

# TAUPO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

**Striving for Excellence**

Kotare Street, TAUPO 3330

Telephone: (07) 378 8097

Fax: (07) 378 8618

Email: [admin@taupointermediate.co.nz](mailto: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, "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:

*"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." --Andrew Carnegie was a Scottish-American industrialist, business magnate, and philanthropist. Carnegie led the expansion of the American steel industry in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and is often identified as one of the richest people in history.*

Thank you caregivers for your attendance at our "Meet the Parent/Teacher" evening, and to the parents/grandparents for supporting our school with the **enrolment** of your child or children.

I want to thank, almost, all of you for being patient in allowing your child time to settle into their new environment. I know that this transition period can be stressful, but you need to give us credit that we have been doing this for some years, and that we have interviewed or gained information from all the previous schools and or teachers.

So, to put together 23 classes, is by no means an easy feat, especially now that we are dealing with many, many, many, different learning needs. I thank my designated staff – Kerri Robinson, Jess Vincent and Julie Paterson, for this huge task and we will continue to monitor the situation for the next few weeks. I can only hope with your support that things will settle down.

**Our current roll stands at 625 x students with 12 x Year 7 classes and 11 x Year 8 classes.**

**Don't forget to keep the calendar of events that were published in last week's newsletter.**

## SCHOOL LAPTOP PROGRAMME

Thank you to the many students and parents who have signed up for the Laptop programme this year. We will distribute these today to those who have paid their deposit and the students will be able to take them home using the case provided.

This scheme comes with responsibilities as it is worth \$880.00, has a 2 x year insurance policy and a 3 x year warranty. We provide the technical support using an outside provider, financed by the school. The laptop is loaded with programmes licenced to us, and will remain on the laptop while the student attends our school. The laptops remain the property of Taupo Intermediate while the student is enrolled at our school. Once the student leaves our school, our programmes will then be removed and the laptop given to the student once it is paid for in full.

Any misuse or abuse of the laptop, or system, will incur a penalty and if severe will be removed from our scheme. We want this to be a positive and beneficial scheme for the support of students learning in our Technological Age, so thank you, to all, for your support.

## DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP UNIT

Following up from our 'Meet the Parent Teacher' evening, I have included the principles behind our 'Keeping our Students Safe Online'.

I reinforce the policy that we do not need cell phones at our school, and expect that you will support this. We cannot provide this protection at school when students use cell phones. In fact I implore you to check regularly on your child's usage. The sharing of illicit material is an issue in our town, and we all need to be part of the prevention and solution.

- **Taupo Intermediate is committed to creating a safe online learning environment, and to the development of our students into capable digital citizens. The Board recognizes that its obligations under the National Administration Guidelines (NAG 5), extend to use of the internet and related technologies.**
- **Technology provides significant benefits to learning and school operations. The Board considers the benefits and risks associated with technology use when making any decisions related to the purchase or use of technology.**
- **Taupo Intermediate seeks to foster a culture of successful digital citizenship in our students, staff and our wider community. We encourage everyone to take responsibility for themselves and others in their use of digital technology and online environments.**
- **The Board is aware that preparing and supporting our students to use digital technology and online environments effectively and safely, is an important part of their preparation in participating and contributing in our digital society.**
- **In preparing our students to actively participate in the world in which they live, it is clear that their ability to participate as confident and competent digital citizens is a key skill. An important part of learning the skills, knowledge, and values that are needed, is being given the chance to experience both the opportunities and the challenges presented by technology. Importantly, to do so in a safe, secure and nurturing environment, where clear, effective guidance can be sought.**

Safer Internet Day was promoted for Tuesday 5 February, and organiser NetSafe invited our school to be part of it! "We've created new resources to help involve parents and young people on the day," said Sean Lyons, NetSafe's Director of Education and Engagement. Read more. <<https://www.boltmail.co.nz/boltmail/link.php?M=19755592&N=24954&L=38225&F=H>>

#### ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES AT TAUPO INTERMEDIATE

- Children With Academic Ability C.W.A.A Class (Year 7 & 8)
- Boys Only Class Year 8
- Curriculum Based Classes eg. Music, ICT
- Mathematic Competitions
- Literacy Quiz
- Science Fair (Taupo & BOP)
- Technology Challenge
- School Speeches
- ICAS Testing
- Comprehensive Outdoor Education Programme



