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Lead Me to Lead My Learning

Taihape Area School

Tuesday 2nd June, 2020

Term 2 – Number 8

Reminder - Year 7/8 Immunisations next Tuesday

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back after the long weekend. As we move slowly to Alert Level 1, life is gradually easing to a more normal state. However it is unlikely some things will ever be the same again, although in some cases this is probably a good thing.

At times it is easy to understand why some people have become a little blasé about the Pandemic. However a few minutes each evening watching the News is a quick reality check, and reinforces how very lucky we have been compared with most other places around the World. The Countries that were so reluctant to respond to the virus are now paying a horrendous price. Lives are worth more than economic disruption, and the cost to the USA and UK for example, is astronomical.

Week 8 of the Term, and another step forwards in this unprecedented time of change and uncertainty. Without doubt memories of 2020 will be forever entrenched in our minds. It has been definitely challenging, surreal, and stressful. However it has also showcased the very real benefits of living in an Island Country, in an isolated corner of the World, and with the bountiful advantages of climate and extensive natural resources, including plentiful water, and an amazing agricultural and horticultural infrastructure.

Recently I watched an item on TVNZ One News about a High School that has a number of Students who are members of the local Volunteer Fire Brigade. This got me thinking about the role the Local Community plays in the development of Children and Young People.

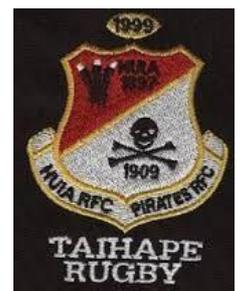


As the saying goes “*it takes a village to raise a child*”, this is absolute, and Taihape provides an excellent example of this in practice. Historically we have also had a number of students who have also been Volunteer Firemen (including Jack Murell, Ian and James Morrison, James McCann, Rowan Bradley, Sarah Squires). Many of us have had the experience of ducking out of doorways to avoid being bowled over as these young people hare off to the Fire Station in response to the Fire Alarm.

There are many benefits associated with this. For starters they learn the value and selflessness of service to the Community. This is definitely lacking in modern society, as typified by the difficulty many Clubs (including Sports Clubs), and service groups, have attracting members, and in particular people who are prepared to roll their sleeves up, and accept administrative roles within those groups.

There is also the benefit of rubbing shoulders with community minded role models, people who have been there, done that, and who can pass on their experience and life skills. This is a huge learning curve for anyone, and an opportunity to upskill and develop in a safe and supportive environment. As we know there are some amazing people involved in the Taihape Fire Brigade, so our young people are definitely in very good hands. This positive and inclusive culture established in the local Fire Brigade, is illustrated by the long tenure of many Firemen, with several receiving long service rewards.

In the Taihape setting (and rural New Zealand generally) young people have other opportunities to learn about life while supported by older, more experienced people. As an example Netball and Rugby Clubs have an important role to play in this. As well as developing their sporting skills, all Clubs have a moral responsibility to ensure that their young members learn the ropes, are encouraged to give back, and that they develop responsible attitudes towards training, commitment, and of course the social aspect, in particular dealing with alcohol. This is huge and if clubs have the right structures and processes in place, can be life enhancing. As well the benefits to the Club, and Community, are potentially impressive.



Just to finish, on behalf of the School I pass on our thanks and gratitude, for your ongoing support during these difficult times.

Have a great week!!

Nga mihi nui

Richard McMillan



Tall Poppies – Week 7

In the first week out of Lockdown the following Taihape Area School Students rose above the Crowd as outstanding achievers, and members of our Learning Community:-



Marshall Collings and **Ava Crow** (Room 1) - for progress in reading;

Tyler Service (Room 2) - for completing all his work to a very high standard;

Tremaine Temara (Room 4) - for a positive attitude towards his learning. Your smile is infectious;

Darlene Tawa-Kamura (Room 2) - for achievement in Mathematics, and in particular your amazing subtraction;

Libby Thompson (Room 5) - for always displaying her wonderful manners in class and in the playground;

Kapri Temara (Room 5) - for always showing Manaakitanga to her peers;

Katie Williams (Room 6) - for Excellence in Distance Learning- completing all assignments to a high standard;

Keahni Nahona-Waitoka (Room 6) - for being a focussed learner and showing self-management skills;

Te Kohatu Crow-Chase (Room 7) - for showing Rangatiratanga in classroom learning;

Aaron-Lee Sime (Room 7) - for showing Rangatiratanga in artwork;

Montana Kirby and **Mei-Li Hayes** (Room 8) - for showing Rangatiratanga by being focused learners.

