



Taipa Area School

Taipa, Northland
Newsletter No. 5, 5th July 2019

Tēnā koutou katoa
Ngā mihi māhana ki a koutou te whānau.

We have had a great start to the term, unveiling our four pou and returning our carvings to their rightful place in the Hall. We had a beautiful dawn ceremony last Thursday to unveil our pou: Tawhirimātea, Tāngaroa, Maui and Rongomatāne. These pou represent our tamariki from our very young ones at Doubtless Bay Kindergarten, through to our Houses, Mahitahi, Painga and Manaakitanga. This event was well supported by whānau, hapū and iwi and we are extremely proud to have esteemed guests such as MP Willow-Jean Prime, John Carter (Far North Mayor), Whaea Reremoana (a founding pupil of Taipa District High School), the Taipa Bridge Team (Orcon, Fulton Hogan and NZTA) and Ngāti Kahu. This project was bought together by **Shiquille Duval**, see her comments later in this newsletter.

Ngā mihi
Doreen Bailey, Principal

NCEA

Year 10-13 students will be busy this term completing work for their NCEA certificate. During term three students will be involved in an assessment week. This is an opportunity for students to sit practice external examinations in preparation for the November examinations. Students are aware that if they legitimately miss an examination in November then these practice examination results will get carried through and make their final grade.

Additionally, subjects that do not have external examinations will use the assessment week to complete practical assessments or tasks which need to be carried out in a controlled environment.

Education Review Office (ERO)

The ERO team will be with us next week Monday to Wednesday. Their role is to visit our school and



review our progress with our achievement, how well we are looking after our students in terms of their health and well-being and how well we are running the school. We are very excited to be able to share our journey with them and look forward to sharing the Taipa Area School ERO report once it has been presented to the Board of Trustees.

Students Signing in and out

If your tamariki are late to school, it is imperative that they come to the front office and sign in on our tablet. This ensures we know they are here and safe. This also avoids our software sending out absent messages needlessly worrying whanau when their student is in fact in school.

When you sign your tamariki out early or they are being picked up without the caregiver physically coming into our front office you must either call or give a note on to student to hand in to administration. Please help us keep your child safe we need to know that they are going home safely with a caregiver or approved person for appropriate reasons.

Board of Trustees

Congratulations to the new Board of Trustees representing Taipa Area School: **Michael Erihe, Kiri Elliot, Tania Grace, Karena Hita, Steven Tansey, Lisa Baker** and **Sarah Russel** as the **Chairperson**.

Taipa Area School Ball

The theme for the ball this year is '**Enchanted**' and it will be held on **August the 24th**. The doors will open at **7pm** and will only be open to Years 11, 12 and 13 students.

Tickets are on sale now and will be \$30 each or \$50 for couples with the ball itself being held in the Taipa Area School Hall. Each person attending **must** return their permission slip and contact if they are wanting to attend.

Mid Term Break

On Monday 26th August, there will be a day where students DO NOT come to school. This is so that we have a mid-term break. This will make a long weekend after the Taipa Area School Ball.

Careers Corner

Learner Licenses

A huge congratulations to the following students who sat and passed their Learner License recently in Kerikeri; **Anei Crooks, Jaime Davies, Tryneece Heta-Tomars, Erikah Togiaua, Ben Thoresen, Lois Ratima and Kayla Frear.**

Gateway Barbering Course with Cut Above Academy

A number of students travelled to Auckland in the second week of the July school holidays to attend a Gateway Barbering Course. This course gained them valuable credits to go towards their NCEA. They travelled down on Sunday 14 July, spent 5 days doing the course at the Cut Above Academy in Queen Street, Auckland. Students were required to either catch the bus or train into the course each day. All students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will now set up a "Barber Shop" at school to cut willing fellow students and staff hair as part of the practical work experience of the course. Congratulations to the following students who attended and passed the course; **Anei Crooks, Michelle Pickering-Forden, Ella-Ray Simeon, Laurel Simeon, Lyric Pene and Te Mahara Parata.**

Shiquille Duval

Youth Parliament

The experience of being a Youth MP for Te Tai Tokerau is amazing, being able to speak on behalf of not only our community but our school was a real privilege. I had a wonderful time in Wellington and I had to ask a question to the minister of Health about my own topic choice, which was; *"What investment has he identified, if any, to build more mātauranga based solutions to address the high use of meth in Te Hiku/Northland?"*

I would recommend to anyone if you get the opportunity to do this, do it. You meet 119 other people who are all Youth MPs and Press Gallery members. It is an amazing way to build your confidence in yourself.

