



Taupaki School

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Newsletter **Week 10** **Term 3**

Monday 18th September 2006

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

Last Wednesday's Centennial Soccer matches was definitely an event not to be missed. I was amazed at the support and interest the games generated. Tradition is a key factor in building a strong community, this event brings the whole school together. I am sure that the focus for many of the students was about winning the trophies, but I think they get more out of it than just the short term gratification of knowing you have won. The teamwork that was on display was a sight to behold. The 'mateship' in looking out for each other was obvious. The fun, determination and the play hard but play fair message was evident to all present. I was so impressed with each and every student that took part, they were all stars. We need to publicly acknowledge those dedicated parents who gave their time and energy over many, many weeks to instil these 'bigger picture values' into our students. The coaches, namely, Pippa Baker (Y1/2), Dean Stuart (Y3/4), Marcus Foot (Y5/6), and Chris Hawkins (Y7/8). Thank you for your commitment, energy and enthusiasm. For the record we now hold the Y3/4, Y5/6, and Y7/8 trophies, an amazing effort.

As I reflect upon three terms at Taupaki School, one theme is constant. We have motivated students who want to learn. The children at our school make the most of every opportunity presented to them and indeed create opportunities for themselves. This can be credited to us all, the children, the parents, the teachers and the wider Taupaki community. If we continue to keep these partnerships strong who knows what heights we can reach.

As we head into the holidays, please take care. Drive safely, play safe. We want to see everyone back here fit and well on day one of term four, ready to give their best for the last term of 2006.

Have a great week of learning and a restful holiday, — **Stephen Lethbridge**

Principal's Awards Week 9

Matthew Pierson, Anais Cottle, Dylan Boler, Kallum Green, Eamon O'Leary, Georgia Tulett, Evan Kidd, Sarah Cullen, Eden Paki, Oliver Munro, Shaun O'Brien and Brooke Paul.

D A T E S	19 Sept	Junior Production Matinee 9.30am	Weekly This Friday	School Assembly Room 9 9.00am in the hall – you are welcome!
	20 Sept	Junior Production Evening 7.00pm		
	21 Sept	Gymnastics		
	9 Oct	Start of Term 3		
	20 Oct	Teacher Only Day		



Humour and Lateral Thinking

Humour is a key feature in aiding lateral thinking. The art of understanding a joke with a left field punch line or seeing the humour if you look at things differently is critical to grasping the concept of lateral thinking. Some of the best ideas in the world are from off the beaten track that have been backward engineered to the main highway we are all travelling on. Hopefully the following story triggers a positive response about thinking.

One day in the future when brain transplants are possible a manager is arranging a brain transplant for a key executive. He has the choice of five brains, one of which is five times as expensive as the others. Upon inquiring as to the reason for the price the salesperson says... "Ahh, yes, that is a very special brain — you see sir, it has never been used."

Remember the Sir Ken Robinson CD's for loan at the office — a must see for all parents.

News from around the School

School Lunches

There will be **no school lunches** this Friday.

News from the Junior School

We have had our dress rehearsal and the children are fantastic and looking forward to our two performances! We have realised that the face make-up takes a while, so please remember to be at school Tuesday morning by 8.45am at the latest, if you are having make-up and can get here even earlier that would be appreciated. On Wednesday evening children that have face make-up need to be here by 6.00pm and everyone else by 6.15pm. Please remember that everyone is in costume, if you do not know what your child is supposed to be wearing please see your child's teacher as soon as possible. On Wednesday evening please go to your child's class, not the hall. Thank-you for all your help.

News from the Middle School

Great fun was had by all who attended the Bingo night last Saturday and over \$500 was raised for the middle school camp. Thank you to Deirdre Intveld for all her effort organising this event and to Sally Hicks and Lee-Ann Cheshire for their help and support.

News from the Senior School

The Senior School has decided to put forward a volleyball team to the North West tournament this year. It is wonderful to see that parents who have expertise in areas of sport volunteer to help our students. Michelle Paki and Dorne Lonergan have competitive experience in this area, both ladies having been part of a high school team and finalists in the New Zealand High School play offs. They are part of the coaching team, along with Jon Green, who are currently training our students in the competitive game of volleyball. Only 7 boys and 7 girls from the entire Senior Syndicate will be chosen...team members will be named on Tuesday. The NW Intermediate tournament is happening Week 1, Term 4 on Tuesday at the Massey Leisure Centre. Next Term we will also send Year 7/8 students to compete in the North West Touch Rugby Tournament and the Athletics Field Day. Camp will take place Week 3, Term 4.

School Sports Uniforms

Please return all sports uniforms and out of school shirts as soon as possible as we are planning a stocktake this Friday. Thank you.

Term Dates

Term 4 starts on Monday 9th October and finishes on Wednesday 20th December. Term 1 in 2007 starts on Wednesday 7th February.

Shop for your School — It is OVER! (was that a collective sigh of relief I hear?)

Thank you to all those who made the last week a big week of shopping. I certainly did my bit yesterday on essential items of expenditure for my Playstation 2. It was great to see so many families at West City doing similar spending. I worked out late last week that we have spent collectively a total of (including bonus points) \$125 000! Now that is some serious spending.

We don't know where we are as the Scoreboard has been taken offline!