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.*

Need to Talk?

Need to Talk? Free call, or text 1737, any time to speak to a trained Counsellor, for any reason.

- **Lifeline:** 0800 543 354;
- **Suicide Crisis Helpline:** 0508 828 865 / 0508 TAUTOKO (24/7). This is a service for people who may be thinking about suicide, or those who are concerned about family, or friends;
- **Depression Helpline:** 0800 111 757 (24/7);
- **Samaritans:** 0800 726 666 (24/7);
- **Youthline:** 0800 376 633 (24/7) or free text 234 (8am-12am), or email talk@youthline.co.nz;
- What's Up: **online chat** (7pm-10pm) or 0800 WHATSUP/ 0800 9428 787 children's helpline (1pm-10pm weekdays, 3pm-10pm weekends);
- **Kidsline** (ages 5-18): 0800 543 754 (24/7);
- **Rural Support Trust Helpline:** 0800 787 254;
- **Healthline:** 0800 611 116;
- **Rainbow Youth:** (09) 376 4155.

If it is an emergency and you feel like you, or someone else is at risk, call 111.

Supporting Your Child's Learning

Time is a challenging concept for children. Frequently ask them what the time is and support them in reading the time. If it's digital, ask them to describe what that would look like on the clock face.

This skill takes a lot of practice and you can add to the practice they get at school by encouraging them to look at clocks and read them for you:-

- Is it PAST the hour, or coming up TO the hour?
- How many minutes to what hour?
- Or how many minutes past what hour?



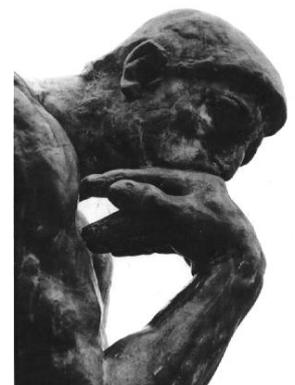
Encourage them to move back and forth between digital and traditional clocks.

Thinking

Take some time to read this poem by **Walter D Wintle** - print it off, and read it out loud every day, for a month!!

THINKING

If you think you are beaten, you are
 If you think you dare not, you don't,
 If you like to win, but you think you can't
 It is almost certain you won't.



If you think you'll lose, you're lost
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you are outclassed, you are
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!

And let's remember, that in reality....
THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING I CAN DO.

It may be small, it may not be much, but that is the place to start.

- Walter D Wintle



5 Positive Effects Reading Has on Your Brain (or Why Reading remains beneficial in the Digital Age)

There's nothing like sitting down with a good book. While the hobby is plenty entertaining, scientists and doctors have observed several positive effects from reading. Books inspire creativity, critical thinking, increase empathy, and offer plenty of other incentives to go and enjoy some word power. Read on (pun unintended) for five benefits everyone can enjoy from books!

1. READING ALLOWS US TO EXPERIENCE MORE SENSATIONS

In a study conducted at Emory University, reading increases the activity in the brain's central sulcus, which controls our motor skills. If we read a passage where a character is walking along a path, the activity from the neurons in this area make us feel as though we're experiencing the walk ourselves. Then, there's **grounded cognition**; a concept that proves that reading actually puts you in someone else's shoes through the brain's biology.

2. IT MAKES US MORE EMPATHETIC

Literary fiction readers have a higher ability to empathize with other's emotions and thoughts than those who read mainly nonfiction. In other words, fiction readers can be more empathetic, and have an easier time seeing a situation from various perspectives, just by reading about their favourite characters.

3. BOOKS PROVIDE PLENTY OF MENTAL STIMULATION

Mentally stimulating your brain on a regular basis can help [slow down Alzheimer's and Dementia](#). It's like physical exercise; the more you move, the better shape you're in. For your brain to stay healthy and alert, it needs exercise. Reading (along with puzzles and certain games) keeps your activity levels high and your [brain power nice and strong](#).

