up of the following Members:

Shari Chase – Chairperson

Andy Law – Deputy Chairperson

Di Saunders – Iwi Representative

Barb Ball – Iwi Representative

Andy Fleury

Richard McMillan – Principal

Shona Salomen – Staff Representation

Karen Meadows

Hannah Meadows – Student Representative

Robyn Somerville – Minute Secretary