



TERM ONE, NUMBER FOUR, 4th APRIL 2016



Having a "Growth Mindset" supports self-confidence

Kia ora koutou katoa, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Ni Hao, Anyoung haseyo, Konichi wa, Gruetzi, Guten tag, Bonjour, Ola, hello

At our recent Teacher Only Day , Maree Logan our Maths Specialist Teacher, ran a professional learning session in maths. This session allowed teachers to unpack their own experiences when learning maths as students. It is surprising how many teachers had negative experiences around maths and how this has meant as teachers we have an understanding that we don't want our own students to feel the way we might have.

We discussed the premise that it seems socially acceptable to say, "Oh I know my child isn't great at maths, I wasn't either. S/he will be ok." It seems that it would never be socially acceptable to say, "Oh I know my child isn't great at reading. S/he will be ok." Maths and Literacy are both the foundation tools that allow us access to all other learning and are equally important in ensuring our students success at school and in their lives now and in the future.

In looking at student's attitudes to learning we are working hard to build an understanding with students that we can all learn if we persevere, work hard and relish the opportunity to take risks with new learning, make mistakes and learn from these. Neuroscience tells us that these mistakes and challenges are what fire the synapses in our brain and support them to make links in our brain, enabling our brain to grow. We can with a "growth mindset" learn more and more. We are not in a fixed place of "dumb" or "smart". With a growth mindset we can grow in understanding and skill.

In developing this growth mindset with students, teachers are talking to students about how their brain is like a muscle and that with exercise it will grow and get stronger. It is important our students see that struggle in learning is a good thing, it means we are indeed at the time of this struggle involved in a wonderful opportunity to learn even more than we already know. The struggle doesn't mean we are "dumb", it means we persevere, try again, and know that we will come through the other side and learn.

Growth mindset is based on a body of work by Carol Dweck. I recently uploaded some [video clips](#) onto our facebook page that our staff are using with students to support the discussions they have with them about what learning is. We want them to see the challenge of learning as a positive thing. Teachers are there to support and guide this learning and consider different ways/strategies that might be employed to access or understand this new learning. We understand that we are a mixture of both mindsets - but we try to be more of the growth mindset in our outlook.



Changing Our Mindset

Carol Dweck, world-renowned Stanford University psychologist, talks about the power of our mindset or our beliefs (especially around challenge). We can either have a Fixed Mindset where we let failure (or even success) define who we are, or a Growth Mindset where we see setbacks as opportunities to grow and improve ourselves. Just like how we learned how to walk... there are many stumbles along the way, but to reach our potential and live the life we desire, it takes practice and perseverance. We always have a choice about which view we adopt for ourselves... and it's never too late to change. What's your view?

It's up to you!



FIXED MINDSET

Belief that my intelligence, personality and character are carved in stone; my potential is determined at birth



GROWTH MINDSET

Belief that my intelligence, personality and character can be developed! A person's true potential is unknown (and unknowable).

	FIXED MINDSET	GROWTH MINDSET
DESIRE	Look smart in every situation and prove myself over and over again. Never fail!!	Stretch myself, take risks and learn. Bring on the challenges!
EVALUATION OF SITUATION'S	Will I succeed or fail? Will I look smart or dumb?	Will this allow me to grow? Will this help me overcome some of my challenges?
DEALING WITH SETBACKS	"I'm a failure" (identity) "I'm an idiot"	"I failed" (action) "I'll try harder next time"
CHALLENGES	Avoid challenges, get defensive or give up easily.	Embrace challenges, persist in the face of setbacks.
EFFORT	Why bother? It's not going to change anything.	Growth and learning require effort.
CRITICISM	Ignore constructive criticism.	Learn from criticism. How can I improve?
SUCCESS OF OTHERS	Feel threatened by the success of others. If you succeed, then I fail.	Finds lessons & inspiration in other people's success.
RESULT ...	Plateau early, achieve less than my full potential.	Reach ever-higher levels of achievement.

Knowing that we can all learn and that struggling in learning means that learning is indeed taking place is a vital attitude and one which supports student confidence in themselves as learners. For us as teachers it's about ensuring there is sufficient challenge to fire the synapses in the brain – but not so much that children become disheartened. The more we know our students as learners, the more we get this balance right.