4. WE BECOME LESS STRESSED WHEN WE READ REGULARLY

When you make a habit of reading, it's easier for your brain to relax and temporarily transport itself to another world. A good book can daily stressors evaporate, put you in your character's shoes, and keep you focused on the words you're reading. If you're looking for an easy way to relax and destress, try to make a habit out of reading more often.

5. READING CAN IMPROVE OUR MEMORY

When you read, you're [engaging more than a few brain functions](#), such as phonemic awareness, visual and auditory processes, comprehension, fluency, and more. Reading jolts your brain into action, [maintains concentration](#), and allows your mind to process the events happening before you. The more you read and engage that part of your brain, the easier it is to keep your memory strong.



Parents and Caregivers

An excerpt from the **STA (Schools Trustee Association) News Magazine:**

“And speaking of parents/ caregivers - One of the interesting things about parents/caregivers is that their expectations of the Schooling System are actually quite simple. They want their child(ren) to achieve to their potential in a happy, supportive, and fulfilling environment, well prepared to be able to move on to higher education, or to get a good job, and live a happy, productive, and fulfilling life.

By and large, parents/caregivers do not get into the ideology, protection, arguments, power games, and positioning that characterises much of the Education Sector, simply because from a parent's/ caregiver's point of view, it's the meeting of their expectations (call it outcomes, if you wish) that matters, not the inputs, the outputs, or indeed the particular views of sector groups. And yes, some of us still have children /young people at School ... and it is certainly true for most, if not all of us.”



0800What's Up

Barnardos 0800What's Up (0800 942 87 87) is a free and confidential nationwide telephone/online chat helpline **for children and youth in New Zealand between the ages of 5-18 years old**, staffed by paid, trained counsellors.

We have been there for the children of Aotearoa for over 17 years, and during this time we have talked with thousands of children about whatever is on their mind. We have listened to their stories, their worries, and even their jokes. We do not tell them what to do, but instead provide support, and allow them space to explore what is best for them and the possible consequences of their choices.

0800What's Up is open every day, including public holidays.

Our phone line hours are:

Monday to Friday 12 noon to 11pm

Saturdays and Sundays 3pm to 11pm

Our online chat is open 3-10pm, 7 days



WHATEVER'S GOING ON, WE'LL LISTEN

0800 WHAT'S UP?

FREE COUNSELLING HELPLINE AND WEB CHAT SERVICE FOR KIDS AND TEENS

CALL 0800 WHATSUP
0800 942 8787
Monday to Friday: 12pm-11pm
Weekends: 3pm-11pm

CHAT WITH US
WHATSUP.CO.NZ
Monday to Sunday: 3pm-10pm

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Posters printed by: OfficeMax

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @0800WHATSUP

Wood Raffles

We have 2 Wood Raffles on the go at the moment.

The Wood on offer is beautiful bone dry sycamore.

Tickets are available from the School Office - \$5.



Primary Hockey

Primary Practice begins next Wednesday, on the Turf, here at TAS.

Year 5/6 [3.00pm](#)

Year 7/8 [4.00pm](#)

Competition begins at the start of next Term. Games are on Fridays:

Year 5/6 @ Marton

Year 7/8 @ Fielding

Hockey sticks are provided - children require mouth-guards and sneakers



Beautiful Pumpkins for Sale

A variety of pumpkins and squash grown on the School Farm are for sale - gold coin donation. These were planted by Children who were in Room 4 last Year.



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

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**

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:

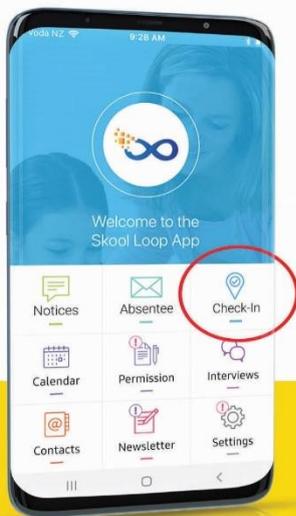
STOP Contact Tracing Register



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.