



# newsletter

## Welcome Back to Term 1

Kia ora e te whānau,  
Over the past two weeks, we've been fortunate to have 'Meet the teacher' evenings with the year 7&8 and year 9 students. It was awesome to see so many whānau for some whanaungatanga. We are excited about our whole school's parent progress day on Tuesday 4th April. Mrs Dormer will contact whānau to explain how appointments can be booked with teachers. Unfortunately, the school will be closed on the 16th March for Year 7-13 students due to all PPTA teachers taking strike action. [Strike action information](#)

## Key Dates - Term 1

### March

6th - BOI College Volleyball Competition  
8th - Senior Boys Futsal Competition  
10th - Senior Boys Touch Competition  
14th - Senior Girls Volleyball Competition  
15th - Eastern Zone Swimming, Y5&6  
Maitai Bay EMR Snorkel

**16th - Strike Action School closed for years 7-13**

17th Track & Field Champs  
20th - 24th Tao Orooro Tai Auaha  
Wananga  
22nd - Swimming Champs  
23rd - Waka ama Kaitaia

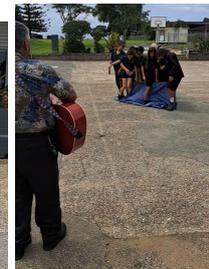
### April

4th - Parent Progress Day  
5th & 6th - Y7/8 Survival Camp

## Intermediate Term 1 Week 4

Wow, what an amazing start to the year, even though we have not yet had a full week at school. The intermediate students are very settled and are starting to get into a routine. All classes are developing their own class culture. Each student is creating their own Google portfolio where the students will be putting a selection of their learning.

Each week we will be running an interclass challenge. The winner for the week of the wero gets their room name engraved on the shield. The class with the most wins over the term will choose a reward for the whole class.



*This is the winning class. Well done Room Rua.*





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## **Story writing**

The intermediate team is diving deep into our stories. Our focus this term is around kaitiaki. As kaitiaki/guardians, what do we need to do, understand, and change to sustain what we have? What do we need to do to improve our environment? How does knowing our past help us move forward? In one short course rotation, the students are interpreting one of the four stories they have heard about how Taipā got its name. The students are then retelling the story through drawing.



## **The J R McKenzie Youth Education Fund**

The J R McKenzie Youth Education Fund was set up to assist in the betterment, education, advancement and physical welfare of the youth in the community, particularly in cases where bereavement, sickness or family disturbances leave the children in need of assistance if they are to continue their studies.

The grants may cover:

- School uniforms, clothing and footwear
- Textbooks and stationary
- Special grants especially for glasses or to help students with special needs

The application forms will be on the counter in the front office if any students/whānau wish to apply.

## **Science / 11MBP**

Kia ora Koutou

With the high winds that we have experienced recently, a pohutakawa along the beach was blown over. With the blessings of mana whenua, we had the opportunity to harvest this taonga for the purposes of using the wood for carving, giving it another life.

While we were harvesting it, we learned from a local person that the tree had been damaged 18 years ago by a fire. The fire was caused by someone burning a car tyre at its base and the result was that it was rotten around the base of the tree.

We hope that we, as a kura, can show mahitahi, and manaaki to this taonga and give it a new life as pou and other carvings.





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## Careers Corner

This year, like the previous one, we have hit the ground running. This is our busiest term for work experience and Gateway programmes. We have a customer services course starting next week, with two days of theory and then 5 days of a practical work placement. These students study with an educator from Service IQ, who provides a comprehensive customer services course around all aspects of working in a customer service based job. The students have the chance to gain 23 unit standard credits at NCEA level 2.

April 3rd and 4th are when we do our Learner Drivers Licence course. If you are 16 and want to be a part of this, please see Julie. You must have an original birth certificate or passport to be able to gain this qualification. Taipā Area School heavily subsidises the cost of sitting your licence, and you can gain NCEA level 1 credits.

For all senior students, it is really important to know that your subject choices reflect the career pathway that you are thinking about taking. For example, if you want to be an electrician you need to study maths and physics. If you want to have a chat about this, please see Julie or talk with your whānau teacher.

## HEADSS Assessment Year 9

Kia Ora Family/whānau

**Taipā Area** School is pleased to support a new and positive health initiative that provides an opportunity for all rangatahi in

year 9 to have a health screening and assessment.

We want to identify any health needs that students may have so that we can support families in providing services to meet them, and to ensure that students are in class ready and able to learn.

The Youth Health Nurse will interview each student about their health and wellbeing. The discussion with the Nurse will cover topics such as:

- Visits to health services such as the GP
- Health factors relating to home, school and friends
- Interests outside of school
- Education and advice on drugs, alcohol, and sexual health

Every student is asked for their consent before an assessment is undertaken, and has the right to refuse if they choose to. Parents can also withdraw their child from the screening programme by contacting the school and requesting that they do not participate.

This is a Ministry of Health led initiative.

For more information about the health assessment please contact your school Youth Health Nurse responsible for the health assessment programme, Fiona Swainson on 021541934



# newsletter

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9.00am - 1.00pm  
Kaitiāia (09 408 3927) Hours: Mon - Thurs 8.00am - 5.00pm, Fri 8.00am - 4.00pm

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