

# 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

Newsletter Number: 1  
Date: 1 February 2019



Tena koutou te whanau o tenei Kura, nau mai haere mai ki te Kura Waenga o Taupo, “te kura pai o Intermediate i Taupo”  
Greetings to all our families and welcome to Taupo Intermediate School – “the best Intermediate in Taupo”.

In my opinion:

*"First comes thought; then organization of that thought, into ideas and plans; then transformation of those plans into reality. The beginning, as you will observe, is in your imagination." - Oliver Napoleon Hill was an American self-help author. He is known best for his book Think and Grow Rich which is among the 10 best-selling self-help books of all time. Hill's works insisted that fervid expectations are essential to improving one's life.*

A very big welcome back to the beginning of a new academic year, 2019, an odd year and in the Chinese New Year it is the Year of the “Pig” which starts on Tuesday, February 5th and ends January 24th 2020.

According to the Chinese astrology, 2019 is a great year to make money, and a good year to invest! 2019 is going to be full of joy, a year of friendship and love for all the zodiac signs; an auspicious year because the Pig attracts success in all the spheres of life.

The Maori Calendar begins in June with the reappearance of the Matariki star cluster signaling the New Year.

Hui-tanguru (January-February) Kua tau te waewae o Ruhi kai whenua. The foot of Ruhi (a summer star) now rests upon the earth.

Actually, the most important calendar, in my opinion, besides when the school holidays fall, is the fishing calendar, and I suppose what's happening in our school over the next few weeks.

Thank you all for the great start to the year, to the students who have turned up well and truly prepared for the year, and to my staff who have been here for the past two weeks, getting themselves and our school ready for the influx of students. Some enrolled nice and early and some were enrolled right up to Wednesday morning.

I asked at our first assembly, that we don't seek any changes to the classes that we have set up, as we have spent many hours putting these together. Using information from the previous year's teacher / school, and our need to find a “best fit” with all the information we have, including the interests and strength of our teachers. Your continued support will be necessary for a period of time.

I will ask that you sort parts of the uniform, particularly the sandals and shoes, as soon as you can and if I can be of assistance then contact me direct – Bill Clarke Principal.

All students have been issued with a Stationery Pack regardless of whether they have been paid for or not, to ensure that students all start the same. Thank you to those who have paid – we will invoice those who haven't as yet.

**We inform you that you must adhere to other requirements stated in our Prospectus and today I emphasise:-**

**THAT THERE IS ....**

- No dyed coloured hair.
- No body piercing – only studs in your ear.
- No cell phones to be used in our school – they will be confiscated and kept locked away and you as a parent or caregiver will need to come to the office to pick it up. ALL communication should come through to you from our school office, or direct with the classroom teacher via email or phone call. Students can use our school phone at no cost to them or yourself.
- No visiting the school during school hours unless you check yourself in to the office area.
- School Donation – This is the 4<sup>th</sup> Year that we have not asked for a donation and I don't hold out any hope the government will help in this regard – as promised now or in the future? Technology fees and School associated activities such as school trips and sports fees are still payable by you. Again, please discuss directly with me if these costs are causing some hardship.

**THAT WE DO ...**

- have a school uniform for day wear and physical education. Personal caps can be worn outside as sun protection, or there are school caps and hats for sale from Brandfuel. All uniform components need to be named – vivid marker is effective, and teachers can assist with this.
- Help with sunscreen – we do make containers available but if you know your child needs special skin protection ie. 50 Plus – then please ensure they have a tube in their bag. We have 24 classrooms and will endeavor to place 24 x pump pots in each class at our cost @ \$25.00 per litre.

## **SCHOOL LAPTOP SCHEME FOR 2019**

Thank you to all those who have signed and made their first deposit or paid fully for their new laptop. These will be issued to your child if you are part of the scheme within the next two weeks. **PLEASE NOTE: THIS SCHEME IS NOT COMPULSORY**

Those of you who have signed up for the scheme need to keep up with the payments, you can discuss with our office staff

on payment options, including automatic payments, weekly or monthly.

- **THE LAPTOPS REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF TAUPO INTERMEDIATE UNTIL THEY ARE PAID OFF IN FULL AND THEN ONLY WHEN THE STUDENTS LEAVES OUR SCHOOL.**

250 laptops have arrived in our school. We now need to connect them to our school system to ensure that we are able to monitor their use for your child's protection, and adhere to our stringent rules and regulations.

When your child leaves our school, all programmes that are licensed to Taupo Intermediate will be removed and the laptop will revert back to what it was, at the delivery status to the school.