#### MATHEMATICS

- *Written and shared thanks to Cassie Nicholson HOD Mathematics*

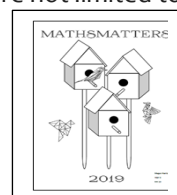
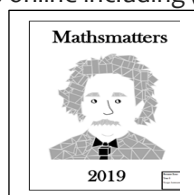
Taupo Intermediate School offers a comprehensive mathematics programme which covers all three strands of the New Zealand Mathematics Curriculum; number and algebra, geometry and measurement, and statistics.

TIS students are offered a number of opportunities as part of our mathematics programme, such as a statistical investigation in term 2, team problem-solving competitions in term 2 and 3, and Mathsmatters in term 3. All students have the opportunity to compete in our interclass math problem-solving competition, where classes contend for the year 7 and 8 shields. Those students who wish to compete at a regional level are tested and carefully selected in order to form our elite problem-solving teams. These teams then take part in several training sessions with the year 7 and year 8 CWAA teachers to ready themselves for events such as Mathletics, BayMaths, and our very own Mathsmatters.

As well as the team problem solving, our Mathsmatters event offers a number of other competitions for students to take part in, including the Mathsmatters publicity poster and mathematical construction/mobile competitions. We also offer a stained-glass window design competition for our visiting year 5 and 6 students whom we host during competition week.

Having laptops in the class allows students to follow up their mathematics learning with the use of interactive websites. Students and teachers can access a range of numeracy learning experiences online including (but are not limited to):

- Khan Academy <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- Study ladder <https://www.studyladder.co.nz/>
- E-ako Maths <https://e-ako.nzmaths.co.nz/>
- Mathletics <http://nz.mathletics.com/home>
- Banqer <https://www.banqer.co/>



Our mathematics classroom programme aims to help students to develop:

- a belief in the value of mathematics and its usefulness to them, to nurture confidence in their own mathematical ability, to foster a sense of personal achievement, and to encourage a continuing and creative interest in mathematics;
- the skills, concepts, understandings, and attitudes which will enable them to cope confidently with the mathematics of everyday life;
- a variety of approaches to solving problems involving mathematics, and develop the ability to think and reason logically;
- mathematical and statistical literacy skills needed in a society which is technologically orientated and information rich;
- mathematical tools, skills, understandings, and attitudes that they will require in the workforce.

**HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND AND ISN'T IT GREAT THAT SUPER RUGBY IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE .....?**

#### WIREMU



## The Developing Brain

Host of the TV documentary "All in the Mind" and co-host of the TV series "The Secret Life of Girls", renowned Neuroscience Educator, Nathan Wallis takes his talk "The Developing Brain" on the road and is coming to a town near you.

In his unique "tell you how it is" style, Nathan Wallis provides an informative narrative on how our day-to-day interactions with children and young people, significantly the younger years, plays a critical role in defining later outcomes for our children and for our future.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Nathan Wallis speak.

For more information and to get your ticket go to [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz). Just search for Nathan Wallis.

### Taupo Library Ebook Program

All students that are new to the school will have received a permission slip giving your child access to the wonderful Ebook program. It allows our students to access a huge variety of reading material that interests them. Please ensure that it is signed and returned to school next week. If not, your child will miss out. Thank you to those caregivers who have already returned it.

### Taupo School of Music

Last chance to enrol for lessons at the Taupo School of Music! TSOM tutors students up to and including Year 8. Students learn in small groups and most lessons are on Tuesdays after school. Instruments such as clarinets, trumpet, trombone, Cello, violin, flute and Alto Sax are available to hire. The music school opens on Tuesday 26th Feb. For more information on cost and availability etc, please email the Principal – [admin@tsom.co.nz](mailto:admin@tsom.co.nz)

#### Does your child love to sing !

The Taupo School of Music runs a choir for children aged 6-13yrs old. It costs nothing to belong – just a willingness to attend rehearsals on Tuesdays at 5.30pm. Starting Tuesday 26th Feb. For more information please email the Principal [admin@tsom.co.nz](mailto:admin@tsom.co.nz)