At last check on Friday morning we were around 140ppc ahead of 7th place but we are not assured of maintaining that spot. All will be revealed on Friday at 6pm. There is an open invitation to all of you to attend the prizegiving ceremony with me at 6pm.

I am sure that we have lots of ideas about how we could work smarter next year. If you are interested in helping to coordinate a more efficient and 'smart' shop for your schools campaign next year, please email me.

Thanks again for your help and support — Mr L.

Library Corner

My child doesn't read - what can I do? A tip to remember is that all 'reading' will improve your child's skills by increasing overall reading mileage. With the holidays coming lets take advantage of their extra spare time to leave some tempting reading material lying around!

Suggestions: joke books; comics; magazines based on their interests eg car magazines, pet magazines; activity books; sticker storybooks; cooking books (in preparation for a shared activity!); 'I Spy' books. Try the library for comics eg Sabrina, Casper etc.

Younger girls often enjoy the Angelina Ballerina and Barbie magazines. For older girls (10 & up) try Crème magazine. Most boys will enjoy the Tintin and Asterix comic books- these books have been enduring favourites for many years.

Remember that picture books are not just for younger children- there are many sophisticated picture books that appeal to older kids –try anything by Colin Thompson, Anthony Browne (we have 'King Kong' in the school library amongst other titles) and Lauren Childs 'Clarice Bean' stories. Check out the sophisticated picture book section at your local library. And when you are at the library check out their holiday activity programmes.

These holidays have a quiet moment while your children discover the pleasures of reading!

PTA News

As a lot of you are aware we have our main fundraiser next term. November 4th at the A & P Showgrounds is our annual **Fireworks night**. Over the last few years we have raised high \$20,000's. The school has a lot of plans next year for improving teaching space in the classrooms and music area. A lot of outdoor maintenance and upgrading is due. Money raised from fundraising goes towards resourcing and improving educational facilities for our children. PLEASE get behind this fundraiser to make your difference for the whole school community. We need someone to coordinate every classroom stall, desperately need help getting items for mystery envelopes, lucky dip, quick fire raffles, and auction. Many hands are required on the night for a number of jobs. Call me on 412 6979 if you can help. Every bit will make a difference to your child/ children's education. There are approx. 170 families at our school (about 340 parents), we only have about 4% helping at this stage.

Calendars: Please remember to get your orders in by this Wednesday 20th September. These make great Christmas presents for your relatives. This year you can order the calendars for \$10 each or a pack of 8 greeting cards for \$11. Your children's artwork along with samples of each product are on display in the office. Any queries phone Fleur on 8107499.

Kiwi Quiz: We have placed a second order and have just a few Kiwi Quiz games available for sale for \$30. Please contact the office if you would like to purchase the game.

Community Notices

Riverhead Athletics Club: Registration night Wed 20th Sept, 4-6pm at Riverhead Domain
Season starts Term 4, Wednesdays at 5.30pm. Ages 2-14 years.

Taupaki Kindergarten: We have vacancies for over 3 year olds in our afternoon sessions, for the term beginning October 9th. Taupaki Kindergarten provides a child-initiated resource based programme, where we structure a learning environment that encourages children to explore, experiment, make independent decisions, be creative, and involved in self-regulated learning. The importance of play as meaningful learning, is paramount. We strive to extend children's thinking and actions through sensitive and informed guidance, intervention and support. We strongly value the importance of whanau, and encourage their input. To discuss the availability of spaces, please contact Sue Kloet or Kimberly Kopp, on 8109005.

MOTAT—Sensational Senses: September 25th to October 8th. Your senses will go into overdrive with MOTAT's amazing 'Sensational Senses' interactive programme. Engage in gooey craft activities programme and play with robots and discover more about each of your 5 main senses during the live National Science Roadshow demonstrations. All inclusive admission: \$30 Family Pass (2 adults and up to 4 children), \$14 Adults, \$7 children/seniors/students. For more information phone Shelley Osborne on 815-5808 or email bookings@motat.org.nz.

Hay For Sale: Shed stored, good quality. \$5 per bale. Phone 8109094.

Basketball Lost: Orange and black basketball (Kirk's name on it), lost late last week. Please return to Kirk, Rm3, if found.

Watch Lost: On Friday 8th September, brand new pink Baby-G with see-through plastic band. Please contact Aleysha Rm9 or the school office if found.

Waitakere School PTA presents the Destitute Gourmet: A fun filled evening of cooking with Sophie Gray. Friday, October 13th 7.30pm at Waitakere School Hall. \$25 per ticket and everyone receive a small portion of each dish that Sophie cooks on the night. Light refreshments available. Spot prizes.
Contact Chrissy on 810 9003 or 027 2717103 for tickets.

After School Care—Week of the 18th-22nd September: 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: Simple sewing, Cooking: pikelets, Team Sport: Golf Frisbee, Playstation: two to choose from. And usual range of activities, chosen by us day to day in the junior and senior playgrounds, the tennis and basketball courts. By 5.00pm a drink or a snack, and planned activities can continue Or other activities can be started inside. ALL children must be picked up by 6pm by their designated person and signed out. For further information contact Sandra Schick (Manager) on 027 226 0890 or Adelia Shaw (Daily Supervisor) on 021 41 8296.

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