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**Principal:** Richard McMillan



*Lead Me to Lead My Learning*

# Taihape Area School

**Monday 18th May, 2020**

**Term 2 – Number 6**

## Important Dates

<b>This Week</b>		<b>Next Week</b>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	School reboots onsite	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Wanganui Zone Chess Power Regional Tournament
Tues-Wednesday	Geotechnical Testing	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	PTP	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b><del>PINK SHIRT DAY</del></b> <b>(postponed)</b>	

*Tena koutou katoa*

School as normal – no not really. It has been 54 days since the School, and Country, went into lockdown. It has been 35 days since formal Distance Learning started, although many Students actually began working remotely on the first day of lockdown.

In that time Coronavirus, COVID19, has changed the world for ever. While the virus is still running amuck in many corners of the World, New Zealand has got off comparatively lightly. For this successful outcome we can thank the Leaders of our Country, our geographical location, and the concerted efforts of all kiwis who abided by the lockdown requirements.

However there has still been a huge cost to those families who have lost a parent or grandparent as a result of the virus, to those people who have lost jobs, and to business owners whose have suffered financial loss, or at worse closed. It has been a terrible time for those people, and the repercussions will be long term.

It has also been a challenging time for those families that struggled with the suffocating demands of lockdown.

However everyone is excited to be back at School today, and to be able to reconnect with people who mean so much to us all.

On the second last Monday of lockdown we received the devastating news that Whaea Shona had been admitted to Hospital with terminal cancer. This came as a terrible shock to everyone as we were unaware that she was so seriously ill. Sadly Shona passed away last Monday morning.

Shona had been with us for just over two years, teaching predominantly English and Social Studies. However she was most famous as the basketball lady. Shona achieved outstanding success with our Basketball Teams, and in so doing developed strong relationships with players who became fiercely loyal to her. She unearthed some amazing talent, and our Teams could compete with the best.

In a relatively short time she made a huge contribution to the School – as well as Coaching Basketball, she was Staff Representative on the Board of Trustees, assisted with Breakfast Club, and was a trusted confidant for members of Staff. She was also one of the first to put up her hand for additional duties, or when assistance was required.

Shona will be sadly missed by her Colleagues, by the Students, and by those in the Community who knew her.

Our condolences go out to her husband Brent, her Children, and her extended family.

Rest in peace Shona.

Nga mihi nui  
Richard McMillan  
Principal



## **Remembrance Book**

We have started a Remembrance Book at School. This is an opportunity for students, parents, whanau, and members of our Community to make a tribute to Shona – this can take whatever form you consider appropriate including a message, poem, or photo.

Tributes can also be made on Facebook - From TAS in loving memory of Shona.

# Staffing Changes

For understandable reasons we have been forced to make some Staffing changes in the Senior School. We are providing you with this information now so there will be no surprises on Monday:

Mrs Harvey will be taking Year 9 English, as well as her current Maths classes.

Miss Dekker (Poppy Dekker) will be taking 9S PE, Year 10 PE, L1 PE, and L2-3 PE, along with one block of Numeracy - Poppy has taught here before, and is just back from an OE.

Shawn Potaka will be taking the Work Skills class, along with his current Tourism class.

Mr Quinn will be taking two blocks of the Level 3 Geography classes.

Mr Duffin will be taking L2 Geography.

All other classes remain with the same Teacher they currently have, although times of some Senior Classes have changed. Along with this, there are also some changes to the physical Classroom Spaces that classes will be taught in - all Senior Students will receive a new timetable on Monday morning when they return to School.

# Principal Appointment

“This message is to inform you all that during all the chaos of the lockdown the BOT has been in the process of appointing a new Principal.

We had 16 genuine enquiries, received 8 complete applications, interviewed 4 candidates who all had extensive teaching and management experience and have appointed Craig Dredge who is currently principal of Goldfields Baptist College in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.

Craig is a New Zealander born and raised in the Manawatu of English and Ngai Tahu descent. Prior to training for Secondary Teaching he was a tradie (locksmith) and has now been in management in 3 schools. Goldfields has 400 students from Year 1-13 with the addition of a kindergarten. He has just overseen a significant build (6 classrooms) to cater for role growth.

Craig is married to Angela who is also a Teacher, and they have 2 adult daughters. Craig knows and likes our rohe having spent a couple of recent holidays fishing on the upper Rangitikei. As well he visited TAS in December so some of the BOT have met him in person. This was important as we had to conduct all the interviews online which was a new experience for everyone involved.

Ngahina Transom was our Professional Consultant who told us the process went very well, and that we had gathered an excellent field of candidates. That was a big concern as we know other Country Schools have had very limited applications.

Our intention is for Craig to start in the third term, Covid-19 will complicate this, but the Dredges are both New Zealand citizens who have the right to return home. They will probably have to quarantine for 14 days in Auckland, but that is not insurmountable. Craig is an experienced, successful principal who will be a great new leader for our kura.

The Board continues to work closely with Richard, who we would like to acknowledge for his leadership at this time and also for his patience as we worked through this process, we will do all we can to ensure a smooth transition for everyone.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.  
Naku noa, na

Shari Chase  
Chairperson Board of Trustees

## **The Term Ahead**

We definitely live in uncertain times, and the only certainty is the uncertainty. The Pandemic is a dynamic situation, and things can change on a daily basis. The reality is that we do not know how the Term will pan out. Many of our go to, high impact, and enjoyable activities, including Sport, are on hold.

Term 2 is normally a massive Term for Winter Sports including Rugby, Netball, and Basketball. At this stage we are unsure whether there will be any form of competition in these codes - possibly at Alert Level 1, but at this stage we don't know.

