



# Tauriko School

LEARNING TODAY  
LEADING TOMORROW

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Term - 3

Newsletter Number - 4

Date - 15 September 2011

Kia Ora and greetings to parents, whanau and friends of Tauriko School

This week Year 3 – 8 children have been involved in STAR reading assessment testing. Students I have spoken to have all found this a positive experience, have spoken about feeling good about most of these tests and challenged by a few questions. These assessments will be **part** of the information that supports teachers to make judgements about where children are in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum National Standard in reading. Often I find I am clarifying thinking for parents around assessment at school. Early next term, prior to our end of year reporting to parents we will hold a meeting for parents/caregivers around the New Zealand Curriculum National Standards, share the big ideas about these and answer any questions parents may have.

Cutting edge assessment research supports the premise that when making a judgement around how a student is achieving at school it is important, and fair, to use a variety of different evidence to support teacher judgements. This evidence includes a range of formal assessment tools (or testing), work that teachers observe in the classroom and conversations that students have about their learning.

This is where New Zealand is so different from the rest of the world in the "standards" debate. Internationally other countries use **ONE** test to make their judgements and as we all know there is opportunity here for students to not show us all that they are capable of. This means the tests are very "high stakes" and unfair to students. Here in New Zealand we do not do "National Testing". We use good assessment practice to gather a range of information to create a clear and rigorous picture of what students can do in reading, writing or mathematics independently, most of the time. More information can be found on our website about National Standards:

<http://www.tauriko.school.nz/files/1e239a520ecf2c9a/folders/4/National%20Standards%20for%20website%202011.pdf>

The judgements teachers make will be reported to parents at the end of the year and at the end of this year the Board will receive sound information about how our students are achieving school-wide and what this means for the Board as they make future plans for our school in 2013. This is all part of evidence based self-review.

## **YEAR 4 – 6 CAMP**

A very sincere thank you to all those wonderful parents who put their names forward to go to camp with the Year 4 – 6 children. So many of you support the school in so many different ways and this was just another indication to the staff of how fortunate we are with the support we receive for student learning at Tauriko School.

As you are aware we wanted to be sure when selecting parents that everyone felt treated fairly as due to bookings made and the costing involved we could not take everyone. Therefore, we put all names in a hat and chose the correct number of parents to coincide with bookings and student to adult ratios for camp. We are aware that there are a number of parents who may feel disappointed at not being selected. However, we know that there will be many other future camps and activities you may be involved in and we look forward to your continued support with these.

We have had queries from several parents about joining their children for the day in Auckland. Often having extra adults along on school activities is not an issue. However, this is not an option for the Auckland camp for several reasons:

- We already have a high adult to student ratio. Parents who offered to help on camp were chosen by having their names pulled out of a hat to ensure fairness to the huge number who wanted to come.
- Our camp parents have been through the police vetting process.
- Our venues have been pre booked for months with exact student and adult numbers.
- The cost of the venues and activities have been worked out to cater for those that are booked.
- The disruption that this will cause to already established groups.
- The fact that your own children will be unsettled when you have to leave. Routines and expectations could be altered as a result of this.

If we let one parent do this we will feel obligated to do this for all parents and as you can imagine for the reasons above we cannot do this. We thank you for your understanding.

I have also had the opportunity this year to look at what camps operate here at Tauriko School, listen to parents and their thoughts around this and consider this in light of our work around curriculum design. Staff do a wonderful job here often being away from their families for a period of time to enable students to have new and exciting experiences to support their learning both academically and as well rounded individuals. I think it is timely that next year that the staff spend a little time reviewing what we do around school camps. There will also be opportunity next year for the community to be involved in this review process so that we can develop documentation that supports students to develop their learning outside the classroom in a progressive manner.

### **ICT UPDATE**

The ICT committee has developed some key short-term goals for Tauriko School:

These include:

- ✚ more computers available in all classrooms
- ✚ on-going staff professional development in how to use these computers to support student learning
- ✚ students involved in collaborative projects, virtual field trips and e-learning extension programmes
- ✚ school-wide access to a wireless network

A huge thank you to Vanessa Charman-Moore and Lesley Pritchard for all their support. Vanessa has been working tirelessly, applying for funding from a variety of sources. We have recently received funding from The Southern Trust and from Pub Charity.

Lesley continues to support all things ICT within the school and has just completed a huge project involving the set up of computers donated from the University of Waikato. Thanks also to Russell Kennedy for his technical support.



### **JUNIOR SCHOOL – FIRE STATION AND POLICE STATION VISIT**

Last Monday 5 September and Tuesday 6 September the Junior School classes had a chance to visit the Greerton Fire Station and Greerton Police Station. What a great time everyone had and we give huge thanks to those parents who helped us out with transport and stayed on to look after children. Without you, we can't do these sort of fun trips!

