



Taupaki School

Cottle Road, Taupaki
RD 2 Henderson
Phone 8109 855 Fax 8109 851
On the Web www.taupaki.school.nz Email reception@taupaki.school.nz



Issue 2007:2

Newsletter **Week 3** **Term 1**

Monday 19 February 2007

Thank you to all our staff for starting the year so well. Children are actively engaged and happy in their learning. We welcomed a number of new children to school at last week's assembly. It was great to see a number of parents coming along... thanks to those parents who 'volunteered' to be Brain Gym guinea pigs in front of the children we admire your risk taking!

I am sure you have seen the Herald article on School Donations. It listed a number of schools around the Auckland area. A number of the Decile 10 school donations were very high, some at \$495 per child. The notion of 'Free Education' is an interesting one. We all know that education is not free yet we play the game of wording things correctly so as to not break the rules. In reality your donation of \$150 per child is spent on children, providing teachers over and above the staffing entitlement. It is spent on Teacher Aides to assist the learning process. We spend those donations wisely and rely on them to help meet the overall cost of educating your children. The rules say we cannot invoice you and so we will not, but please think about all the good your donation brings the school and help us surpass our expected return rate. Our theme this term is about making a difference, show your children that you are making a difference.

Board Elections are coming up, Please think about putting your name forward for nomination. We serve our community under the governance of the Board of Trustees. Our Returning Officer is Mr Greg Newman-Watt, please keep an eye out for notices, advertisements, nominations forms and voting papers in the coming month.

I look forward to seeing you all next Monday for our Meet the Teacher Evening. Please come along as we have a number of new teachers who I would like you to meet. The Pool will be open from 5.30. Let us fill the hall to capacity, the only way we can do that is if you make a personal commitment to be there. This is the most important event in your week as it involves your child's education.

Principals' Awards

Sacha Boler, Nell Philip, Samuel Jennings, Sophie Katavich, Brooke Hunter, Thomas Ross, Alana Brashier, Liam Reed, Karli-Marie Drummond and Danika Riosa.

Have a great week.

Stephen Lethbridge

Dates	26 Feb	Meet the Teacher Evening 5.30-7.30pm PTA Meeting 7.30pm	Weekly This Fri	School Assembly Room 3 9.00am in the hall-you are welcome!
	2 Mar	Middle/Senior Swimming Sports	Next Fri	School Assembly Room 9
	6 Mar	Junior Swimming Sports 1pm		
	11 Mar	Krypton Factor		
	13 Mar	Junior School Zoo trip		



Kiwis can do anything

I watched the Queen Mary 2 leave on Saturday night and I couldn't help but think aren't we a great country. Not only did the city put on a great farewell but the Captain of the ship was a Kiwi. There is a great lesson here.

We may think that we are **only** a small set of islands at the 'bottom' of the world of **only** 4 million people. We may think we are **only** good for agriculture and the **only** sport we are good at is rugby...

We here the word 'only' an awful lot and it seems to be used as an excuse to not even try. I am only a teacher, I am only a parent, or I am only a kid

I wonder if that is what Sir Edmund Hillary, or Sir Peter Blake, or Sir Earnest Rutherford, or the Captain of the Queen Mary 2 thought? Somehow I don't think so.

How do you and we encourage children to be dream seekers with an 'I can do anything attitude?'

News from around the School

Meet the Teacher Evening

This will happen on 26th of February from 5.30pm — 7.30pm. The grounds and pool will be open from 5.30pm for families to have a picnic. We will meet in the hall at 6.15 and then teachers will be in classes to introduce themselves and give you some information about 'how things work' in their room.

News from the Junior School

What a great start to the year! We are loving the children's enthusiasm! We are doing a lot of talking about learning, thinking and "Making a Difference". Within this we are building children's confidence in themselves and working on how to be a good friend.

Parent Help to repair library books

Help is needed to mend the school library books. This job will only take about an hour a month, depending on the amount of books at the time. If anyone is interested please contact Fiona Coleman in Room 2. Thank you.

Information Booklet

A revised information booklet was sent home on Friday. This has a lot of information about how the school works and functions. If you did not get a copy please contact Carole in the school office.

School Donations and Activity Fees

The School Donation and activity fee will remain the same as last year i.e. \$150 School Donation and \$40 activity Fee. Payments can be made at the school office.

Congratulations

A big congratulations to Damon Reed, John Newman-Watt, Tadhg Campbell of year 6 for taking on the best Auckland Softball has to offer at the Navy Tournament, and bringing home the under 11's winner's trophy and still holding their undefeated record. Also a big congratulations to Liam Clarke and Damon Reed for coming Runners up in under 10's Softball. A pleasure to watch these future stars.

Congratulations to Andrew Drummond, Kayla Reed and Eamon O'Leary who represented Auckland in the Touch Rugby Nationals. The team finished second, a very impressive result. We look forward to more results from these stars in the future.

Bicycle safety

For those of you with eagle eyes you would have noticed in the Information Booklet that there is a change to the procedures for riding bikes to school. If your child wishes to ride their bike to school you need to write a letter to the Principal. Upon receipt Mr Lethbridge will check the bike, helmet and the driver to see if they are safe. If all three pass then the child will be allowed to ride to school.

