

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: 04

Date: 25 February 2011



In My Opinion:

Firstly we should take the opportunity to express our sympathies and condolences to the families and people of the Canterbury region who have been devastated by yet another major earthquake. We have been exposed to the many graphic images of the tragedy that continues to unfold each hour. We will have all been affected in various ways on a personal level by having friends and relatives living in Christchurch and having to make decisions about their future there.

I have a daughter attending varsity along with a number of others from Taupo who will be informed next week on the future of their academic year. I can tell you that it is a huge relief to receive a txt to say we are all fine and I couldn't hope to imagine how those who have missing ones would be feeling right now, so our thoughts and support will continue.

It is quite ironic that on Tuesday morning at 9.00am we held an assembly to host two people, Huw and Carolyn Taylor, who were biking around the world promoting awareness and raising funds for the "Shelter Box" organisation. Shelter Box have provided aid for an estimated 1 million people over the last ten years and contain the essentials - dry shelter - tent, warm bed, clean water, cooking supplies, tools, eating utensils and even children's school supplies. These are to be used in the event of a disaster. Then 3 hours later the earthquake struck the Christchurch region and within minutes these shelter boxes would have been handy.

We also decided that we would hold a mufti day to raise funds to purchase one of these boxes at the cost of \$1500.00 to put together. They are all numbered which would enable us to track down where this box was used - which country and after what disaster. We would not have envisaged that they could be used in our own country.

With the disaster in Christchurch we will reassess our commitment here and make a decision as to how we will raise funds or contribute in some way for the people there. We are also helping by taking enrolments for displaced students from Christchurch with one student starting with us today and one on Monday, and no doubt more to come. We support this move to allow these students an opportunity to get away from the death and destruction for whatever period of time is necessary.

Our Board of Trustees Chairperson Cindy Smith has also reminded parents in her review that in the event of a disaster striking Taupo during a school day that we would immediately implement our "relief plan" and keep the students here at school until they can be picked up by you the parents / caregivers. The students would not be released to go home until you appeared and if you didn't we would continue to care for them. The Principal and staff would remain onsite with Health and Safety being paramount, until all students have left the premises even though we may have family elsewhere. Parents and caregivers would need to appear at school instead of phoning as this clogs up the systems for emergencies. We hope that we do not have to initiate this plan now or in the future.

In my opinion this disaster puts a lot of things into perspective, especially with our politicians arguing about BMW's and upcoming election campaigns and popularity polls. Let us see whether we can work to win this "campaign" and just how popular or unpopular some people will be at the end of this.

Let's not worry about the 'World Cup', just about filling cups with food.

I also think that this might prove once and for all that it is a huge responsibility for any group to "own the foreshore and sea bed" when we have no control on what happens to nature when it decides to take its own course of action - interesting dilemma?

We never know how good our systems are until something goes wrong, or something happens, that puts them under pressure.

Did you know that Hone Harawira had resigned from the Maori Party?

Have a good weekend; let's hope that our friends and families get through their crisis in Christchurch.

W D CLARKE
Principal

- *What an awesome School Triathlon we staged at Wharewaka Point especially with the number of competitors entered, and to the great support from all the parents who turned up.*
- *Congratulations & thank you for the effort on Wednesday at Lake Karapiro at the Waikato Triathlon Teams Event.*
- *All the best to our athletes who are entered into the Swim Across the Lake on Saturday and to those competing at the Ironkidz event on Sunday.*

TIS BOT REVIEW:

The Board of Trustees at Taupo Intermediate meet monthly. We want to keep our School Community updated with progress throughout the year by giving you a brief after our meetings.

1st Brief for the year.....Welcome, Ki Ora, all new students and Families. We are proud to be involved in this school Community. Last year saw an end on an impressive note with a Final Prize Giving where students were acknowledged for their academic, technology, sporting and cultural achievements. This school offers many ways for students to become involved in school life, there are opportunities and goals to compete and strive for. Make it your 2011 challenge to "*get involved*".

It was awesome to see so many parents, supporting their children on the first day of school, and a great turn out for the meet the teacher evening. Thank you for supporting these occasions.

Over the next few months we will continue to work through the School Property Plan. Part of our role as a board is to gather information that is sufficiently comprehensive to enable evaluation of student progress and achievement. We are also reviewing Governance Policies. There are many exciting events that are on the school calendar in the next couple of terms. We hope to be able to meet many of you at these.

In the case of a natural disaster like the tragic and devastating Christchurch earthquake occurring in Taupo, we would like to reassure families and students that our procedures for a disaster are in place, to keep students and staff safe.

