

Taipa Area School

Vibrant Dynamic Hub of the Community

NEWS LETTER

1st July 2015

Week	Date	Item
11	1 July	Music Evening
11	2 July	Teachers V Students Netball Game
11	3 July	The Beast Mud Run
11	3 July	Reports Home
11	3 July	Last Day of Term 3
1	20 July	Teacher Only Day/Parent Interviews
1	21 July	First Day of Term 3

Dear Parents

School Reports

We have been hit by winters chill as we near the end of term 2. It has been a long and busy term and there have been many successes that the school can be proud of. I am pleased with the way students are better managing their learning by knowing what the learning expectations are in each of their classes and what the next steps are in order to be successful. School reports sent home next week will emulate these expectations by providing information to parents on student progress as well as the next learning steps.

Parent Interviews

The first day back to school next term Monday 20 July, is a parent interview day where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's report with their teacher and together with your child set relevant learning goals for term 3. Information about the interview day has already been posted home.

Curriculum Changes and Effects

The new curriculum changes that the school has implemented has provided a number of challenges for both students and teachers. Foremost amongst these challenges is the issue of time. Time for teachers to teach and time for students to learn. In order to provide a more flexible timetable that enables students more choice and control of their learning pathway some subjects and learning times are longer or shorter than in the past. Also many senior students have extra tutorial times which they need to be making productive use of. As a response to these types of challenges, teachers are spending more time and effort with individual students to ensure they have clear long term and short term goals that are well communicated and can be followed up on by any teacher at any given time.

School Uniform

The Board has asked for the uniform policy to be reviewed next term. This will not mean a major change of the current school uniform but rather a review of what we already have that is working well, what could work better and what needs aspects we don't need to carry on with. Basically we need a policy that is simple, clear and easier to enforce. In the meantime students are expected to be in proper uniform and if not, must provide with a signed note of explanation to their tutor or homeroom teacher. Teachers prefer to have conversations about learning with your child rather than what they are wearing.

Reviewing School Starting and Finishing Times

I feel strongly that all our students would benefit if school started and finished at least half an hour later. Many of our students are at bus stops at 7.30am, then endure a half hour ride to school - often having missed breakfast or not having dressed or washed properly. An extra half hour prep time in the morning may mean the difference between your child having a good day or a bad day at school. Next term a survey will be sent home gathering your thoughts and opinions before any decisions are made in regards to this issue.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED IN JULY EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE IN 2015 IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

In June-July 2015 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand will welcome a new group of exchange students from over 25 countries to New Zealand. We are looking for volunteer host families to welcome these students into their homes for between 3-10 months.

It's a great way to learn about a new country and share an unforgettable experience with the entire family!



As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, backgrounds and ages. To this end, we would be grateful if you would place a notice in your newsletter/bulletin or mention it on your website.

Please note that all our host families are interviewed in their homes and carefully checked for suitability.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. The whole family....and relatives and friends....will grow and learn as they all get to know their new 'son' or 'daughter' from another land.

All students have at least basic levels of English, would attend a school in your local area and live the life of a local. Our group of students cover a wide variety of interests and hobbies. If you would like to provide your students, parents or language/music teachers with further information on our inbound students you can also download some student profiles from the website. studentexchange.org.nz/ this is just a small sample of all the students who will be arriving.

Our staff members will be happy to discuss which student might be best suited to a family.

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience. It allows a family to experience a foreign culture first hand, be exposed to a new language and pass on a bit of our own culture. They might even make a friend for life!

"Becoming a Host family for an international student has been much more than we expected. We thought it would be great for our kids to learn a little about another language and maybe something about another country. Instead, we gained another family member and some great new friends, her parents from Germany. We get to show off our country and learn so much about hers. What a fantastic experience for all of us." Melissa, Host Mum

Mum

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation registered with the New Zealand Ministry of

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Well done to the year 10 girls who showed some very good leadership skills when managing and delivering the Primary Sports Skipathon on Thursday 25th June 2015



Kiyana Maree Bristow, Catarina Cruz, Te Huia Derbyshire, Taylah Hart, Aaliya Matthews, Emmanuelle McDonald, Te Rangimarie Rongonui Shelford, Destiny Wright, Kiri Wyllie and Paris Paraha.