- **NO OTHER LAPTOP WILL BE ABLE TO BE CONNECTED IN ANYWAY TO OUR SYSTEM**

**ALL** students who are not participants in the laptop scheme will have a Work Station made available in their class for their use during the school day.

- **ALL STUDENTS WILL BE INVOLVED IN A SPECIALLY PREPARED CURRICULUM UNIT ON DIGITAL USAGE AND SAFE PRACTICES AS PART OF OUR HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS. Any breaches of our protocols will/could see the privilege of digital usage being withdrawn.**

#### **SCHOOL BUS SERVICE FOR 2019**

We have approximately 300 x students who have an exclusive opportunity to travel on a free bus service, which is provided by the Ministry of Education. This is because they live more than 3.2 kilometres from their nearest school that they can attend. This service is managed by Principals representing 5 x schools here in Taupo and district. **Bill Clarke**, is the current Chairperson of this management group, along with **Catherine Fraser who is the Bus Coordinator for the whole group.**

Each school has their own bus Coordinator and **Taupo Intermediate School's Bus Coordinator is Kerri Robinson** so all queries and correspondence about our school buses must come to Kerri for any action required.

- **DO NOT CONTACT THE BUS COMPANY DIRECT AS THEY ARE OUR CONTRACTORS.**

Bus students will receive a letter outlining their responsibility and we will have no hesitation in removing student/s from the service for what ever period we decide, if there are any breaches of the rules or regulations. Each school will deal with their own students, but the Management group reserve the right to make the final decision if required.

**ALL BUS STUDENTS** go to the school hall at the end of our school day, marked on a roll accordingly, and then escorted to their bus which is lined up in the school grounds, including the private service to Turangi. If they don't turn up to the hall, we mark them absent. If you make alternative arrangements for your child after school, you can contact the school office. We need to know who is and isn't on the bus, in the event of an emergency.

**- THIS IS A REQUIREMENT UNDER OUR HEALTH AND SAFETY SYSTEM**

Thank you for your support and have a great weekend and let's enjoy this heat wave while we are away from school??

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#### **AND COMING UP IN ..... TERM ONE ??? (cut this out and place in a prominent place)**

- **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** School Academic year begins for all students
  - **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February** Whole School Assembly @ 12 noon
  - **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** Waitangi Day (Holiday)
  - **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February** Meet the Parent/Teacher Evening @ 5.30pm in the school hall for Principal presentation, followed by class visits where teachers will be sharing their organization and programmes.
- Parking available on the Playing / Rugby field access via Kiddle Drive. NO Parking in the Hospital Grounds at all, thank you.**
- **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February** Kinloch Triathlon
  - **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February** Central Plateau Principal's Meeting @ 12noon
  - **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February** Round / Length of the Lake Relay for Taupo Intermediate Teaching Staff – (Supreme Athletes, akin to the famous Norwegian Racing Sardines)
  - **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** Cross the Lake Swim / 1-2 Kilometre swim @ 3 x Mile Bay – (Parental Assistance required)
  - **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February** Ironkidz – Waipahihi School
  - **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February** TIS Swimming Sports @TIS (Parental assistance appreciated)
  - **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** Waikato/BOP Team Triathlon
  - **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March** Bay of Plenty (BOP) Intermediate Inter-School comp. – Surfing @ Mount Maunganui
  - **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** N.Z. Ironman Event Taupo (TIS Staff assisting at Bike Special Needs Station)
  - **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** School Photos
  - **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March** Central Plateau Bus Transport Management meeting @Taupo Intermediate 11 am.
  - **Thur /Fri 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March** Waikato/BOP Individual Triathlon
  - **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** Leadership Camp with Taupo Nui a Tia @ Papamoa
  - **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** BOP/PB. Intermediate Tennis Champs. Whakatane
  - **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** Open Water Swim – Lake Rotoma
  - **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March** Taupo Int. Triathlon Champs @ Wharewaka Point – (Parental Assistance required)
  - **Sun – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> April** BOP/PB Intermediate Swimming Champs. @ Rotorua
  - **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April** NZ Triathlon Championships
  - **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** BOP/PB Intermediate Touch championships
  - **Sun – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> April** Intermediate Leadership Camp in Napier hosted by Taradale Intermediate. Includes Northcross, Ilminster, Taradale and Taupo Intermediate Schools.
  - **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April** Waikato/BOP Mountain Bike Champs
  - **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** Last Day of Term