

Welcome back!

30/04/2019 by Karen Poole

Kia ora koutou

Welcome back to school and a warm welcome to the new families who have joined us. I hope you had a great break from the school routine and enjoyed some relaxing family time.

Our exciting refurbished spaces are now up and running. Rooms 3 and 4 (now known as Hub 43) look fantastic and I would like to acknowledge the contractors who have done a stunning job and completed the project on time. I am so proud of the way our Year 6 cohort have consistently modelled our Tawhai School values - they are certainly an amazing group of young leaders. A big thank you for all their patience in the limited space they have had, and to Dave Whiteman and Ginny Treadwell for all their patience and the time and effort that has gone into the move over the holidays.

This year we are drafting our local curriculum. The local curriculum is the way we bring the New Zealand curriculum to life at Tawhai School. Very soon we will be offering some times for you to come along and share your thoughts and ideas to ensure the Tawhai School Curriculum is unique and responsive to our school community.

Some important reminders.....

- **Arrival at school:** The ideal time for your child to be at school is between **8:30am and 8:45am**. We have a lot of children arrive earlier than 8:30am which is a concern in regards to their supervision. Teachers are not required to be in their classrooms until 8:30am, prior to that they may be touching base with colleagues, in meetings or getting themselves organised for the day. If you need to send your child to school earlier, please contact Kelly Club for supervised care - Vanessa Chatfield, Mobile: 0274 185131
- **Spare clothes:** With winter, comes the rain and lots of puddles. Please ensure you have a change of clothes in your child's bag in case they get wet.
- **Messages for your children:** Please ensure your child knows in advance about after school arrangements. Obviously there will be times when you need to get an urgent message through to your child, but I am sure you can understand how difficult it can be for Kelly to field and follow up the many phone calls she gets at the end of the day.

This term we are very fortunate to have **Diane Stevens** working one day a week as the School Chaplain.

A chaplain has a pastoral concern for the whole school community- the children, staff and parents. A chaplain is available to listen and be a friend to people of the school community.

Children or adults who are dealing with difficult issues or who just need to talk with someone are able to meet with the School Chaplain. During this time the children may talk while playing games, drawing, or making things.

A School Chaplain is trained to respect and show sensitivity towards each student or adult regardless of religious belief, ethnicity, or race. There is no religious input. Staff and parents are able to refer children to the School Chaplain using a referral form which is available through the office or the School Chaplain. Children may also request to see the Chaplain.

Matters discussed will be kept confidential unless they are of a serious nature and need to be referred on for professional help.

*If you **do not** wish your child to meet with the School Chaplain please email the class teacher or myself (principal@tawhai.school.nz).*

We look forward to yet another busy term ahead with camp and EOTC week for Nga Manu, Cross Country, Nga Manu swimming, Matariki celebrations and the Pasifika Festival. Our school focus this term is "Empowering our Children to be Safe" - both teams will be sending out further details about their programmes.

Paid Union Meetings

On either Wednesday 8 May or Thursday 9 May teachers will be attending NZEI paid union meetings. To avoid any inconvenience to parents, teachers who belong to the union will attend one of the meetings and we will have enough staff to cover children. This could mean that your child may be in a different room for the afternoon so teachers will pop a note on their door if this is the case.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Ngā mihi nui

Karen Poole

SPORTS UPDATE

Netball

The competition starts this Saturday for all teams. The draw will be up on the website shortly. A big thank you to Jacinta Glynn, Nicole Stewart, Renee Saul, and Losa Topou who are coaching teams this season.

We have had new skirts made for the teams this year which look great. Please could all gear be looked after and only worn on game day.

Tiniball / Miniball

Next week the competition starts for all teams. Unfortunately there has been a decline in coaches for teams, therefore training will take place at lunch times for some teams with teachers, and parents will be asked to assist with subbing on the day. Gear will be issued to all players next week.

Waterpolo

Sadly due to the forced closure of the Naenae Pool there will be no competition in term 2. However, in term 3, a 10 week competition will run at the Stokes Valley Pool. More details to those involved will be out later.

Entertainment Books

Thank you to those who have purchased entertainment books and taken advantage of the amazing offers. Get your book today for Mother's Day and treat Mum out on Sunday. Books cost \$65.00 and can be purchased online at www.entbook.co.nz/105190p.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 30 April - Board of Trustees meeting - 7pm in the staffroom
- 14-17 May - Year 5/6 school camp
- 21 May - Year 6 visit to Avalon Intermediate
- 22 May - Year 3-6 basketball tournament at Walter Nash stadium
- 27 May - Board of Trustees meeting - 7pm in the staffroom

- 28 May - School cross country (29 May postponement date)
- 5 June - Northern zone cross country (6 June postponement date)
- 10-21 June - Nga Manu swimming (two weeks)
- 18 June - Inter-zone cross country (20 June postponement date)
- 2 July - Regional cross country (4 July postponement date)
- 5 July - End of term two

- Term one: 4 Feb - 12 April
- Term two: 29 April - 5 July
- Term three: 22 July - 27 Sept
- Term four: 14 Oct - 19 Dec