



SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Message from the Principal

Kia ora koutou katoa, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Ni Hao, Anyoung haseyo, Konichi wa, Guten tag, Bonjour, Ola, hello and welcome back to all our students and families for the 2015 school year.

A very special welcome to all our new students:

Cassandra Powell, Pearl Bishop, Athena Norris, Tayla Lennane, Lily Dishroon, Emma Page, Manaia Deam, Sapphire Weaver, Jordan Jackson, Leah Parnwell, Zane Byers, Cohen Ewart, Jack Campbell, Tyler Wilson, Xavier Weatherley, Lynn Matakaionga, Joshua Radley, Zane Delaney, Dominik Palomka, Julius Polomka, Sebastian Polomka, Preston Underwood, Hayden Wright, Keito Mori, Otis Jones, Chloe Payne, Sophie Morato, Belicia Reddy, Hannah Rawson, Nico Birt, Aritaku Skudder, Mackenzie-Lee Dackers, Amber Sommervell, Madison Payne, Tom Butler, Mac Blakemore, Lauren Culmar, Aya Birt, Alexandra Wright, Mikalylee Barclay, Dylan Rawson, Preston Schmidt, Manaaki Petera, Abbey Howarth, Sophie Barnes, Kyla Harley, Katie Elsom, Jake Rutherford, Kate McLean, Bree Carter, Aroha Hall, Amelia Schmidt, Kiarshin Reddy, Corban Bain, Toby Elsom, Estella Rutherford, Victoria Kontze, Ripeka Skudder, Shonn Watson, Cameron Howarth, Elijah Reid, Flynn McClean, Jack Carter, Matthew Belton, Deegan Dowman, Georgia Blair

These students come from current and new families. A warm welcome to all those new families who join us this year. We are thrilled to have you as part of the Tauriko School community. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

2015 Staff

Team	Room	Year Level	Staff Member
Junior Team	Wee sprouts	NE/Y1	Kelly Soutar, Lynley Wright
	3	Y1/2	Athalae Elliot
	4	Y 1/2	Natalie van Dijk (Team Leader)
	5	Y 2/3	Colleen Wilkie



	6	Y 3/4	Lynda Palfrey
	7	Y 3/4	Andrea Lockett
Senior Team	11	Y 4/5	Erin Shaw
	12	Y 5/6	Greg Lochhead
	13	Y 5/6	Mandy O'Reilly
	14	Y 7/8	Jo Te Whaiti (Assistant Principal), Maree Logan

Also on staff are:

Principal	Suzanne Billington
Deputy Principal	Lisa Rose
Office Manager	Kay Taylor
Office staff	Leana Ellis
Caretaker	Jon Bell
ICT Support & Teacher Aide	Nika Rikiriki
Teacher Aides	Karin Finn Nuala Taylor Michelle Dodds
Part time teachers	Sam Opie Megan Kelliher Linda Dyer Kim Death
Sports Co-ordinator	Kaye Barnett



Our condolences to Mrs Wilkie and her family on the death of her mother. Thank you to Mrs Dyer who will be in Room 5 this week while Mrs Wilkie is on bereavement leave.

Staff have been at school over the last couple of weeks preparing to welcome our wonderful students to school for an exciting year full of learning and personal growth. Attached to this newsletter are notices from the teams across our school. This year we have the Junior School Team led by Natalie van Dijk and the senior Team led by Jo Te Whaiti our Assistant Principal. These notices outline organization and learning across the school over the term and events that are coming up.

It is clear when reading these that partnership with families around learning is highly valued by the school and there are many ways that parents can get involved in the learning of their own children and other students on site. We have a strong belief here that "it takes a village to raise a child" and that teaching staff do not educate children alone.

Any volunteers who support the school on a regular basis are required to fill out a volunteer form and complete a police vet. Information re this can be obtained at the school office.

Learning Partnership Meetings

In Week 4 - Tuesday 24th February and Thursday 26th February - we will hold Learning Partnership meetings. These meetings happen near the beginning of the school year in order that parents are aware of how their children have settled into school for the year and what their next learning steps will look like in reading, writing and mathematics. These key learning areas are chosen as they are the tools of learning and support all other areas of the curriculum. Reading, writing and mathematics are also the areas reported on for National Standards.

The other areas of the curriculum are incorporated into the "My Learning" space on the report. Comments here will also reflect how your child learns.

Later in the year the school can then report on the child's progress and achievement in relation to where they were at the beginning of the year.

- Each meeting is 15 minutes long
- Students, teachers and parents are present at the meeting



- The goals set at the beginning of the year in the "Head Start" report are developed by the student and the teacher
- In discussion with parents/caregivers further information/goals can be recorded as part of the report.

We encourage all parents/caregivers to attend. This is a wonderful way to support students in their learning right from the beginning of the year and to get to know your child's teacher.



As families who travel on school buses are aware there have been changes to how school buses run this year. At the end of 2014 a notice was sent home with all students travelling by bus informing them of these changes. Information about this has also been on our website since then. For some students this means obtaining permission from local schools to travel on our school bus and for some this also means paying a fee. The details of how this system operates is also on our website as is as much information as I can find to have everyone fully informed. Last year's newsletter is also attached to this for you again.

I encourage **every family** who has a child travelling on a school bus to read this information to gauge your child's eligibility for bus transport. If you are unsure about things, please feel free to ring the school office and Kay Taylor, the office manager, and I will try to clarify things for you.

Please be patient with us around this issue. We are fielding many calls and we appreciate each and every situation and are doing our best to be clear about the MOE rules. We understand that this is difficult for many families and sympathize with your situations.