Resilience

Supporting our students to develop confidence is one piece of the recipe of building students with resilience. As school community we have discussed the importance of resilience. Recently the school had the opportunity for students to learn breathing techniques to calm themselves when they may feel anxious, sad angry etc as part of Inner Peace week. We called this "meditation" and this created some difficulty for some of our parents as they were worried about the "spirituality/religion" of this. I'm grateful to those parents who contacted me as it has built awareness for me as to how this term "meditation" is viewed. I would like to assure you all that this practice at school is purely around teaching our students another strategy to calm themselves when they may feel upset, angry or worried. This is not related to any spiritualism or religion.

However, any parents who feel that they would rather these calming strategies are not taught to their children only have to ring or email the school office and this will be passed on to teachers.

Review of the Education Act, 1989

Recently an update of the national consultation around the Education Act, 1989 was released by the MOE. The changes to this act will have far reaching implications for our schools. Information is available around this on the [Ministry of Education website](#).

BOT Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting is April 7 at 5:30pm in the staffroom. At this meeting we have Adam Francis (NZTA) visiting and talking to the BOT about NZTA thinking at this stage around traffic safety outside our school. We are very grateful to Adam for making the time to talk with us. This discussion is part of a long process the school has been in to proactively develop strategies to provide for a safer environment outside our school gate. As always the school community are welcome to attend this meeting.

BOT Elections 2016

Over the next few weeks information will be coming out to families around the 2016 Board of Trustee elections that are being held right across the country. The Board of Trustees are a governance body that set policy, develop the Charter outlining the school's vision and strategic goals, is accountable for student achievement, approves the annual budget for the school, staffs and ensures the school complies with all its legal and policy requirements.

The Board meet approximately twice a term and monitor the school's progress in relation to the governance framework they have in place. They appoint a chairperson at the first meeting who meets with me regularly. The school has strategic goals that aim to ensure quality 21st century teaching and learning is provided for all students, that students are confident, resilient and actively involved in their



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learning and in their community, that the school is aware of the need to develop students who can take part well in a global society and can protect their environment for future generations to come.

Nominees are being called for shortly and I encourage parents to consider the strategic aims of the school and the skills they may have to support these. A healthy election is one that has a number of candidates for the community to vote for. If you haven't been on a Board before don't let this put you off - there is training available and experienced members of the Board will support you. In my role on the Board I am also required to provide advice to the Board to support their decision making.

A booklet sharing great information about being on a Board of Trustees is [available online](#) and there are also some copies available in the school office.

Notices and Newsletters

A reminder that the school website uploads [all school newsletters](#) that go out to parents weeks 1, 3, 6 and 9 of term.

Notices from classrooms or teams can be found here also. This is useful for students who have parents/caregivers living in different places. Our data base only has the capacity to email the enrolling parent. We encourage anyone that knows they are missing emails from the school re school notices and newsletters to check this area of the website once a week to ensure they are fully informed about what is happening for their children.

This is also a great place to look if you think a notice or newsletter might not have made it home, or it gets lost.

Our ERO Report is now online: @www.ero.govt.nz

Internet Payments

Thank you to those families who have paid fees to date. If you are making an "Internet Payment" we are requesting that the payment is no less than \$15.00 an Internet Payment. When making an Internet Payment please send an email to: office@tauriko.school.nz advising what the payment is for. Once again thank you for your support.

Key Dates

Week 10	Thursday 7 th April	BOT meeting @ 5.30pm
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	Friday 8 th April	School assembly @ 1.40pm in the Tauriko Hall
Week 11	Wednesday 13 th – Friday 15 th April	Yr 5/ 6 camp @ Totara Springs
	Wednesday 13 th – Friday 15 th April	Tall Poppies Art & Leadership Camp @ Aongatete Lodge
	Friday 15 th April	No school assembly
	Friday 15 th April	Last day of Term 1
Term Two	Monday 2 nd May	First Day of Term Two
Week 1		
	Friday 6 th May	International Students Sports Day @ ASB Arena
Week 2	Monday 9 th May	NE Information Meeting, 6.30pm, Wee Sprouts Room
	Tuesday 10 th May	PTA Annual General Meeting 7pm, Tauriko School Staffroom
	Thursday 12 th May	Home Learning (Homework) Parents Meeting @ 6.30pm

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

According to the census there are 9500 Grandparent families raising grandchildren in New Zealand - about 5 families per school.