Once back to class, our children all did "recount writing" about their trip. Here are a few great stories that were written.

*On Monday at 10:10, Rm 3 and Rm 8 went for a trip to the Police and Fire Station. We saw the big hose splashing. I was happy when Dad could come.*

*Danny – Room 3*

*Room 3 and Room 8 went on a trip on Monday morning at 10:10 to the Greerton Police Station and Greerton Fire Station. I felt scared to hold the hose. I got to hold a police gun. I liked the trip.*

*Stuart – Room 3*



### **SENIOR SPEECH FINALS**

Congratulations to all the students who were chosen for the Tauriko Speech finals.

Zane Petersen and Jerushah Keightley will now represent Tauriko School at the Tall Poppies Speech Competition on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of September.

Joel Collins and Katelyn Dyer will go on to the West Cluster Speech Finals on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September. Good luck to you all!

The overall winner for Year 7/8 was Jerushah Keightley and Year 5/6 was Joel Collins.

A big thank you to Coryl Baggenstos and Suzanne Billington who were our adjudicators.



### **KRSA TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE DAY**

Oropi School hosted the KRSA Technology Challenge Day on Monday 12th September 2011 which extended the children's thinking in problem solving, design and construction. The teams of 4 were placed in competitive situations which required them to test their designs, make adjustments according to a set criteria and work within time and material constraints. VERY challenging indeed! We had many successes alongside a few not so successful outcomes, but we all learnt from these experiences alike. I would like to thank all of the children who were involved in this day, your innovative ideas never cease to amaze me! Keep those brains thinking.  
D Pendergrast – GATE Co-Ordinator, Oropi School

Congratulations to Zavier Jacob, Chloe Smith, Toby Hayward and Harry Taylor who took part in the GATE day at Oropi School and won the Technology Challenge.



"We made a tower, a flagpole and a marble run. We had to use certain equipment to make them. We won the whole challenge and got to eat marshmallows. Our score was 26 and the team that came 2<sup>nd</sup> got 16. I had fun – it was better than normal school!"

**BY TOBY HAYWARD**

### **ROAD SAFETY WITH RUBEN THE BEAR**



What to do at a pedestrian crossing – STOP, LOOK, LISTEN & LINK

Ruben and Room 3



On Tuesday, Ruben the Bear came to visit the junior school to teach them different aspects of road safety. The kids had a great time learning what to do when crossing the road. Thanks so much for coming Ruben!

Ruben and Room 4

### TALL POPPIES SCIENCE FAIR

Congratulations to our winners of the annual Tall Poppy Science Fair. The exhibits were of a high standard and there was a great range of topic selections.

First equal: Jerushah Keighley and Kate Hardy  
Second: Edyn Loveland  
VHC: Petra Moss and Katrina Wallace.

Good luck to Jerushah and Kate. They are both attending the NIWA Science Fair in Rotorua this Thursday and Friday. We wish them well with their exhibits.



**To our wonderful parents of Tauriko School – we need your help!**  
**Do you have, or do you know someone who might have, a small fridge/freezer that could be donated to our sick bay here in the office? We would like to be able to store children's medication in the fridge and approximately 10 ice packs in the freezer.**

**If you can help, please contact Kay or Denise in the office. Thanks so much!**



### PRINCIPALS AWARDS

Congratulations to those children who received Principals' Awards:

Georgia Barnett – Room 1	-	For being an independent thinker and problem solver
Sonny Eades – Room 7	-	For making sensible choices and decisions at school
Manny Reay-Martin – Room 11	-	For being so excited about writing. You are showing a huge improvement in your learning!
Miela Loveland – Room 14	-	For displaying excellence in everything she does



*Sonny Eades, Miela Loveland, Georgia Barnett, Manny Reay-Martin*

## VALUE OF THE WEEK AWARDS – INNOVATION

Congratulations to all of our children who received this weeks' certificate. Well done to all of you!



Back Row: *Chrysler Nicholas, Katrina Wallace, Lucy Street, Haki Rawiri, Olivia Smith, Kate Hardy, Zach Hermond*

Middle Row: *Sean Galdeman, Josiah Galloway*

Front Row: *Ben Rikiriki, Stuart Dickens, Felix Anderson-Podmore, Sara Esterman, Ryan Baggaley*

## "SPORT OUR SCHOOL"

RD1 and Balance Agri-Nutrients have a great promotion going for the month of September. With every tonne of fertiliser ordered and uplifted from RD1, \$2.00 worth of sporting equipment will be donated to our school – all you have to do is nominate our school online when you purchase!