As well a range of other activities have been cancelled, or postponed.

Hopefully everyone will continue to do the correct thing, make the good choices, and we will continue to progress downward through the Alert Levels.



# The TAS School Wide Behaviour Expectations are: -

## 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



## Helmets

The Board has decided that as from this point on, helmets and shoes will be compulsory for TAS Students using scooters, or skateboards, at the Skatepark. This is a considered reaction (rather than knee jerk) because of the number of accidents that have been occurring. Concrete is a very unforgiving surface, and appropriate protective gear can help avoid a nasty injury.



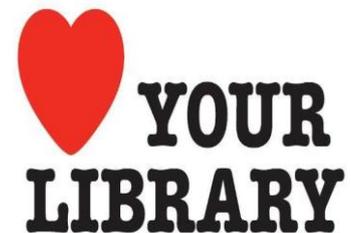
Before lockdown we had unprecedented numbers using the Park, and it is our role to ensure the safety and welfare of our Students. Wearing helmets and other protective equipment is a necessary safety precaution.

The Pandemic environment further complicates the situation and they are now unable to share their equipment.

## Supporting Your Childs Learning

Support your child's learning at home by:

**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](#).



**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 cannot 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](#).



**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.

## GOLDEN RULES OF ALERT LEVEL 2

- ✓ **Most businesses can open** if they can do it safely. **Be kind and be patient.**
- ✓ We can go **in-store** at local businesses. There **may be some restrictions.**
- ✓ Tertiary **education facilities**, schools and early learning centres **will be open.**
- ✓ We can **travel between regions.**
- ✓ Initially **gatherings** like weddings, funerals, tangihanga, religious ceremonies and social gatherings can have **up to 10 people.**
- ✓ We can safely **connect and socialise** with close friends and family, **in groups of 10.**
- ✓ We can **visit local cafes and restaurants**, bars and pubs **to have a meal.**
- ✓ We can **return** to our regular **recreation activities**, at first **keeping to 10 people.**
- ✓ Public spaces like playgrounds, parks, gyms and swimming pools will be open (not all facilities will open immediately, ring first). Please be careful as contact tracing will not be easy. Always wash your hands thoroughly when you leave these places.

***For more in depth information go to: [www.covid19.govt.nz](http://www.covid19.govt.nz)***

# Protect yourself and others from COVID-19



Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds). Then dry.



Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.



Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.



Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately.



Stay home if you feel unwell.

For updates and more information on keeping yourself safe, visit [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

**New Zealand Government**

**Unite  
against  
COVID-19**

# IF YOU ARE SICK STAY AT HOME!

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## TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF

### EAT HEALTHY

Good food helps to keep you well and build immunity

### EXERCISE REGULARLY

Get a daily dose of fresh air and sunshine

### ACCEPT YOUR SITUATION

Focus on the things you can control, not the things you can't

### STAY CONNECTED

Phone, video call, group chat, visit family and friends



### PRACTICE MINDFULNESS

Time to be at peace and reflect

### MASTER YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Enjoy your time at home, work and play

### BE AN OPTIMIST

Stay positive. Keep thinking of the big picture

### EXPRESS GRATITUDE

Be grateful for all the good things in your life

### STAY WELL

If you are sick stay home. Seek medical attention if you need it

# Application to the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

An application to the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund (RTF) Assessment Committee, was successful and we have received a grant of \$5,220 to assist with the cost of travel for Sport for 2020, when Sports competitions begin.

## Quotes 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.

# TAS Behaviour Expectation

## Manaakitanga

We show respect in what we do and say for property, people, and the environment.

This sounds like:-

- We use polite, appropriate language;
- We care for our property and the property of others;

- **We leave spaces tidy;**
- **We use manners when we are in school and off campus.**

## **TAS Rebuild**

Today and tomorrow you will notice a drilling rig on the School Site. The rig is testing ground conditions to help inform the future design of our new School. This kind of testing is typical of every Ministry of Education Project during the Project initiation phase. The drilling will make some noise, but otherwise won't disrupt Student Learning.

The safety of our Students is paramount. Although the site won't be fully fenced, the equipment and the area will be safely managed by the on-site engineers. Cones and safety tape may be used around the working area, and students may need to minimise their time outdoors for the day. School Staff will monitor outdoor activity closely to ensure students remain safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Richard, or Jenny, at School.



# Skool Loop App

Please update the Skool Loop App on your phone to load the Check in Tile. This can be used to assist with Contact Tracing. The process for this is explained below:

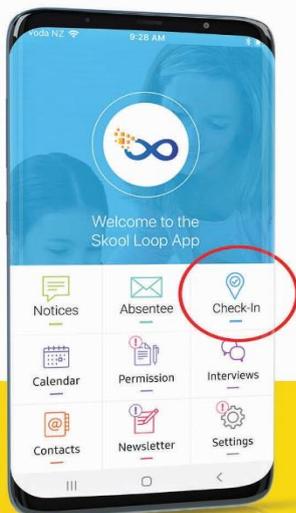
## STOP Contact Tracing Register



All visitors to this school, including parents, are required to **check in** on arrival and **check out** when leaving



Please register via our School App or scan the QR Code below



### How to check in:

1. Scan the QR Code or tap the “**Check-In**” button on our school app
2. Choose our school
3. Enter your details
4. Tap “**Check In**”
5. Show the confirmation page to staff if required
6. When leaving the premises tap the “**Check Out**” button

**The Skool Loop App. Simple 100% free download:**  
In Google Play & App Store search ‘**Skool Loop**’  
& choose our school once installed.