



06 3880130
 26 Huia Street
Taihape, 4720
www.tas.school.nz
 TAS Radio - 88.1FM
rmmillan@tas.school.nz
Principal: Richard McMillan

LEADING ME TO LEAD MY LEARNING



WHĀIA TE PAE TAWHITI

Taihape Area School

Monday 9th March, 2020

Term 1 – Newsletter Number 7

Important Dates

| This Week | Next Week |
|--|--|
| Thursday 12 th Volleyball v Police – Sausage Sizzle Open Afternoon/Learning Conferences | Wednesday 18 th Wanganui Secondary Schools Athletics Weetbix Tryathlon |
| Friday 13 th Year 4-8 Interschool Swimming Room 1 Trip to FOXTON “Clash of the Colleges” – Rural Games Palmerston North | Thursday 19 th Green and Gold Mufti Day |
| Sat 14-Sun 15 th RURAL GAMES | |

Principal’s Corner

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back to another busy week. It has been a really full-on first few weeks, but life at School is good, and students are focused on their learning and personal growth.

On Thursday the Police are playing Volleyball v our Students. Justin Moore is also running a sausage sizzle to raise funds for his latest project the Leukaemia Cancer Appeal. On Thursday we are holding an Open Afternoon (1.30-2.30). This is an opportunity for you to visit while the School is operating. Friday is a huge day with the Year 4-8 Interschool Swimming Sports, a Room 1 Trip to Foxton Beach and the Dutch Windmill in Foxton, and a first for us, the “Clash of the Colleges”, (as part of the New Zealand Rural Games), scheduled events. So a typically hectic period ahead.

How do you feel about **homework**? The role of homework in the development of young people is a topic of hot debate, and can be polarising. My views on homework have changed over the years, as a result of the experiences of dealing with my own children.

My first daughter was highly motivated and enjoyed doing any homework set, even to the extent of doing extra voluntarily. This gave me an unrealistic expectation as regards

homework, and the impact it has on the “normal” household. Why I wondered do people complain about the amount of homework being set?

The situation with my son was quite different, a reality check. With him homework became a real battle of wills, something we both came to resent. I tried all the positive things - provided encouragement and incentives, and usually managed to get the job done, but at a cost!! After a while I actually began to wonder who the homework was for.



Is homework important? In short, a little yes, and in the later years of School definitely – particularly at NCEA Level. Our policy is that a limited amount of homework is set on a regular basis, and that students are expected to complete tasks that reinforce essential class work e.g. reading, spelling, learning basic facts in the Primary School, and work or study that reinforces and enhances class learning in the Senior School. The overall purpose is to help consolidate Schoolwork, as well as develop solid work and study routines. For our NCEA Students revision and study skills are an essential part of preparing for examinations.

Students are actually at School for such a short period of time it is important that they do some extra work in their own time. However, we do not expect Primary Children to spend more than half an hour on their homework.

Children are children for such a short time in their lives, and really they should be doing kids’ stuff after school – for example playing, joining clubs, dancing, gymnastics, playing sport, cycling, swimming, building huts etc. In short simply enjoying being a kid!!

Older students however are expected to spend more time completing homework tasks and additional study. The challenge for these Senior Students is to achieve that crucial balance between complying with the demands of school, and life outside School, which for many includes work and sporting commitments. This becomes a real juggling act, and a trial for many.

An interesting quote from a (Primary) Colleagues Class Newsletter puts the Homework issue in perspective - *“We worked out as a class last term that doing homework for 20 minutes a day, four times per week as is expected in our class, gives us 53 hours of extra learning time per year. This really adds up over the years!!”*

If young people can buy into this, there must be many positive benefits. Homework is important, but it should be fun, and not too demanding.

Try not to turn it into a battle, and a negative finish to the day. Some suggestions: -

1. *have a set homework time;*
2. *designate a special homework place, a special place to work;*

3. *share the responsibility with your partner, or older siblings;*
4. use lots of positive encouragement – praise, praise, praise...;
5. *discuss the benefits of completing homework;*
6. tell them how much their work is improving.



As we all know experience is a wonderful thing, and I finally managed to get the homework thing sorted – my youngest daughter did her homework with her late Grandmother, a retired teacher, who was also her babysitter after School. And what a relief that was!!

Have a great week.

Nga mihi nui
Richard McMillan



The TAS School Wide Behaviour Expectations

Rangatiratanga:

We are Learners
We show Rangatiratanga

Wairuatanga:

We are Reflective
We show Wairuatanga

Whanaungatanga:

We are Caring
We show Whanaungatanga

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:

Marshall Collings (Room 1) - for a great start to School;

Caleb Anderson (Room 1) - for using manners in his interactions with others;

Zane Nahona (Room 2) - for outstanding work on his reading and letter sounds;

Cyrus Wallace and **Violet Shaw** (Room 3) - for fabulous improvement in swimming lessons;

Hemi O'loughlin (Room 4)- for excellent attitude in class

Rigby Haitana (Room 4) - for outstanding descriptive monster writing;

Holdem Bristol and **Tessa Coogan** (Room 5) - for writing amazing Poetry;



Katie Williams (Room 6) - for consistently producing high quality work and showing TAS values;

Naiomi Tai (Room 6) - for always striving to do her very best and producing excellent quality work;

Taonga Wallace (Room 6) - for working so hard on his reading and writing and making great progress in Maths;

Ketana Musgrove and **Kelae Toto** (Room 7) - for being focused learners and displaying the TAS values;

Michela Williams (Room 8) - for showing Whanaungatanga in class;

Caleb Moore (Room 8) - for being a focused learner.