The Board is meeting tonight (Monday 2 February) to discuss how we best support our families around this. I will inform all bus families of any decisions made on Tuesday.



School Newsletters and Notices

Communication between the school and its community is vital and the school has a range of ways in which it endeavours to communicate with families effectively. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to speak to classroom teachers in the first instance about any queries they have re their child's learning or school day. Office staff are available by phone or email also.

- School newsletters go out in the first week of each school term and then in weeks 3, 6 and 9. The first one for the Term is always quite extensive and is sent out on paper to every family. Newsletters for the rest of the term are emailed to families and for those few families who do not have email we print paper copies.
- Notices around a variety of topics are sent each Monday
- Sports notices go out on Tuesday

We try to limit the days that notices go home to ensure that families don't feel bombarded every day and can learn to check schoolbags on these days. We encourage students to take responsibility for informing parents/caregivers about notices but we do appreciate spot checks of bags by parents as we know some of our younger students need support with this.

Notices that require a return slip are printed in blue - so look out for these.

Support around how to share concerns is also on our website in the "our School" area of the website.

The school website is designed to provide as much information for families as possible and school staff work hard to keep this as current as possible. This is a great place to look for information in the first instance. If you cannot find what you want the office staff are always happy to answer queries by email or phone. The "Newsletters & Notices" area of the website is always well used by parents as we are aware that at times these can disappear into the black hole - otherwise known as the schoolbag!



Parking

We began the first day today with seventy new students so we were aware that parking this morning was at a premium! Information re this is on our website and attached to this newsletter. We encourage all families to follow the systems set up to enable students to be as safe as possible arriving and departing from school. The farm paddock next door is not for public parking unless we organize this for specific school events. We will be vigilant around families who constantly park in the visitors car park by the school office as this area is small and can become very unsafe when people park here to pick up and drop off children. With bigger student numbers this issue will intensify. Please respect signs and yellow lines. Staff will place reminder notices on cars of people who do not consider student safety when they park.

Learning Opportunities

There are many opportunities to take part in a variety of different activities at Tauriko school. As a school we try to provide as many activities as we can to support our students to develop passions and grow as well rounded individuals. Examples are Planet Pals, Dynamos, Kapahaka, Choir, dance, sports teams, music lessons. Encourage your children to try a variety of different things over the time they are at Tauriko School. Trying new things as young people is very important in helping to find what you are passionate about. In challenging times the things that give us joy help us to weather the challenges.

At times young children can feel daunted by new things but gentle encouragement by the adults around them can enable students to feel confident and supported to try something different - something they may come to love.

Beginning of the year costs

As a school we recognize that the beginning of the year is an expensive time for families. Information about school camps will be out very soon and we encourage all families to begin paying this over time through the school office. All camps must be paid for prior to children attending. You will be informed about dates for this.

Staff in the office are happy to support you with prioritizing payments and organizing to pay some payments over time. Please feel free to call in and discuss this with Kay our office manager.



[Office Queries](#)

Please check the website first before calling the office for your enquiries

e.g. [School Hours](#) [Report an Absence](#) [School Buses](#) [Lunch orders](#)

[Update address or contact details](#)

If there have been changes in your contact information over the holiday period eg:

<http://taurikoevents.blogspot.co.nz/> phone, address, email etc, please visit the school website to submit these changes.



[School Events and Celebrations](#)

Have a look at how our School Houses finished in 2014.



[Upcoming Events](#)

6 February	Waitangi Day
10 February	PTA Meeting – 7pm Staffroom
24 February	Learning Partnership Meetings
26 February	School Closes at 1pm for Learning Partnership Meetings
26 February	Learning Partnership Meetings
2 March	Whole School Swimming – Greerton Pools
5 March	Tall Poppies – Wetlands Discovery Visit
9 & 10 March	Year 5 & 6 Forest Discovery Trip
19 & 20 March	Year 3 & 4 Bush Camp Aongatete Lodge

Extra-curricular

[Extra-curricular activities](#)

Music lessons, Art classes, Bay Twisters Cheerleading, Stomp Drumming and Drum Lessons



Boxes of Tissues - can you please supply a box of tissues for your child's classroom, as this helps with keeping the bugs and colds under control during the year.

Junior classrooms – need newspapers and magazines, ice-cream containers and egg cartons.

School Library 2015 – Our school library is a wonderful place for the students to visit. We would love for the library to be open during lunchtimes from 12-12.30pm. If you have a spare 30 mins here and there and are available to come in during a lunchtime (or two) to help students select/return/issues books, I would love to hear from you.

Please contact Lisa Rose for details – lrose@tauriko.school.nz

Message from the PTA

On behalf of the PTA, we hope you had a great summer holiday break.

2015 is looking set to be a great year, and the PTA are getting straight into things with the first meeting of year being held on Tuesday 10th February at 7pm in the school staffroom.

We have a number of events we are thinking about this year, including a duathlon, our annual Gala and a ladies night as some of our bigger ticket items.

As many hands make light work, the PTA are looking for additional support to help out during 2015. We invite you to come to our first meeting with the current committee members and gain a feel for how things work, and see if being part of the PTA in 2015 is something you would be interested in. Please remember, you can be involved as little or as much as you like.

If you are interested or have further questions, please Jolene Nelson on richardnelson@xtra.co.nz or 027 233 2676, otherwise we look forward to seeing those who can make it at 7pm, on Tuesday, 10th February.

Jolene Nelson

PTA Chairperson

Spare Clothes Needed

We need shorts, underwear.

If you have some spare clothes that you can kindly donate to the school it would be greatly appreciated.

Can you please include a spare change of clothes for your child/ren inside their school bag, as this will help if they get wet or have an accident.