This is a very important opportunity for this group to tell us their stories.



WANTED: Alive and having your say!

Grandparents raising children

According to the last census, there are 9500 families out there where grandchildren/ mokopuna are being raised by their grandparents, great-grandparents and other kin.

If you are such a family, or know such a family, we want to hear from you. We know that you are raising children who may otherwise be in foster care and who may have lots of special needs.



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We know that you may have had battles with government agencies, health and education services and even in the courts.

Our survey gives you a chance to have your say, to tell your story, to tell us how things need to change to make your lives better.

Now is the time! The survey will run until mid-May 2016. It can be completed online on a computer or smart phone, by telephone or on paper.

Either, go online at www.grg.org.nz and follow the links. If you don't have a computer, go to your local library and ask them to help you get set up – then it is easy!

Or, ring Liz (free) at 0800 78 78 75 to...

ask us to email you a link to the survey, or

ask us to do it with you over the phone, or

ask us for a paper copy.

If you are in a school, community group or support agency, please help us reach people you know who are raising their grandchildren. Also, please offer your help to support these families to complete the survey.

This message is authorised by Kate Bundle of GRG Trust. Contact me with any questions at 0272446763 or kate@grg.org.nz.

Contact Liz Gordon at Pūkeko Research Limited on 0800 78 78 75 to get access to the survey or ask questions about it.

Yr 5/6 Syndicate

The Y5/6 Syndicate have been learning all about cultural identity. We have been learning about festivals and celebrations held throughout New Zealand.

Room 8 and 9 entered an art competition in Taihape as part of the Gumboot Festival held there annually.

Zane Davy won first place and Zac Weatherly won second place.





Message from the Tauriko School PTA

Thanks to all those who have both supported and helped the PTA recently. The Ice Cream Sundae was enjoyed by lots of children and it was great to see such a large number of orders!

The duathlon on the 20th of March was a huge success, despite the weathers best attempts to ruin the day! The committee members had a sleepless night wondering how wet it was going to be but a few warm showers did nothing to deter the majority of people that had pre entered. 96 people entered across the 4 different distances, the largest numbers by far were for the 4/5/6 yr old distance and it was great to see parents out there helping their little ones to complete the event. The girls outnumbered the boys in the 11/12yr old race and really showed great determination to cover the longest course on offer. Smith's Sports Shoes sponsored some great spot prizes

We look forward to improving on this event for next year as it is a great community sporting event.

Thank you to The Lakes and Smiths Sports Shoes for their generous sponsorship of the day.

For those keen on attending the Tauriko School Annual Quiz Night, the date has been set for Saturday 30th July. So book it into your diaries now if you are interested in attending and further information will be out closer to the time with ways to purchase tickets. We have already had some interest from people interested in sponsoring a table for the night, which is fantastic, so if you are interested in discussing possible ways you may be able to assist with sponsorship whether it be through donating a smaller prize or a raffle or something to be auctioned off on the night, please feel free to contact pta@tauriko.school.nz or 027 233 2676– we would love to chat! •

Jolene Nelson
PTA Chairperson

Ukulele/Guitar Lessons Trial 'Give it a go!'

Term 2 - 5 week trial Ukulele & Guitar Lessons available

- Give it a go, no obligation to continue
- Thursday mornings at school
- A fun and progressive curriculum





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- Guitar: Year 4 – 8 Ukulele: Year 2 - 6
- Materials provided, Instruments are not provided
- \$65.00

Contact Wayne to book or for questions: wayne@musiqhub-bop.co.nz

MB 027 2717685 Prefer email as starting details will be emailed

“Wanted to Rent in the Tauriko Area”

1 or 2 bedroom Property

Ph: Kylie 021 266 7080