

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:

Bonjour! Konnichiwa! Kia ora! – No it's not the Rugby World Cup, I am not practising my greetings, just demonstrating the different cultures experienced here in the past few weeks. Yes, I have not been around to write my weekly splurge in the newsletter offering my opinions on the state of the nation. Some may say thank goodness for that, or words to that effect, but I know deep down you want me to comment so that you can be riled up or calmed, as the case maybe.

Since our return from Noumea, nobody wants to know the air temperature was about 24 – 26 degrees and that the water was very warm in the sea and the pool. Nor do they want to know that part of my brief for my research project, was to test the notion that the French people are very famous for their Croissants, Baguettes and Red Fermented Grape Juice, which I can confirm, that they do deserve some credit.

In all seriousness, our group was subjected to outstanding hospitality, in particular, our students were being well looked after by their host families. In turn the reports we got from the host families were that the students were well mannered and well behaved and were a credit to their school and their families. Similar comments were passed on by members of the public at the airports, at functions we attended and the schools we visited. The interaction between our students and those from Jean Mariotti and Daniel Talon Schools in Noumea, was very positive and in fact a delight to see. We shared some of our Waiata and the Ka Mate Haka much to the thrill and delight of the crowds. I don't really think people here realise how much of an impact the "Ka Mate Haka" has made in a number of countries throughout the world. They certainly know we are from New Zealand when it is performed, and that the term "Kiwi" is also our affectionate name.

It was a great coup and thrill to be able to watch the All Blacks play and beat the Australian team. I thought all was lost, but to the rescue came the New Zealand Ambassador who invited us to watch the game live at the Consulate, which was an invitation confirmed even before the ink dried, and a function we were not going to be late for. I know the Ambassador relished the opportunity to host people interested in a good old rugby match, instead of those mundane duties like reuniting kiwis with their lost passports, or helping "yachties" return to New Zealand after their yachts have floundered on the reefs surrounding New Caledonia, with a lack of insurances. Interesting?

I want to thank Colleen Westerman for her organisation and coordination of this exchange, ably assisted by Jenna Livingstone who was also technical advisor. As you know I went along as the researcher, cultural attaché, social coordinator and guitar player.

So it was a real shock to return to New Zealand to be snowed upon and sub-zero temperatures. However the show must go on and we are now under way with our ski trips here at school. If any are postponed because of bad weather, we are able to reschedule for one more day, but if that is again affected we have to cancel the trip, so here is hoping the rescheduled days will be unaffected. Please read the notices carefully especially the departure from, and arrival times here. By all accounts those trips which have taken place already have been enjoyed by all participants.

This past week we have also hosted a small group from Obama, Japan a small town on the south west of the main island. Population is similar to Taupo approximately 30,000 people but situated beside the sea in an inlet. A huge thank you to the families who helped us with hosting, and again I have only received positive comments from the visitors and host families culminating in a "Sayonara Party" last Wednesday night here at school. I want to thank Tracy MacRae for her organisation and coordination of this visit, and for also hosting Mr Mineo Hyami, the Tour leader from Obama. Mr Hyami has been travelling to Taupo for the past 8 years and has been working on this exchange with Tracy MacRae to ensure its success. It is hoped that we will be able to travel to Obama Japan next year if all goes well, and are not subjected to any more disasters; it will give our students the opportunity to experience their hospitality and culture.

The netball and rugby seasons are complete, with the prize giving for both held on Saturday at the courts and clubrooms at Owen Delany Park complex. It was great to see Taupo Intermediate School to the fore at both these ceremonies.

Congratulations to all our athletes, especially the recipients of the various trophies and medals. I know it is hard to single out individuals in team sport, but you must have done something special to be elevated amongst your peers. So well done, I hope you didn't forget to thank your mums and dads for getting you there each week, and to the coaches and managers.

Next week we are away at the **NZAIMS Games – (New Zealand Association Intermediate Middle Schools)** with our Year 8 Netball team competing against 57 other teams, our Multi-sport team who will battle against arch rivals Tauranga Intermediate, Swimming representatives, Gymnastics, and The Hip Hop team (from the boys class). I guess the thing to remember is that there are teams from all over the country attending from Whangarei to Invercargill in a wide range of sports.

- *121 NZCTAIMS GAMES competing schools!!! (4,600+ competitors and 900+ coaches, managers and officials from the length and breadth of the country) – Vicki Semple*

So we expect the competition to be very tough and any success gained will be a huge achievement.

Next week we are also sending our Year 8 students to visit the colleges Tauhara and Taupo Nui a Tia on Tuesday and Wednesday. The students will be split into two groups, each group visiting a different college that day and vice versa the next day. Regardless of whether you will be sending your child to a school out of town, we would find it much easier if all our Year 8 students attend these events.