Congratulations to the excellent leadership shown by the year 10 & 11 Soccer referees during the Primary Soccer Sports tournament hosted at Taipa Area School. These students demonstrated some excellent knowledge and communication skills to enable the tournament to be a resounding success!





2015 NZQA Fees Subsidy Forms

Get your NZQA subsidy forms from the school office now to avoid having to pay the full fee for eligible families. The subsidy means a one off payment of \$20 per student or \$30 for families. If you are not sure if you are eligible please ask at the office.

Nga Whakataetae mo Nga Manu Korero 2015



This year we took a group of students down to Whangarei to participate in the annual Nga Manu Korero speech competitions. The competition was held on the 8th - 10th of June and was hosted by Tikipunga High School and held at Forum North. We had three speakers who spoke on behalf of our kura in three of the five sections. They were: Analiese Moses who participated in Ta Himi Henare Bilingual section, Te Huariki Gardiner-Toi in the Korimako Senior English section and Hine Roberts who spoke in the Sir Turi Carroll Junior English. This year was significantly challenging because all schools brought their best speakers and in the end Te Huariki Gardiner-Toi placed second, losing by 2 points to Huanui College and Hine Roberts placed third in her section. Taipa Area School has had success in these competitions in the past and as we look to next year, we anticipate more success in this competition by supporting and encouraging our up and coming speakers in all sections of the competition.

E mihi ana ki a koutou e ngā ākonga i tū kaha nei koutou i runga i te papa whakatū waewae. Mīharo pai ki te kite atu i a koutou e whakangahau, e whakataki atu ana i ō koutou kōrero ki te marea. Nei rā te mihi nui ki a koutou!

Senior English speech: Maori Health: Together we can improve it!

Revive, not improve. The idea that Māori health needs improving is somewhat inaccurate. The word *improve* does not acknowledge the fact that the health of maori was once, excuse the slang, "on point." Colonisation and its adverse effects on the health of maori have left us traumatized in an appalling state of health. What once was a

people who were strong both physically, mentally and who lived active lives, is now a people who are simply unhealthy. I believe the proper term that should be used is revive. Māori health - Together we can revive it. So prepare yourselves ladies and gentlemen as I have arrived. I have arrived amongst the presence of such scholarly and esteemed judges, but more importantly I have come with the answer to how we can revive, not improve, the level maori health to the state that it once was.

The arrival of Captain Cook in 1769, foreshadowed the breakdown of Māori society as they knew it. Prior to colonization, our tupuna lived in a world where the term *hunter-gatherer* was the creed to which they lived their lives. This was based on the philosophy to only hunt or gather kai to sustain oneself and one's whanau, until it was necessary to go and hunt and gather kai again. Back then, when was to become subject to illness, it was a matter of what the individual done to upset atua or disrupt the concept of tapu. If this were the case, it would mean the intervening of a Tohunga - who were healers of both physical and spiritual ailments. When colonization occurred not only did our people become susceptible to unknown diseases, but they began to disregard their own values, beliefs, and lost faith in the very customs that had governed the way they lived. The Tohunga Suppression Act is one of many examples of how this happened. Tohunga were banned from practicing traditional healing rituals, and consequently, our people were forced to administer into westernized medicine. Today, we are still in a state of grieving, because we are still recovering from the trauma of colonisation and trying return to a state of health in a world that simply isn't ours. However, it is important for us to acknowledge the fact that our tupuna were once strong people both physically and mentally and there is absolutely no reason why we cannot be like that again today.

Which then begs the question, how can we revive, not improve, Māorihealth?

Well the answer is quite simple. As much as I don't want to admit it, but tāne mā, our salvation and our well being lies in the delicate but strong hands of our wāhine. They are the vessel to which all life is brought forth into the world, and therefore, it is with our women that the answer to our health issues can be found. When conception occurs, it is the nutrients from the mother that feeds the baby, it is the warmth of her whare tangata that enables it to grow. When the baby eventually comes into the world - the way he views health and how he takes care of his tinana is entrenched into him by the mother. In saying that, tāne mā, our role in this is important. We need to reinstate and promote the role of tane within the whānau unit. Men are integral to raising the child, supporting the mother and nurturing the whanau as a whole. Prior to the arrival of christianity to our shores, our tane took up the mantle of kaitiaki for their whānau. When their partner was hapū, they would source out nutritious kai that would sustain the mother, but also help in the development of the fetus. When it came to birth, it was tane that would act as the midwife, supporting his partner to ensure that their uri passes from the world of darkness into the world of light. With the introduction of christianity ,came a different role expected for our tane. No longer were they to be the midwife to a birthing mother, or at home with the baby, it was expected that they go out and become the earners of money, leaving the mother and child at home, supporting the archaic ideals of a patriarchal Pākeha society, which was the complete opposite from the Māori world view.

