

TAUPO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Striving for Excellence

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Kia ora koutou te whanau o tenei kura,
te kura Waenga o Taupo

Greetings to all of our families

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In My Opinion:

Well we have finally made it to the end of the term and I have to say that it has been a huge effort to get through. We can all sit back with a great deal of satisfaction and be proud.

Sit back you will say, and why would we want to do that?

I can hear and feel the tension creeping throughout the land as the communities prepare to batten down the hatches and welcome in the holidays, yes the school holidays.

So here we are with some Family Projects for the Holidays

With the school holidays approaching you may be starting to think about ideas for fun and cost-effective things to do.

Here are a few to get you started:

- 'Restaurant night' at home- if they're old enough the kids can cook, but if not they can name the restaurant, make menus, and be waiters with French accents. Encourage the chef to try something new.
- Focus on working your way through a very special book that there isn't time for during the term. There are so many old classics that children love to have read to them or attempt to read for themselves.
- Design and create something crafty, arty, or just plain crazy using mostly materials you already have at home. Be ambitious, and invite everyone's input.

The best thing about these ideas is that even parents who work full-time can be involved when they get home. Bringing everyone together is a good way to show our kids what we believe - that family is everything. www.parentinginc.co.nz

Of course you can always just go fishing, but you might have to really work hard to catch anything in our Lake as was the findings of a meeting I attended last week. There is no doubt in my experience that there is a problem with our fishing and it needs to be addressed for the sake of our town, the tourist industry and of course the future of all our schools as we need families for us all to survive.

I am heading to the East Coast to check on my foreshore and sea bed and also to check on the oil exploration. The only time I will be getting into the water will be to check the growth patterns of the shell fish and crustaceans. Some will be taken for sampling but only for Scientific Research.

There were many excellent events and achievements throughout the term which started with our Aquatic and Multi-sports programmes. Our athletes performed at a high level at local, regional and national levels with podium finishes a plenty.

We have had pupils who have been practising intensely for our Jump Jam team, the successful team has been announced and our TIS Band is well underway with their development, having already had their first public performance at a recent assembly.

Samples of writing have been shared, intense discussions held about the "disasters" in both Christchurch and Japan, auditions and success at the New Zealand Performing Arts Championships in Auckland with one of our students earning a place in a team to compete in Los Angeles.

We have also been busy testing, collecting and processing data to find out our learning levels of individual students. I am able to provide a school wide profile and also information about our year 7 students which I will be able to send back to the contributing schools for their use. We have been working towards the process of integrating the Government initiative - National Standards - into our reporting system. This is not an easy task and it will take the rest of this year to be able to get some consistency between all the teachers when they are required to make judgements about individual students. This process is called "Moderation" where for example individual pieces of writing are brought in by teachers in Year 7 or Year 8 and they would work together to see whether they have the necessary punctuation or writing features expected for their year group. A decision is made as to what level the piece of writing is at. The next steps for learning are then put into place to be able to help the student 'meet' the standard or at least progress to the next standard.

It will take some time for us all to understand fully the system and we would ask for your patience at this time but do encourage you to seek advice from the class teacher in the first instance.

It is great to see the levels of normal and high achievers so keep this up and let's continue to work together.

Thank you all for the continued support and to all those parents who have put their hands up to help with sports teams next term. Please again support these parents, if you know the rules so well for any of the games then go and attend a referee's course which will then allow you to officiate.

Well done to everyone, parents, pupils and staff for ensuring that Taupo Intermediate can be proud of their work and effort this term and next term is again as busy as ever.