It's easy ... here's how:

- ✚ Order your fertiliser through RD1 by September 30,2011 (uplift by October 31, 2011)
- ✚ Log in to [www.RD1.com](http://www.RD1.com)
- ✚ Navigate to [www.RD1.com/promotions/sport-your-school](http://www.RD1.com/promotions/sport-your-school) (click the "nominate a school" link)
- ✚ Select which RD1 account you would like to use for the nomination
- ✚ Select your school
- ✚ Hit "Submit"

Contact your RD1 Technical Sales Rep or the team at your local RD1 store to secure your fertiliser order!

## BOOKFAIR WEEK

All of our bookfair books are available for viewing and purchase in the school library. Please feel free to take a look while you are in the school. Books may be purchased between 8-9am in the morning and 2-3pm in the afternoon.

Today saw the children dressing up as their favourite storybook characters or space people. We held our own "fashion" parade and were stunned by how many children (and parents!) took the time to create special costumes. Well done to you all! We also welcomed many grandparents into the school to spend time with their grandchildren and share stories with them. Thank you to all of the grandparents who came today!

## WHAT IS A GRANDPARENT (taken from papers written by a class of 8-year-olds)

***Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's!***

***Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money!***

***When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.***

***It's funny when they bend over; you hear gas leaks, and they blame their dog!***

***When asked where Grandma lived, there came this reply: "Oh, she lives at the airport and when we want her, we just go get her. Then when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."***



Tonight is our Milo & Marshmallow night from 6-7pm. Why not bring the kids down for a wee treat and have a look at the books while you're there? Cash, cheque and eftpos facilities will be available for your convenience.

The bookfair will continue until Monday afternoon – 19 September 2011



### **CLASS PHOTOS**

Photolife Studios will be at the school on **30<sup>th</sup> September starting at 8.30am.**

Please ensure that you have returned your child's photograph request with your payment (cheques must be made out to Photolife Studios) no later than 28<sup>th</sup> September.

No payment – no photo.

### **KRSA DANCE DAY – JUNIOR SCHOOL ONLY**

It's our annual visit to Oropi School for the KRSA Dance Day event on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September.**

Please ensure that you have returned your confirmation form and payment ASAP. A reminder notice closer to the time will also be sent with orders for the sausage sizzle.

### **THE ROTORUA TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE**

We figure a lot of parents don't realise that the staff here at Tauriko School actually have a life outside of the school! To give you a wee insight into the crazy things that we do here, a large majority of the teachers and admin staff had a go recently at the Rotorua Tough Guy and Gal Challenge. It consisted of hills – a lot of hills actually, holes, obstacles ... and mud (mixed with cow poo)!!!

A great time was had by all – once some of us could breathe again! And we are sure that some of the girls will be giving it a go again next year!!



### **RESOURCES**

Once again, this term we are collecting resources. ***This fortnight we are collecting gum nuts and satin.*** When these items are brought to school, could they be left in the Brown Shed, just inside the door – they will then be sorted into the correct containers. ***Next fortnight we will be collecting net and lace.*** Thank you.

Kind regards

*Suzanne Billington*

PRINCIPAL



### **AGRICULTURE DAY RAFFLE**

The first batch of tickets/ticket butts are now due back in the office. Please don't lose the tickets. Over half the tickets have been sold and the butts returned and we are confident that the remaining tickets are in the process of being sold and returned. A special thanks to all the families that have asked for more tickets to sell. Extra books of tickets are available at the office or can be requested by a note with the returned ticket butts.

### **AGRICULTURE DAY**

Preparations are underway for Agriculture Day on 29 October 2011. Flyers are starting to be released and there are opportunities for helpers with the following:

- Donation of raffle/auction prizes (including grocery items)
- Mystery jar preparation
- General help on Agriculture Day

### **MARSHMALLOW AND MILO NIGHT**

Book week is here and the PTA invite you to come along to see Dan the Puppet Man at the PAC at 6pm on Thursday 15 September. It will be great evening - listening to stories and enjoying marshmallows and milo.

The next PTA meeting is on Thursday 29 September at 7pm in the Library Resource Room. All parents and teachers are welcome to join us and share their ideas.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS.....**

#### **TAURIKO MOTORS 2009 LTD**

*Lube                      Tunes                      Brakes                      WOF*  
*Free Pick-up and Delivery in Tauriko Area*  
*41b Whiore Avenue, Tauriko, Tauranga                      Phone 07-5715220*

### **Available for Hire – Tauriko Settlers Hall, 768 SH29 (next door to Tauriko School)**

Public Meetings, Weddings, Birthday Parties (certain criteria is required), Recreation and Church groups.

Excellent Dance Floor, Good Size Kitchen, Servery Area, Oven, Fridge, Zip, Trestles & Chairs, Stage. Note: no crockery/cutlery available. Very reasonable rates

Further information, phone Kay at Tauriko School on 5430430



### **Milk and Cookies**

**The School Council  
will be selling  
Milk and Cookies  
every  
Friday playtime.**

**Calci-Yum Milk \$1.50each  
Smart Time Cookies  
\$1.00each**