

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

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Tena koutou te whanau o tenei Kura, nau mai haere mai ki te Kura Waenga o Taupo

Greetings to all our families and welcome to Taupo Intermediate School – “the best Intermediate in Taupo”

In my opinion:

“The brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. Because the brick walls are there to stop the people who don’t want it badly enough. They’re there to stop the other people”. - Randy Pausch – the dying man who taught America how to live.

On **Saturday 24th February 2018**, 60 x students, some teachers and parents joined Baz Haydon and myself to represent Taupo Intermediate at 3 Mile Bay for the annual **Across the Lake Swim**. Students swam in the one or two kilometre section of the race, and one of our students – Lani Cunningham, swimming in the big race – 4.2 ks – across the lake.

To put this in perspective, previously Taupo Intermediate students used to swim across the Lake as a relay team of 4 x Swimmers, then the change was made for the shorter distances at 3 Mile Bay. So Lani Cunningham, and all those other swimmers who overcame their fears, showed some “intestinal fortitude”. To all who completed in the challenge, no brick walls for you people – Awesome efforts!!!

Some students then undertook the **Ironkidz Challenge** the following day, Sunday and performed exceptionally well. Again congratulations to Waipahihi on their fantastic event. In the Elite event, the boys Kasper Lenoir was 3rd place with Dougal Mackintosh 4th place. The girls event Sophie Webber was 3rd place and Kaea Gage 4th place. **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO TOOK PART AND THANK YOU TO OUR TEACHERS AND PARENTS FOR YOUR SUPPORT !!!**

We mobilized our school on **Monday 26th February** and held our **School Swimming Sports** and again can be so proud of the participation rate and the performances. Thank you to all our staff for their organisation and administration of this event, and we can be pleased that we are one of the few schools about who are blessed to have their own swimming pool, particularly with the number of water fatalities in Taupo.

I did see on a recent TV Breakfast programme, that more education should be done in schools to help with educating our students about water survival, and that Beach Education should be part of our programme. At Taupo Intermediate we do undertake water skills and survival techniques using our pool. We also undertake the beach education programme with New Zealand Life Saving at a cost to us, when our students are on school camps. We do support the Life Saving groups by hiring their Surf Clubs for our accommodation which is beneficial to us as well.

Swimming Sports Results

YEAR 7

PLACE	ROOM	POINTS	TEAMS
1	8	190	1ST TAUHARA 716 PTS
2	17	135	
3	7	125	
4	4	122	
5	12	111	
6	16	105	2ND RUAPEHU 639 PTS
6	25	105	
8	19	101	
8	21	101	
10	23	97	
11	5	83	
12	6	80	

YEAR 8

PLACE	ROOM	POINTS	TEAM
1	10	202	1ST NGAURUHOE 679 PTS
2	1	148	
3	13	143	
4	22	128	
5	18	112	
5	24	112	2ND TONGARIRO 621 PTS
7	14	88	
8	2	86	
9	9	78	
10	3	77	
11	11	72	
12	20	54	

Individuals

PLACE	Year 7 girls	PLACE	Year 7 boys
1st	KAEA GAGE	1st	CORMAC LIDDELL
2nd	GABBY DONALD	2nd	ANGUS MARTIN
3rd	RHIANNON SCURR	3rd	TRAVYS McCLAY-TALIVAI
4th	SOPHIE WEBBER	4th =	BLAKE AARSEN
5th	MAKAYLA THORLEY	4th =	PIETER OSBORNE
		4th =	ZACH FORSTER

Individuals

PLACE	Year 8 girls	PLACE	Year 8 boys
1 st =	ELOISE ALLERTON	1 st	DOUGAL MACKINTOSH
1 st =	LEXIE TUPE	2 nd	BEN SOLOMANN
3 rd	BILLIE HAWKE	3 rd	JACOB HUME
4 th	KAMRYN GORDINE-AKUHATA	4 th	MATTHEW GREENWOOD
5 th	BAVNEET KAUR	5 th	JAMES KEELEY