Cindy, Tony, Marguerite, Jan, and Bronee

TAUPO INTERMEDIATE TRIATHLON 2011

On Monday 21st February, Taupo Intermediate ran their School Triathlon at Wharewaka Point. This was supported by Wayne Reardon of the Taupo Triathlon Club, and a large number of parents and the school staff. Over 100 students entered as individuals, and a further 50 in teams competing in a 180m swim, 8km bike and a 2.5km run. The day was hot and calm with well over 100 parents taking time out to encourage their children around the course. The major results were as follows:

Year 7: Individuals

Girls: 1st Hannah Lawson, 2nd Xanthe Sando, 3rd Kirsten Robinson

Boys: 1st Cole Robinson, 2nd Bradley Merwood, 3rd Logan Hirst

Year 8

Girls: 1st Matilda Fulljames, 2nd Claire Hume, 3rd Emma Cordell

Boys: 1st Ben Negus, 2nd Harrison Draper Kidd, 3rd Manawa Pereka-Owens

Year 7 Teams:

1st Nathan Williams, Brad Freeman and Luke Rainbow,

2nd Ruby Hura, Jayme Elliot and Sarah Ward,

3rd Brittany Dowd, Islay Mowat and Arnalise Wyllie.

Year 8 Teams:

1st Jamie Cudby, Emilie Read and Isabella Battell,

2nd Alice Orr, Holly Hickman and Kirsten Clark,

3rd Sam Insley, Conner Crawford and Summer Tai-Rakena.

Following on from this, Taupo Intermediate sent 13 teams to the Waikato Schools Team Triathlon held at Karapiro on Wednesday 23rd. The teams won silver and bronze in the Yr 7 girls with Gabrielle Hannen, Caitlyn MacRae & Christina Bellm, and Kirsten Robinson, Aimee Calkin & Xanthe Sando. Silver and bronze in the Yr 8 Girls with Jamie Cudby, Emma Cordell & Baelei London and Caitlyn Taylor, Matilda Fulljames & Frosine Henderson. Then Gold in the Yr 8 Boys with Bradley McKnight, Mathew Forsyth and Liam Nicholson.

On Saturday 45 Taupo Intermediate students will be competing in the 1km Across the Lake Swim with another 7 students in the 4.2km event.

The current Exhibition at the Taupo Museum is "The Making of the Word Witch" Featuring the poetry of Margaret MAHY and illustrated by David ELLIOTT. Proudly supported by Friends of the Taupo Museum & Taupo Library.

At Taupo Museum until 5th April 10am – 4:30pm
Free to locals.

FAMILY DAY

Saturday 19th March
School Programmes, workshop, competitions.



GROWING THROUGH GRIEF

'Seasons' A loss and grief support programme for children now taking enrolments which is run during Term time on Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm for 9 weeks, at the St Andrews Anglican Church Taupo. **Free to all children** aged between 5 – 18 years old, who have lost someone significant in their life either through death, divorce or separation. It is a peer support programme that provides children with the opportunity to share with, and learn from each other in a safe environment with trained companions.

'Seasons' is not a religious programme but respects all cultural and spiritual beliefs. All enquiries welcome.

Please call Anne and Bridget on 021 187 6547 or leave a message for your call to be returned on 378 6059.

Junior Soccer 2011 Season

starts soon, registrations will be held on the following dates

from 5.30-7.30pm

Tuesday 1st March

Thursday 3rd

Tuesday 8th

Thursday 10th

Saturday 12th 9am-1pm.

Registrations at the Clubrooms, Crown Park, Taharepa Road.

Full information regarding fees etc can be found on

www.tauposoccer.org.nz

Sport Waikato March 'Give It a Go Month' Throughout March are opportunities for club and exercise activities for a low or no cost. Timetable in the Taupo Times or contact Christine on 3768915 or christineb@sportwaikato.org.nz

2011 JUNIOR RUGBY REGISTRATION

Arrangements are as follows:

Monday 7th March – 8.00 to 8.45am & 2.30 to 4.00pm at School Hall.

Saturday 19 & 26 March – 10.00am to 1.00pm at Taupo Sports Clubrooms, O.D.P. Please note that a parent/caregiver must sign the registration form.

Subs. are \$40 per child, \$60 for 2 (family), and \$10 per child after that (family). Questions to Tony Jensen 378 9200 or Cindy Rainford 027 2043717

Taupo Netball Club

Term: 6 weeks;

Venue: Netball Courts

Owen Delany Park

Mondays Y6 Y7 Y8 5.30pm

Y9 U15 U17 7pm

Dates 7th 14th 21st 28th March

4th 11th April 2011.