

TAUPO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Striving for Excellence

Kotare Street, TAUPO 3330

Telephone: (07) 378 8097 Fax: (07) 378 8618

Email: admin@taupointermediate.co.nz

Kia ora koutou te whanau o tenei kura,
te kura Waenga o Taupo
Greetings to all of our families

Newsletter Number: 10
Date: 8 April 2011



In My Opinion:

It has been another interesting, and at times controversial, week in the news with schools being directed to look at how well they are handling incidents of 'bullying' or not handling these incidents. As per usual this is a reaction to a piece of news broadcast and publicised on national television every day and night for a week.

This started with a video, filmed on a cell phone in the playground, and showed the disgraceful and tasteless treatment of one person to another, similar to the glorified behaviour of the cage fighters presented on television.

Not one example of positive behaviour by a pupil of the same age or similar, was covered or had limited coverage, when in fact there were about 600 students competing at an event like the New Zealand Schools Triathlon Championships in Queenstown.

Speaking of further positive examples, we sent 4 teams to the Bay of Plenty Intermediate Touch Championships held in Kawerau and a team of swimmers to the Open Water Championships at Lake Rotoma - results following. I guess right throughout the country there would have been hundreds of fantastic achievements happening and never got one minute of national publicity - Interesting? No, just the norm.

It was great to have Mark Bond from the Taupo Police come to our assembly to inform one of our students, Liam Nicholson that he had won a challenge at the local Police's Open Day by clocking up the fastest time on the fitness circuit, he has earned himself a trip to Porirua at the National Police College for the weekend. Awesome effort!

At the same time in assembly we reinforced the message that bullying and other forms of negative behaviour were unacceptable in our school and society. Yes, we have examples of 'bullying' in our school, along with other schools in the country, and yes, we attempt to put things right and try to develop a culture of understanding and caring. This is tested by the people in our school every day and each time we try to solve many of the issues and disputes.

We are required to have policies in place in our schools; these are statements of how the school intends to cope with the differing situations. At this time we are reviewing our 'statements of intent' and will publish the draft efforts for your perusal and input, at some time.

We have some rules which we would like you to continue to support, in the belief that it helps us control the levels of, and incidents of, bullying and aggressive behaviour. That is the continual banning of the use of cell phones in our school. This helps prevent the senseless filming of incidents which I believe 'glorify' the acts. Pupils enrolled with us have full access to telephones and communication between home and school; in fact we have just begun using a texting programme to inform parents of student absences - a positive use of cell phones, therefore also reminding parents to contact the school when your child is absent. I will also add that 'bullying' is a community responsibility and not just schools. So it would be really positive if we could all work together to demonstrate that it is unacceptable, along with racism, cruelty to animals and children, obesity and personal hygiene, truancy, economic recession.....!!

Next week on Wednesday we will be issuing our end of term reports which will give you some idea of the learning levels based on the Standardised Test results, and also our attempt to report using the National Standards. These reports will be placed in the Individual Portfolios of each pupil, and each portfolio should also contain samples of work and assessment sheets. Some of the information has been presented by students themselves in the form of self evaluation and also comments about how well they have settled.

In my opinion

- * *What is all the fuss about when we decide for the Rugby World Cup to build a radical designed structure called a "waka", to help show case the indigenous people and their Maori culture to the rest of the world, and yet there is another structure being built on the wharf in Auckland called "Party Centre", promoting a culture which we are finding hard to control. Interesting ???*

Have a great weekend and yes there is only one more week to go to finish this term.

W D CLARKE
Principal

Taupo Intermediate Swim Team:

Over the past two weeks several of our students have competed at both the BOP / Poverty Bay Swimming Championships at the Rotorua Aquatics Centre, and the 2km Open Water Swim in Lake Rotoma.

At the Swimming Champs the competition was very strong especially from the Tauranga and Gisborne schools. However our students all swam well with the following top results: Gabrielle Hannen 3rd in the Year 7 girls 50m backstroke (43.59 sec), Tayla Bilbie 2nd in the Year 8 girls 50m backstroke (36.77 sec), Bradley McKnight 2nd in the Year 8 boys 50m breaststroke (40.65 sec) and Kirsten Robinson 1st in the Year 7 girls 100m breaststroke (1:44.22).