To my Staff have a relaxing break and not too many Easter Eggs;

Thoughts: In my opinion

- * *Why doesn't the local Council build a large auditorium on the side of the Great Lake Centre which could incorporate a large stage facing out to the domain for all the events held on the domain? How many times do we erect and dismantle marquees and at what cost?*
- * *Why did we pull down the perimeter fence around the old camping ground then spend many dollars putting up security fencing when we hold the 'rare' event there?*
- * *Why don't we park the self contained Motor Homes in the old camping grounds?*

Western Heights High School Moto-X Tournament

Well done to Daniel Cumming, Max Baker, Cohen Chase, Wyatt Chase, Jake Tomblin, Bronson Leiataua, Kaden Parkinson, Bowan Hewson and Dylan Walker who all competed at the School Moto-X Tournament in Rotorua last Friday. The day was well attended with large fields of riders in all classes, with our boys all doing well, especially Cohen who came 3rd and Wyatt who came 4th in the 13 years and under 85cc class.

Win Money for you and your school The Great Anchor Milk Run

starts 4th April and over 80 days we will be giving schools and consumers a chance to win a share of \$500,000 cash by simply purchasing specially marked Anchor milk. Every litre of milk equals 1 entry into the draw, eg. 1L = 1 entry, 2L = 2 entries, etc. To win, enter the unique code on the reverse of Anchor milk bottles by texting to 311 or enter online at www.anchor milkrun.co.nz Each day win \$2,500 cash and \$2,500 for the school of your choice. All entrants go in the draw to win the grand prize of \$50,000 and \$50,000 for their nominated school.

Art Trip to Hamilton

6 students were chosen to attend a two day intensive art workshop in Hamilton organised by Arts Waikato. 100 students from a number of schools in the Waikato area took part. It was excellent experience for Cain, Sarina, Keegan, Hero, Alex and Phoebe. They took part in 4 hands on workshops including flax weaving, photography editing, screen printing and Indian Art. This was all brought together by a group exhibition at Maeroa Intermediate School.



The Art Students who visited Maeroa Intermediate School

Free entry open day to Craters of the Moon on Saturday May 7th. The Craters of the Moon Trust is celebrating **20 years** helping keep visitors and their vehicles safe and want to share this stunning geothermal site with everyone in the community. Gates open at gam. Entertainment, sausage sizzle and spot prizes. www.cratersofthemoon.co.nz for more information.



Mackenzie Barclay on Max.

Central Plateau Secondary School Gymkhana

- On Wednesday 13 April a very talented group of 8 equestrian riders and their horses took part in this competition at Reporoa. They were:-

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| R23 McKenzie Barclay on Max | R20 Aimee Janssen on Jungle Fever |
| R16 Jemma Isaacs on Barney | R16 Taylor des Barres on Misty |
| R13 Baelei London on Sox | R11 Annaleeza Stokman on Tonka Toy, |
| R7 Claudia Branco on Saydie | R8 Daisy Morgan on Chance. |

As this was a secondary school event we were able to win ribbons but not eligible to win any cups. With 12 schools competing, our girls came 4th overall, an amazing feat as they were competing against high school students. The results are as follows:

Turnout – 3 riders and their horses are judged on how well they present themselves against all the other teams. Our three team members were Aimee, Daisy and McKenzie gained 2nd place.

Hunter – a series 4 jumps, McKenzie two 1^{sts} & 4th, Aimee 2nd, Taylor 2nd & 3rd, Anna 3rd, Claudia 4th

Games – includes getting on and off your horse, running through tyres, galloping while trying to put cups from one pole to another, etc. Aimee two 2^{nds} & 4th, Claudia 3rd

Flat – different activities they perform while riding on a grassed arena. Aimee 4th, Jemma 1st & 2nd, Baelei 2nd, Claudia 3rd, Daisy 2nd

Show Jumping – McKenzie 3rd & 4th, Claudia 1st & 4th.

Scrapbook Cottage – Looking for something for your children during the holidays, check out Scrapbook Cottage (formally Crazy Krafters Taupo) for a fun class. Classes include Canvas, Cards, Scrapbooking, Monogram Letters, mini albums plus more. For boys and girls aged 8 years and up. Located at The Castle, Cnr Spa Rd & Taniwha St, call in or phone on 378 1890 for more information and to book.