Our creation story, of Ranginui and Papatuānuku and their many children, are varied between hapū and iwi, however, the main point of these stories is that the Māori world view is based on one important concept - Whakapapa. Whakapapa is all encompassing and all inclusive. It is the genealogical descent of all living things from our atua to the present and future times. Therefore it is with whakapapa that we can reach the epitome of health. We can acknowledge whakapapa as a tool to store knowledge and allow it to passed down from generation to generation. So the idea is that if we nurture our mothers and educate our whanau today on how be healthy, then they will teach their children, and their children will teach their children. It is a perpetual effect, and the synergy between us all will allow for a healthy lifestyle to be passed down to our future descendants.

The failure of Māori health developed subsequent to the year 1769. The revival of Māori health will develop subsequent to the year 2015. Ladies and gentlemen, the revolution begins now. We continue to suffer from our history of colonisation and the societal injustices that accompanied it. However, we need to be proactive and become the agents of change. We must educating mothers and whānau as to how to raise well children and then allow this to lifestyle to be passed down to our descendants to come. Well children create well populations. Ladies and gentlemen, Māori health together, we can revive, not improve it!



Te haerenga ki Waitangi 4 - 5 June

As part of our Treaty of Waitangi unit, the students of Te Whānau o Te Wairere and Te Whānau o Te Waimarino went for an overnight trip to the Bay of Islands to see and hear the korero related to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the New Zealand Land Wars that followed.



On Thursday, we set off to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds where we were given an educational tour of the grounds and the history of the Treaty. We were then entertained with kapa haka at te Whare Runanga. Our students were able to experience and enjoy a different type of forum for kapa haka.

We then went over to Kororareka - *The Hell Hole of the Pacific* - and went to see the flagpole that Hone Heke chopped down, and Christ Church - the only surviving building from the *Sacking of Kororareka*.



On Friday, we were joined by Matua Tukaha Milne from the Ngati Hine Health Trust, who took us up to Ruapekapeka pa and gave us the history surrounding the great deeds of tupuna such as Hone Heke and Te Ruki Kawiti. What an awesome experience!!





LIONS DINNER

I had the Pleasure to attend the Mangonui Lions June Dinner with Mr. Toi and Te Hauariki. We were there as both a reward to Te Hauariki who represented the Mangonui Lions Club at the “Young Speechmaker” speech competition and also to give us an opportunity to see what the Lion’s are all about.

Lions Clubs International was founded in 1917 by “Melvin Jones.” Lions Clubs International has grown to over 1.35 Million Members with over 10,000 coming from New Zealand. According to the New Zealand Lions Club's website, “Since 1990 Lions have raised more than US\$415,000,000 for its SightFirst programme which has saved the sight of millions of people worldwide.” This is really awesome if we consider that Lions is a purely volunteer organization.

We were very privileged to hear about the projects that the club has completed over the past year and of the amazing amount of Money that was raised by the lions along with thousands of hours of time donated to community projects. Some examples included the purchase of medical equipment for St. John through the Doubtless Bay Fishing Tournament and also other organizations like Doubtless Bay Kindergarten with their Duck Race and the Doubtless Playgroups Easter Dig.

I feel that this group doesn't receive the recognition they deserve and everyone should think about joining. Their aging population isn't being replaced and the service they provide to the community is extremely important. Without new members, their ability to support the community will not be able to support the Community.

Finally, I'd like to reiterate my thanks to Mangonui Lions for this opportunity.

Quinn Moffat

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Kaitaia (09 408 3927) Hours: Mon - Thurs 8.00am - 5.00pm, Fri 8.00am - 4.00pm

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Absentees.

If your child\ren are absent or going to be absent from school please inform the school by either method below:

- Phone: 4060159 press 9 at the prompt
- Email: absent@taipa.school.nz