Tall Poppies from Learning Street - Week 6

Huia James, Tracey Murrell, Bronwyn Troon, and Julie Hart - for helping out with Gumboot Day;

TAS Students **Ronnie Coles, Charlie Bennett, Atawhai McDonnell, Tayla Nathan, Morgan Nathan, Riini Dodd, Gina, Tawera Rolston, Jenna Chapman, Montana Kirby, Jason Sarjeant, Shontae Bennett, and Brianna Paki** - for helping out at Gumboot Day on Saturday.

When can I send my Child back to School after having the Stomach Flu?

(i.e. How long should I keep my sick kid home?)

Answer: Do not send your child to School for *at least 3 Days (72 hours) after symptoms have stopped (48 hours minimum)*

People with stomach bugs are contagious for at least 3 days after symptoms have stopped. The viruses can remain in faeces for even longer, so hand washing after using the bathroom is extremely important. In an ideal world, your child needs to be well for **at least 3 days** before you send them back to School. That means that it has been 72 hours since they last vomited, or had diarrhoea.

Parents are often confused about how long to keep a child home from School after a vomiting illness. It is common today for parents to send their kids back to School, or day care, as soon as they are feeling better. This is the main reason stomach viruses spread like wildfire. If you send them back to School only 24 hours after their last episode of vomiting, or diarrhoea, they will still be contagious and they may not even be done having vomiting, or diarrhoea.

48 hours is the absolute minimum amount of time to wait to be sure that your child is finished being sick. As well do not take your child to unnecessary places until they have been well for 2 weeks. Do not go to birthday parties, indoor playgrounds, playgroups, nursing homes, friend's houses, or swimming pools until they have been well for 2 weeks. If parents just kept their kids home for a few days after the stomach flu, we all wouldn't have to get it so often! - **Annie Pryor, Ph.D.**

<http://www.dranniesexperiments.com/>

Tips for Protecting and Valuing the Family Identity

www.s2e.co.nz ...protecting people online

- 1) Become your child's "friend" in any social network environment your child creates.
- 2) Maintain easy access to your child's profile via their log in.....you will see everything.

What is NCEA?

NCEA stands for the *National Certificate of Educational Achievement*. It is the main qualification for Secondary School Students in New Zealand, and it comes in three levels: Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3, which students usually work through from Years 11 to 13 (usually ages 15–18).



NCEA is for all students – some may be heading for University, others may be planning to do an apprenticeship, still others may want to learn practical skills, and get a job after leaving School. The important thing to remember is that whatever path a Student is taking, NCEA can help them achieve their goal.

NCEA is an important and well-regarded qualification. NCEA Level 2 is often an entry-level requirement for jobs, and some Tertiary Courses. Tertiary Providers (including Universities) and employers often use NCEA results to see whether an applicant has the mix of skills, and knowledge, they require.

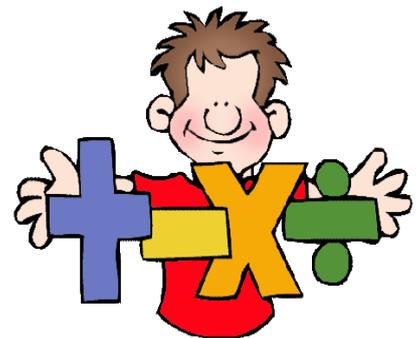
Schools enter Students in NCEA, and tell them when to pay fees.

For more information:-<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/aboutus/publications/nzqa-brochures>

It is important to note that NCEA is currently under review, and changes will be implemented as from 2021 – changes to Level 1 in 2021, Level 2 in 2022, and Level 3 in 2023.

Supporting Yours Child's Learning – Mathematics

A lot of emphasis in Mathematics teaching is placed on using mental calculations where possible, using jottings to help support thinking. As children progress through the school and are taught more formal written methods, they are still encouraged to think about mental strategies they could use first, and only use written methods for those calculations they cannot solve in their heads.



It is important that children are secure with number bonds (adding numbers together and subtracting them e.g. $10-6=4$, $13+7=20$), and have a good understanding of place value (ten and units etc.,) before embarking on formal written methods.

Check this site out on Number Bonds to help your child: -

<http://www.amblesideprimary.com/ambleweb/mentalmaths/numberbond>.

Quotes of the Week

"We are taught you must blame your father, your sisters, your brothers, the school, and the teachers - but never blame yourself. It is never your fault. But it is always your fault, because if you wanted to change, you're the one who has got change" — **Katharine Hepburn** (*Me: Stories of My Life*).

"Better to die fighting for freedom than be a prisoner all the days of your life" — **Bob Marley**.

"A digital life is a shared responsibility" - **John Parsons**.

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'; 'Thankyou'; 'May I';**
- **We use kind words - 'Can I help you?' 'Ka Pai';**
- **We use welcoming words - 'How are you today?'**

Lake Oporoa Restoration Project



Recently group of Year 12-13 Students visited Lake Oporoa, which is part of a Nga Puna Rau o Rangitikei Restoration Project. Iwi visited and spoke to the Students prior to the Trip, and then accompanied them to the Lake the following day.

Currently environmental issues are a massive challenge right across the globe. This visit provided the Students with an insight as to how local iwi are working to restore a natural resource to its previously pristine condition.

We are delighted with this wonderful learning opportunity and thank iwi for enabling this for us.



One of the worst days so far for Coronavirus was the 10th of February. On that day, 108 persons in CHINA died of Coronavirus.

BUT, on the same day...

26,283 people died of Cancer 24,641 people died of Heart Disease 4,300 people died of Diabetes and on that day, Suicide, unfortunately, took more lives than the virus did, by 28 times. Moreover, Mosquitoes kill 2,740 people every day, HUMANS kill 1,300 fellow humans every day and Snakes kill 137 people every day. Take a deep breath, and wash your hands.