The Pou Unveiling

Well this project has been a pleasure to manage, all the mahi sure paid off.

Seeing the whole process of how a Pou came to be and just knowing the meanings that we made for each one became so significant to us and also knowing how we connect to each one is amazing! Each Pou individually not only represents just the one house group they all represent us as a whole school. That whole space is where you can go to as a safe place as it represents the Mana Potential tool. I am very happy to see the Pou up and unveiled can't wait to see the whole project finished.

iMOKO Volunteer Needed

Due to our amazing volunteer **Lorinda Robinson** sadly leaving us to spend time with her mokopuna we are in need of an iMOKO volunteer. The position involves coming into Taipa Area School for 3-5 hours a week where you will be working with the iMOKO foundation who will also be providing training. The job consists of visiting students and recording information with which you will send to iMOKO so they may facilitate student's health care needs. If you are interested, pop into the front office at Taipa Area School and let us know. Please be aware you will need to complete a police vetting check.

Shakespeare Visit

On Tuesday 23rd July Te Whānau o Taipuna were fortunate enough to host our American guests from New York. We welcomed 16 students to our kura showing and sharing ao Māori culture, karakia, waiata and mihimihi. After whakatau we took them to the staff room for a small break. Once everyone returned back to the classroom, we split into two groups mixing with them and started games like pako just to learn each other's names. Not long after that, we returned as one group playing a big game of Pukana. We let them teach us one of their games called Ninja.

Around lunch time we all gathered into the classroom for shared lunch. We ate for a good hour and to finish our day with them we taught them how to play ki-o-rahi. So we ended the day with ki-o-rahi and a group photo with them. Before the day ended our manuhiri presented a rakau, a tree, as a koha.



Written by **Kelisha Henry**

New Primary Walls

We have some new walls in our Primary School classrooms that are making the space look bright and are encouraging a positive learning environment! Here are what some of the students from Primary have to say about their learning space;

"It's nice and bright. I like that it is colourful it looks better than before." – **Cooper Nichols**



"I like the bright blue. It is easier to put our work on." – **Grace-Rose Murray**



"They are bright, it makes our room look tidy it was plain before." – **Sally Pikaahu**



"They are my favourite colours." – **Jaydee Tahere**



"New walls make me feel excited" – **Rewi Pikaahu**

Student Writing

Long long ago, in a small village, Maui and his brothers were preparing a hangi for their dinner. They were just starting to heat up the hangi pit when the sun went down! They couldn't believe it, they had started early in the morning and gone as fast as they could.

The sun was racing across the sky and making the days extremely short. This frustrated Maui and his brothers, they hated having to eat in the dark.

"That Sun is so lazy, he sprints across the sky as fast as he can just to get to his bed!" Maui complained. The brothers agreed with Maui but they didn't know what to do about it. Maui devised a plan to capture the Sun and force him to slow down. The brothers weren't convinced that it would work, they kept worrying that they would get roasted to death and that it was impossible. Maui tried everything but they were too stubborn to change their minds. Maui reminded them about all the 'impossible' things he had done with the jawbone his ancestors had given him and they finally gave in.

Their plan was to weave a huge flax net and catch the sun on his way out of the sun pit. They spent all night placing the net over the pit and getting in their positions. Maui demanded his brothers to make a clay wall in front of them to hide behind. Most of the brothers obeyed Maui but two of the brothers started to be wimpy and wanted to go back to the village. Maui indoctrinated them that the sun would be rising any minute now, and if they tried to run they would surely be scorched to death. The brothers took Maui's advice and built a wall to hide behind. When the sun had rose and his shoulders had got caught in the flax Maui yelled at his brothers to pull the rope in front of them. Anxiously, the brothers followed Maui's instruction and the Sun was stuck. Maui repeatedly struck the Sun with his magical jawbone until he agreed to slow down.

That is the story of how Maui slowed the Sun.

*Written by **Eloise Russel***

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