Taupo Nui a Tia visit will be by bus and it will necessitate walking over to Tauhara.

Thoughts:

- *Now that the All Black squad has been picked there is no point in debating the issue, just get behind them. In my pick I would have had Hosea Gear instead of Guilford and Cruden for Slade. However I am over it and I will be staunch for the AB's.*
- *Why doesn't the government remove the GST on petrol and power which affects most people, and be auctioned, instead of continuing this argument about fruit and vegetables. There are too many loop holes, as can be seen with the mark up on these items in the supermarkets, 600% mark-up on Broccoli. It is not an even playing field.*

Bill Clarke - Principal

Taupo Monster Mountain Bike Challenge:
 Congratulations to Tom Wilson and Olivia Flight for both gaining 1st place in their respective age group mountain bike races at Spa Park last weekend.

AIMS: Good luck to our netball, swimming, gymnastics, Hip Hop and multisport teams competing next week at the AIMS (Association on Intermediate and Middle Schools) games next week.

Netball Awards : OUTSTANDING RESULTS !!!!!

- Ora Williams** ~ Junior Umpire / Most Improved Umpire
- Aisha Short** ~ Most Outstanding Junior Player of the Year
- Phoebe Slee** ~ Most Improved Player
- **TIS BLUES** ~ Winners 1st Round.- 'B' Premier Senior grade
- **TIS STARS** ~ Runner Up Intermediate Reserve Grade
- **TIS SHOOTERS** ~ Winners Intermediate Reserve Grade
- **TIS ELEVENS** ~ Winner Banner Round Int. Flight Grade
- **TIS YEAR SPARKS** ~ Runner Up Int. Flight Grade
- **TIS CRUSADERS** ~ Winner Intermediate Flight Grade
- **TIS MAGICS** ~ Runners up Int. Championship Grade.
- **TIS FERNS** ~ Winners Int. Championship Grade

Rugby Awards :

- Josh Rainford** ~ Most Dedicated Player Overall
 - Corey Price** ~ Most Valuable Player (Shared Award Rebels Overall Outstanding Player)
 - Alistair Blackett** ~ Most Valuable Player (Shared Award for Rebels)
 - Wate Lewai** ~ Most Valuable Player (Sharks)
 - Petera Winiata** ~ Most Improved Player (Titans)
- (My apologies if I have missed any names or awards but these are the ones that have been passed on to me)*

Breakfast-eaters have it better!

Some of the lowest-cost breakfasts – like wheat biscuits and porridge are great for kids; great value and give kids a real head-start for the day.

Try these fast, easy and yummy ideas:

- ▼ Wheat biscuits and milk = energetic kids
- ▼ Baked beans on toast = fuelled for school
- ▼ Peanut butter on toast = ready to learn
- ▼ Porridge and milk = a real head start
- ▼ Fruit Smoothie = unstoppable on the sport's field

Research shows:

- ▼ Breakfast-eaters have more focus to learn and more energy for sport
- ▼ Eating a good breakfast can improve school performance.
- ▼ Go to breakfast-eaters.org.nz for easy, yummy breakfast ideas.



DYSLEXIA TRAINING WITH NEIL MacKAY

The Resource Teacher of Literacy Taupo with Taupo RTL and REAP is pleased to confirm that Neil MacKay, world leading thinker on Dyslexia, is coming to Taupo in September.

Parents' Evening on Friday September 23rd

Venue: REAP , 73 Titiraupenga Street, Taupo

Time : 7.00 p.m. till 9.00 p.m.

Cost : \$30 single \$50 couple

Staying connected to your child and their learning can be difficult when Dyslexia or other differences arise – especially when it comes to homework and test learning. Focussing on aspects of reading for meaning, spelling tricky words and organising ideas on paper, this unique workshop teaches parents some of the "tricks of the trade". **Registrations to Central Plateau REAP 73 Titiraupenga St. reception@reap.org.nz Ph 07 378 8109**

Spring is the time to give kids the opportunity to

"Give Golf Ago"

Tuesday's September 6th, 13th & 20th

Time: 3.45pm to 4.45pm

What: Kids are placed in groups of similar age & ability. Current level will determine course content and include basic skills and games!

Cost: \$10 entry into the programme

Registration: Request a registration form by email, or Call at the Pro Shop, Centennial Drive Taupo.

All registrations must be made by **1st SEPTEMBER** – Numbers limited.

Phone: Taupo Golf Club 378-6933 Ext 2,

Email: proshop@taupogolf.co.nz

Coach: Patrick Moore

Oruanui Pony club

New Season starting – No previous experience needed. Bring your own pony or come unmounted. There are regular Rallies (i.e. Group Lessons most weeks).

All Welcome and we are here to help....

If you need a pony we may be able to help you source on. Phone or text Karen Owen on 374 8537 or 027482 4401 owee1@kinect.co.nz

