



# Taupaki School

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# Newsletter **Week 3** **Term 4**

**Tuesday 24th October 2006**

Dear Students, Parents, Caregivers, Friends and Supporters of Taupaki School.

Welcome back from the long weekend, I hope you managed to take advantage of the extra days holiday last Friday. We had a very successful teacher only day here at school with over 100 teachers, teacher aides and RTLBs from Taupaki, Lincoln Heights and Colwill schools. So what did we discuss? We focussed on the new curriculum. What it means for our children and their future. We collated a lot of feedback for the Ministry of Education around the surface and deeper features of the curriculum document. As a group we came up with over 200 big picture items that children should have when they leave our schools at the end of year 8. Each group put forward their top 5 results and this left us with 53 qualities. From this number we used a consensus voting method called 10-4 voting to get our cluster top 5. Here are the results...

- **Passion for lifelong learning**
- **To be literate and numerate**
- **To have a rich repertoire of thinking skills to draw upon**
- **To be Healthy: holistic health — physical, mental, spiritual and emotional**
- **To be responsible for their own actions and to be aware of the consequences for positive and negative actions**

So what do you think? I would like to invite you to an evening that informs you about what the draft curriculum offers our students and then asks you what you think is important. Please keep Wednesday the 15th of November free, 7pm — 8.30pm.

Thank you to those parents who have stepped forward and offered to help with the Christmas Carol Evening, we have 5 at the moment. If you want to help please contact me. If you know of anyone in the community who would like to help encourage them to give me a call, the more the merrier.

Have a great week of fun and learning.

**Stephen Lethbridge**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>26 Oct</b>	BOT Meeting	<b>Weekly</b>	
	<b>31 Oct</b>	Fireworks Meeting	<b>This Friday</b>	School Assembly Room 1 9.00am in the hall – you are welcome!
	<b>4 Nov</b>	Fireworks Evening	<b>Next Fri</b>	School Assembly Room 7



# Week's Focus

## Homework — useful tool or bane of your life?

There has been a lot of research about the effectiveness of homework. John Hattie from the University of Auckland has completed a major study on effective learning for children. He has at the top of his list, Quality Teachers. Traditional homework, he concludes, has little or no effect on learning. It can have massive effect on relationships with your children. And really, when you think about it, who are we to tell you how to spend time with your children? The life of a parent can be very busy, what with dance lessons, soccer practice, music and swimming to fit in before family dinner and then we have to get the homework done. Do you have time to take you kids outside and marvel at the stars? Wouldn't you like to take a trip out to Muriwai as the sun sets and watch the waves roll in whilst reading them Mrs Windyflax and the Pungapeople? Are there alternatives to homework that are more powerful in terms of having a lasting effect upon children's learning and fostering strong relationships? What do you think?

# Photos from around the School



## Fireworks Class Stalls !!!!

Room 1A	Donuts and Coffee	
Room 1	Mystery Bottles	-any item accepted eg wine, tomato sauce, dressings, juice etc
Room 2	Sausage Sizzle	
Room 3	Jolly Jars	-filled with goodies such as hair ties, pencils, toy soldiers
Room 4	Sand Art	
Room 5	Lucky Dip	-small toys etc for girls or boys
Room 6	Sweets, Drinks and Chocolates	
Room 7	Hamburgers	
Room 8	Mystery Vouchers	-gift vouchers etc
Room 9	Face Painting	
Room 10	Cake Stall	

We need donations for Mystery bottles, Jolly jars, Lucky dip, Auctions, Quick fire raffles and Mystery envelopes. House points will be awarded to everyone donating items. All items appreciated and accepted.

**Cakes:** get boxes from Room 10. Cakes and sweets can be delivered to school on Friday the 3rd November or Saturday the 4th November between 2 and 3pm. Phone Lucie Hawkins on 4129979 for sweets enquiries and Gae Kurte on 8109094 for cake enquiries.

### Garden Trail

Saturday 4th November, 9am to 4pm. Featuring 20 gardens in the Waimauku, Muriwai area not usually open to the public and Nursery discounts for ticket holders. \$10 per ticket, all profits go to Taupaki School. Phone Louise Dibble on 8109804 or Vicki Pratt on 4126188 for further details.

**Fireworks:** flyers for windows/notice boards and posters for cars are available at the office, please collect some and put them up to help advertise this great event.

### Sausage Sizzle

Every Tuesday starting next week. Sausage in bread, drinks and ice munchies all \$1 each outside lunch room.

**Kiwi Quiz:** Last 2 left, \$30 each. Great for Christmas presents. Come to the school office to purchase these.

# Community Notices

**House to Rent:** 3 Bedroom, double garage, Kumeu end of Old North Road. Phone Rex or Tina on 412-8409 or Rex on 021 827333 and Tina on 021 844704.

**Riverhead School Fair:** School Road, Riverhead, Sunday 29th October, 10am-2pm. Activities include Live entertainment, Auction, Quick fire raffles, plant, toy, books and cake stalls, Mission Impossible and much more.

**WANTED-Boys to join an U13 softball team:** Playing at Rosedale Park Sat mornings and practicing at Whenuapai School Thurs 4.30pm. Please contact Shirley 416-4802/021 627 067 as soon as possible.

**Waimauku Tennis Club. - Adult Tennis:** Midweek Tennis every Wednesday from 9 onwards. - phone Jill with any queries 411-8037. Also we are having a trial period of weekend tennis for the next month starting Sunday 29th October at 4pm. Everyone welcome. Phone Gayle with queries 411-8137.

## **Stardome Observatory Star Festival Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2006 7.30pm – 10pm**

Come and celebrate our second Star Festival with a night of festivity at Stardome Observatory.

The 2005 Star Festival was so much fun Stardome Observatory has decided to do it all over again. It's a great way to say thank you to the Auckland region for all their support over 2006 so once more Stardome Observatory will throw open their doors and for a gold coin admission you will be able to experience an evening of entertainment incorporating a taste of what is on offer here at the facility.

The evening will be a relaxed affair where you can come and join us, and at your leisure sample some of the features that Stardome Observatory has to display.

Attractions will include tours of the Large Zeiss telescope, one of the largest public telescopes in the Southern Hemisphere. Or perhaps take a look through our courtyard telescopes with presenters on hand to bring you up to date with what is happening in our universe. (*Telescope viewing will be weather dependent*). Pop into the 360° domed planetarium where a short production will be continually showing. In the Space room there will also be a topical space presentation screening.

We hope that you can join us for this gala event where we will bring our 'space' to you.

For further details please contact Stardome Observatory on 624 1246 or visit [www.stardome.org.nz](http://www.stardome.org.nz)

## **AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

### **WEEK OF THE 24<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of OCTOBER**

After the roll, we start each day except Friday with homework and/or a quiet activity, for eg. word puzzles, board games, followed with afternoon tea (outside in the sun if possible). This week's special activities are; Craft: paper mache, Cooking: biscuit kisses, Team Sport: any type of tige flavour of the month, Play-station, hopefully a new game this week. And usual range of activities, chosen by us day to day in the junior and senior playgrounds, the tennis and basketball courts. By 4.45pm a drink or a snack, and planned activities can continue Or other activities can be started inside. ALL children must be picked up by 5.30pm by their designated person and signed out.

**Sandra Schick Manager 027 226 0890**

**Adelia Shaw Daily Supervisor 021 41 8296**

# Support our School Sponsors



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