While at Lake Rotoma we managed to gain 1st placed school overall, with all our students completing the 2km swim. Our team attained the following placings: Gabrielle Hannen (6th), Kirsten Robinson (3rd), Ryan Moffit (7th), Mathew Lockett (4th), Claire Hume (2nd), Emma Cordell (8th), Matilda Fulljames (9th), Jamie Cudby (10th), Bradley McKnight (2nd) and Caitlin Taylor (1st). Well done to all those who competed in these events.

Taupo Tennis Championships:

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the Tennis Club Champs held late last month. Frosine Henderson winning the U12 girls, with Mia Lawson as runner up. Corey Price winning the U12 boys, followed with coming runner up in the U14 boys doubles. Then Tom Wilson partnered with Josh winning the U12 doubles over Frosine and Mia.

Abel Tasman Tramp:

Any students wanting to put their names forward for selection for this tramp must have their resumes in by next Friday the 15th of April.

Kevin Bennett:

Kevin, a sports and outdoor education facilitator from Taranaki will be in school next week. He will be coaching groups of students through archery, air rifle shooting and large ball skills. All these activities will be run in a well structured and controlled environment.



**Catch & pass – Kyla Kiel Rm 21
Yr 7 Girls Touch Team**



**Tri Time - Karney Dunster Rm 2
Captain Yr 8 Boys Touch Team**

BOP Kawerau Touch Tournament

Weeks of training had all amounted to this tournament. We met in the hall at 6am on Friday the 1st April 2011. Bleary eyed we walked out to the waiting bus in the darkness. A 2 hour bus ride to the busy metropolis of Kawerau. We had entered four teams in the competition. Mrs Robinson managed to get us lost but we eventually made it to Kawerau Intermediate and set up for an exciting day of touch pool games, semis and finals. Our Year 8 girls played first, which is always tough. Unfortunately they lost to Whakatane. All our teams had at least 3 games with the Year 8 boys playing 5 pool games before semis. Year 7 girls enjoyed the day and won at least one game. Year 8 girls really started to play well in their last two games and were unlucky not to go through to semis. Year 7 boys won all their games except one which they drew so they made it through to semis to face Mount Maunganui Intermediate. They scraped through the semi with some sharp moves and were rewarded with a place in the finals against Gisborne Intermediate. Unfortunately they lost 2-1, but they have already made their goal for next year! Year 8 boys were amazing to watch – they played as a team and listened hard to their coach which made a huge difference to their game. They went through to the semis to face Tauranga Intermediate. Some unlucky calls didn't go our way which was frustrating and we lost 2-1. All teams made Mrs Hemopo and Mrs Robinson proud and represented our school in a positive way. Congratulations.

New & Used Easter Ski Sale 23 & 24 April
Bring your old Ski and Board equipment and clothing down to Gordon's Outdoors on Tamamutu Street before April 21st to be sold on behalf** on Easter Sat & Sun. We'll help you flick some gear or you can pick up some new stuff !!!!*

Sausage Sizzle for the kids!

Raffle: 2011 Mount Ruapehu Season Pass!!

Taupo Academy of Dance is having a fundraising disco for their Hip Hop Crew 'Electric Vibe' on Friday 15th April. Time: Y1 – Y4 5.30 – 7pm Y5 – Y8 7.30 – 9pm
Where: Taupo Academy of Dance Studio aka Taupo Rugby Sports Club, Owen Delany Park (next to the Tauhara Gymnasium).

Cost: \$6 (includes sausage sizzle and drink)

Tickets are limited & can purchased at the studio on Tues 5th & 12th and Thurs 7th & 14th April from 3.30 – 6.00pm and outside M21 Spa Gate on Sat 9th April between 9am – 12pm. Contact Stacey 021 0239 1013 for more information. N.B. All students must be collected inside the studio by an adult.

Athletic Saints will be hosting a Junior Netball Coaching Clinic during school holidays Wed 27th April

WHERE: Owen Delany Netball Courts **WHO:** For children 7 – 13 years old **HOW MUCH:** \$20 for the whole day!!

For any other enquiries feel free to contact: Tammy 0274581075