

# TAUPO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

## Striving for Excellence

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

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Greetings to all of our families



### In My Opinion:

It wasn't a good start to Thursday morning when the 'Breakfast Show' announced that we were going to go back into another recession. To be quite honest with you I didn't actually think we had come out of the last one. A bit confusing really, but that's what I guess happens when we are under pressure to cope with the cost of living and I don't believe it has less effect on those who are perceived to be rich or poor.

What I mean is that in the majority of cases it is what we have chosen to do in our lives. Our career choice, life-style, where we live, what we choose to enjoy, and for some of us it is where we started from. I include myself here, growing up, being from a very large family in a small country town situated on the East Cape. It was hard to visualize where we were going to end up. Looking back over my childhood days I can say they were the happiest of my life, just tough, and often days were very much day to day living – a bit like a recession really.

I have had some discussions over the years while working in schools about poverty, those who can afford and those who can't, or who have fewer resources to be able to pay their way.

I have often told students that education doesn't guarantee you a job. The better standard of education you have and the more advantages you take of what learning experiences are available, will give you more choices, more options to choose from. The less you do the less options you have available. So take, and make the most of the opportunities here at school and get involved.

Speaking of getting involved, we have established two major awards in our school – the 'Bevan Docherty Award' a physically challenging award, and the 'Donovan Bixley Award' for cultural based challenges. We are currently working on an academic award to complement the other two, currently labelled the 'Principal's Academic Award' and as the name suggests it is about achieving at designated level. Probably the name also suggests some intelligence?

Speaking of intelligence we are researching our archives for a name to put on this award from someone who attended this school and who has gone on to become a prominent academic. You may be able to help us with this search.

### I want to send some reminders out to our community:

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011 @ 5.30pm.** We are holding a 'Meet the teacher/parent/caregivers' evening, starting in the school hall with an address from the Principal, following this you will be able to visit your child's teacher in their classroom. Each classroom teacher will present to you an outline of what they will be doing for their class programme and what their organisation is going to be. Expect to hear about the communication between home and school and upcoming events both in and outside school – EOTC.

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011 @ 12.20pm.** We are holding the school triathlon at Wharewaka Point using the Taupo Tri-clubs course and traffic management plan. We will be needing some parental help staging this event so you should contact Baz Haydon directly at the school office on 378 8097 if you can assist – this year we are also asking parents to help us by delivering bikes out to Wharewaka. We are able to transport some on the day, which means they will have to be here first thing in the morning so we can see how many we are coping with.

### Overseas Cultural Exchanges:

We will be seeking expressions of interest from pupils who want to be considered for an exchange trip overseas to New Caledonia – Noumea and to Japan-Osaka / Obama.

These do come at a personal cost and with the Rugby World Cup happening this year the air flights cost could be more or less expensive. We will need to finalise itineraries and flights earlier than usual. This will also give you a heads up about costs.

### Thank you again for all those who:

Have contributed to our school donations, technology fees, and paid for their stationery packs.

Are using our front gate entrance with care and attention especially first thing in the morning and after school.

**Please continue our standard of uniform and reminder that our PE uniform is black shorts, and black leather shoes are an OSH requirement for technology classes for protection.**

**Swimming is our current PE programme so togs are required as well. We have been told from outside the school that we are not teaching swimming very well. We at Taupo Intermediate are trying, but too many pupils are coming to school with notes excusing them from the lessons?? Please help out here.**

Have a great weekend and keep a tight line.

Bill Clarke  
Principal

### **Taupo Intermediate Academic, Cultural and Sports Awards:**

This year with the introduction of an academic award we have three major award programmes in place-

**THE PRINCIPAL'S ACADEMIC AWARD** - The purpose of this award is to help promote and encourage excellence in a range of academic activities as follows:

- PAT Maths stanine 7 or above
- PAT Comp stanine 7 or above
- Spelling at 14 years or above
- Completion of all school and homework
- Complete a piece of writing at level 5
- Speeches at 75% or above
- Mathsmatters at 75% or above for the 4 items
- Credit or above in any ICAS test
- Selected for Mathsmatters, Bay Maths etc team
- Selected for Lit Quiz team
- Science Fair at 75% or above (Goals 5, 7, 8 & 9 may be moderated across the school)
- Technology, overall excellence at achievement level 3 in any two or more of the four Technology Areas
- Top placing in a recognised science, maths, writing, computing, chess etc. Competition



**THE DONOVAN BIXLEY AWARD** - The purpose of this award is to help promote and encourage the involvement of students in a range of cultural activities as follows:

- Selected for either the Jump Jam Performance Team or a leader for the promotion of Jump Jam at the school.
- Member of the School Production.
- Member of the School Kapa Haka group.
- Member of the School Wind Band or Orchestra.
- Representative for their class in the School Speech Finals.
- Take an active part in a community project of your choice.
- Learn a second language either through the school or a recognised provider.
- Top placing in a recognised dance, art, music, singing, drama or photography competition.
- Attendance at regular ongoing after school lessons in dance, drama, speech, music, art or singing.
- Take part in a Taupo Intermediate Cultural Exchange, either by travelling overseas with a school group or by billeting an overseas student who is on an exchange with our school.
- Attend a professional theatrical, musical or artistic experience.



**THE BEVAN DOCHERTY AWARD** - The purpose of this award is to help promote the involvement of students in iconic and rewarding Taupo based activities.

- Taupo Intermediate Triathlon (individual finisher)
- Taupo Across The Lake Swim (either 1km or 4.2km)
- Taupo Half Marathon (run or walk)
- Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge, a section (40km) or all (160km).
- Tongariro Crossing
- Valued member of a regular winter sports team.
- Day Night Thriller (member of a team and riding at least 3 laps)
- Kayak from Control Gates to Reids Farm
- Take an active part in a community project of your choice



Students will be presented with a Bronze, Silver or Gold medal for gaining 5, 7 or 9 goals in the selected award. Medals are presented at an end of the year assembly. Award booklets and information concerning these awards can be collected from the school office or Mr Haydon.

#### **Across The Lakes Swim:**

Students wishing to swim either 1km or 4.2km course, entries are available from the school office and must be returned by Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.

#### **Taupo Intermediate Triathlon:**

Entries are available from the school office and must be returned by Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of February. Parents are asked that if at all possible they take their child's bike to the race start and collect it after the event to save us having to transport too many of them. Students will be bussed to the event and can either be picked up from Wharewaka Point or get bussed back to school.

#### **Tennis Club Open Day**

This Sunday  
12.30 to 3pm free  
All equipment supplied

#### **Waiariki Under 13 Maori Netball Team**

Summer Tai-Rakena, Bree Waiariki, Darnel Puha and Aisha Short have been selected to play in 11 games in Palmerston North Easter Weekend for the Waiariki U13 Maori Netball Team. They won the Intermediate section of Kurangaituku Tournament and Runners Up in the Rotorua Year 8 Summer League.

#### **Ironkidz Triathlon:**

Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.  
entries available from  
[www.ironkidz.com](http://www.ironkidz.com) or  
Waipahihi School.