Next on the agenda Thursday 1st March 2018

At a special assembly we hosted 4 x Ironman competitors:

- **Dylan McNeice** – New Zealand 2017 winner of the 70.3 Taupo event in November.
- **Mike Phillips** -New Zealand long distance triathlete competing in races internationally.
Mike has the World fastest Ironman debut.
- **Sam Bradley (Warriner)** - New Zealand – Olympic and Commonwealth Champion in Triathlons
– coach and inspiration for some of our elite Taupo Athletes.
- **Cassie Nicholson**, our own inspirational teacher in Room 10 –CWWA- and role model for all of us at Taupo Intermediate School.

We were able to hear about their fears and aspirations, and of course what they think about when they hit those “brick walls”. Thanks to the work of our guest from the world Ironman Association, Australian Ironman “Tammy” who will also be commentating at the event on Saturday.

Thank you to the Taupo District Council – Steve Giles, Events Manager – for the initiative in getting many of our students to write letters to the Competitors, some have taken the time to contact us here at school thanking our kids:

- *I received an awesome note from Caitlyn in Room 18 in my Ironman registration bag. My name is Ed Overy and I'm competing in my first Ironman. Please pass on to Caitlyn my thanks, and if she sees number 1093 go past her please give me a shout of encouragement.*
- *And 'Josh Thomas' - 198 - who made the effort to come and meet Kamryn Gordine- Akuhata and Room 13 and give her an Ironman shirt – 'her quote was inspirational'*

WIREMU

On Monday the Taupo Intermediate Board of Trustees had the first meeting of 2018. It was a full and busy meeting, with the Board moving to extend a warm welcome to new Trustee Greg Dick, and to confirm Vanessa Donald into the role of Chairperson for 2018.

At the meeting we reviewed the workplan for 2018, approved the 2017 Analysis of Variance and the introductory and strategic sections of the Charter. The 2017 Principal Appraisal report was tabled in committee and the 2018 Performance Agreement and process to be discussed in committee.

The Board acknowledged the work of Mr Clarke and all staff in making the positive shifts in student achievement results that we have seen from 2016 to 2017 for all students - they have done a great job and there are always the “what next” steps to work on!

The draft 2018 budget was discussed, and the Board reviewed plans for expenditure against areas of priority for student achievement, professional development of staff and development and upkeep of school property and resources.

We approved our Safety Management Plan and acknowledged Mr Hayden on his work in providing a diverse range of education outside the classroom opportunities for our students.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for 26 March 2018 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm - everyone is welcome to come and sit in.

A very big welcome back to all students and their whanau for 2018 - we hope you have a fantastic year, try some new things and also get the opportunity to make a positive difference! Kia ora, Ngā mihi, *Vanessa* Chairperson **School Board of Trustees**

Lake Taupo Basketball

competition normally starts near the end of Term 1. If you would like to help as a manager or coach of a team please email me at:

bwills@taupointermediate.co.nz or leave a message at the office.

There will be more information sent out at a later date.

Taupo Intermediate Family participate in the XVenture Family Challenge TV series. The XVenture Family Challenge that was filmed in Russell last October will screen this Sunday 4th March at 5:30pm on channel THREE. Proudly supported by ecostore, this is brand- new TV series focused on learning, growth and development in families. Over the 8 part series, 16 families from all over New Zealand compete in fun and exciting challenges at the stunning Eagles Nest, Bay of Islands. Taupo Intermediate student, Remus Henare is proudly representing Taupo with brother Rico, and parents Chareese and Alex. Show your support for Team Henare and watch the series this Sunday at 5:30pm on THREE as they compete in a place in the semi-final.

REMINDERS: School photos will be taken next Wednesday - orders taken until 21st March, order envelopes sent home today Friday 2nd March.

Also today a letter informing you of the **NZEI Union meeting** on Tuesday 20th March where students are asked to return the slip from the bottom of the letter to allow their early exit.