Community Notices

Continued.....

Pilates: A gentle and effective way to stay in shape. All welcome! New class starting 28 Feb in Kumeu. Wednesday mornings 9:30-10-30. \$10 per class. Numbers are limited so please call to secure your place. Helena Cox 416 9190

Norwest United Soccer Registration: For Kindy, Midget, Junior, Youth and Seniors at the club rooms Saturday 17 Feb 10am - 2pm & Saturday 24 Feb 10am-2pm, alternatively you can register online at www.norwestsoccer.org.nz. All players who have registered and paid by 24th February will go into a draw to win a prize pack of a pair of boots, shin pads and a football courtesy of Stirling Sports Westgate.

Kitten Found: In Annandale Road, approximately 6 weeks old, black & white. Phone Linda on 8109376.

Western United Netball Club: Year 1-13, registration at Huapai Reserve Cricket clubrooms on Tues 27th Feb and Wed 28th Feb, 3.30-500pm. Open college Trials at Huapai Reserve Courts on Mon 19th Feb 4-6pm, Sun 25th Feb 2-4pm and Mon 26th Feb 4-6pm. Enquiries to Leanne Clark (Sec) 412-7915 or Dianne McIntosh (Trials) 412-5511.

Don't forget the Mayoral Bike Challenge: Sunday 25th of February 2007 at Orewa Reserve (by Surf Club). Registration is from 9am and the cycle challenge starts at 10am. Free goody bags for the first 3,000 registrations, spot prizes and entertainment galore. Your school needs your support if we want to win \$ 1,000 worth of new sports equipment. Get your Mum, Dad, Brothers, Sisters, Aunties, Uncles, neighbours and mates down to Orewa by 9:30am on Sunday 25th February 2007. NO HELMET, NO SHOES - NO RIDE!

Girl Guide Biscuits – Yummy!



Plain - \$2.50 /pkt or \$37/ box of 15

Chocolate \$2.80/pkt or \$50.40/box of 18

Minis \$2.80/pkt or \$44.80/ box of 16

Phone Leanne Martin 4122358 – cash on delivery
Or see Alison Hucke

PTA NEWS

PTA Annual General Meeting

Monday 26th February 7:30pm in the staffroom.

American Hotdogs-Every Tuesday this term: American hot-dogs will be selling for \$2 each from the lunch room starting this Tuesday. We will also be selling drinks and ice-blocks for \$1 each.

School Lunches: A revised lunch menu is attached.

Marquee Hire: The PTA marquee (6m x 8m) is available for hire at a cost of \$100 per day. Please contact Tina Reed on 412-8409 for bookings or information.

Community Notices

Ex Taupaki student available for childcare: Phone Holly Tudor on 8109136 or 027 4915136.

The Auckland Boys' Choir: The Choir consists of up to 45 boys (aged 9 to 12+ years) from the wider Auckland region who love to sing. The choir meets on a Monday late afternoon in Epsom (just off Market Road). Each year new boys are auditioned to replace those who are forced to retire as they mature and their voices change. There are 10 places available for interested boys for this year. Further information is available by phoning 522 4227.

Hobsonville Hustlers Netball Club: Year 7 and Year 8 players. 2007 Season Muster - Tuesday February 27th at Te Pai Courts, Lincoln Road from 6:00-8:00pm. New players are most welcome. Registration day: 3 March 2006 at Te Pai Courts between 10.00 a.m. and 12. p.m.
Enquiries to Tania on 838 9996 or Terri on 411-7134.

Taupaki Kindergarten: We have vacancies for over 3 year olds in our afternoon sessions, available now.

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 or Kimberly on 8109005.

Kumeu Junior Badminton: Access Rd, Season commences Monday 5th March, Year 4-7 3.30 – 5.00, Year 8-13 5.00 – 6.30pm .Come along & have some fun, learn new skills. Beginners welcome. Enquires Ph Sharon 411 8900 or Jondy 411 7506

Kumeu Midweek Badminton: Wednesday mornings at 9.00am to around 12.00pm. Children welcome, some racquets available. Season commences Weds 7th February. Enquiries ph Noelene 8109255.

Kumeu Senior Badminton: Thursday evenings from 7pm starting Thursday 22nd February. Come along & give it a go. New members, beginners welcome, Racquets avail. Ph Sandra Watson 416 6658

Harp lessons for beginners: Harps available for hire. Learn the basics of reading music and playing by ear. Ph Robyn 8133691 or 021 252 7632. More info at www.robysutherland.com (Oratia based).

Te Atatu Roosters Rugby League Club: Calling all interested under 6 to under 16 players. Registrations will be held at our club rooms, Jack Colvin Park, Titoki Street, Te Atatu Peninsula
Sunday 11th February 2007, 2:00-4:00pm, Wednesday 14th February 2007, 6:30-8:00pm
Wednesday 21st February 2007, 6:30-8:00pm, Sunday 25th February 2007, 2:00-4:00pm
Wednesday 28th February 2007, 6:30-8:00pm
Please bring your birth certificate or passport with you.
For more information please contact Donna (Schoolboy Secretary) on 832 7167

Support our School Sponsors



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Financial Services
14 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu
"A good broker is the best insurance you can have."