

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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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:

“Good actions give strength to ourselves, and inspire good actions in others”. Plato was an [Athenian philosopher](#) during the [Classical period](#) in [Ancient Greece](#) and the founder of the [Academy](#), the first institution of higher learning in the [Western world](#). He is widely considered the pivotal figure in the [history of Ancient Greek](#) and [Western philosophy](#), along with his teacher, [Socrates](#), and his most famous student, [Aristotle](#).

• IRONMAN NEW ZEALAND – TAUPU 2019

Last week we were honoured to host Cameron Brown and Joceylyn McCauley. On the Friday we were again honoured to welcome to our school 6 competitors from the Iron Maori Club who were participating on the Saturday, and had received letters from our students. They came to share their thoughts and thanks at our school assembly and were blown away with our Powhiri – our waiata and haka which they commented would give them the inspiration and strength to complete the Ironman. This was an awesome occasion which I am sure will be continued in Taupo for years to come.

Out of all the many letters and visits we have had over the past week, I wanted to share this letter with us all, to show how much of an impact writing letters to the Ironman Athletes has made.

To the teachers at Taupo Intermediate school to please pass on to Mason Beresford Room 16. Thank-you for your support and fantastic idea of the letters to us all. It was truly inspiring.

Dear Mason

My Name is Rachael Turnbull and I am from Brisbane Australia. I received your wonderful letter in my race pack for the Taupo Ironman Triathlon and I wanted to write and thank you for taking the time and effort to write to us all. I am a part of SBR Triathlon, a Brisbane based Triathlon group that is owned and run by my older brother David and his wife Michelle. My brother was the one that inspired us all to even think we could do an Ironman in the first place. They had over a dozen athletes in Taupo on the weekend and we all were talking about how awesome it was to receive your letters. Taupo is an amazing place and the people there (you!) are sensational!

Just to let you know, I finished the Ironman Triathlon in 15 hours and 33 minutes. The swim was so beautiful and crystal clear. You all do an excellent job of looking after your beautiful waterways. The bike leg was incredible with the views, but it was pretty tough because of the strong gusty winds on the second lap. I thought the cows were sooo shiny! My coach (my big brother) says I should have been more focussed on racing faster, rather than looking at the cool cows and beautiful scenery – but hey - I loved it! The run was tough because we were so exhausted from the ride but that is when the race really starts. Your head and your tired body tells you to quit, but your heart and your determination to reach your goals kicks in. You would know how that feels because you are a runner. Running is hard work and you need to train at it and not quit! You can use that mental toughness you already have, to help you get through your senior years of High School when exams and assignments get hard.

The true Champion Ironman for me is our youngest son, Dominic, who did the Ironkids fun run. Dominic has Down Syndrome and he finds a lot of things really hard to do. But he always tries his best. He did the run and received a medal at the end. He is really happy about that and he now has 25 medals from doing fun runs and Special Triathlons! So when I am racing and I feel like quitting, I think of how lucky I am to be able to do these events. Just like you said in your letter, we are doing something that lots of people would love to do.



I took your advice and we all went to the Spa Park hot pools the day after the race and relaxed in there. It was awesome. You are lucky to live in such a beautiful place. We also saw Huka Falls, went jet boating, our eldest son (he is 21) went bungy jumping (too scary for me)! We also went to the Redwood Treewalk in Rotorua and saw the Thermal Springs. Thanks for having us in Taupo and thank-you again for the lovely letter. Study hard, run well and stay awesome!

On the Saturday our awesome staff played their part in this event by providing the service at the 2nd Leg of the Bike section organizing and handing out the Special Needs Bags which contained the sustenance for the rest of their bike ride – So huge thank you to all of our staff and of course the many other volunteers who helped on the day.

The Scottish flag was flying aloft – Thursday 7th March 2019 - as it was **Alexander Graham Bell day** recognizing the day in 1876 he was granted a patent for the technology that would later become the telephone and changed the world of communication. Next time you call a friend or send a text to someone, send a silent thank you to Bell. Without him, we would still be using pigeons to send messages! (Born in Scotland in 1847). **Today's flag and other flags are kindly donated by the Q Variety Store Taupo, 56 Tuwharetoa Street.** Thank you to Mason Elliott – Hard Materials Technology Teacher who raises the flag.

BIG THANKS AND BOUQUETS:

All those students caught doing good things and who get their name in our weekly Assembly Prize Draw.

We want to make a conscious effort to find those students in our school who are recognized for doing good things instead of wasting our time on negative behaviours. If you know of a business or company who might want to donate a small prize to boost our "box of goodies" then please let them know about our initiative.

All those students who are getting involved. This makes a huge difference to the Culture of our school.

The Swimming, lunchtime interclass touch, the multi-sport programme, the netball trials, the TIS band auditions, the Waiata and Haka in your class and teams and at our assembly, the Equestrian team, the effort in your class testing and evaluation, the commitment to being a responsible Digital Citizen, making a superb effort to work in your class to make it a happy and positive place by respecting your teachers and your fellow students.

All my staff for working so hard, a majority began well before the academic year started to get their classes and our school organised. Their efforts in creating a positive environment for their students to thrive, for organizing and supporting their students at the many events and experiences undertaken.

Wiremu

Wakeboarding: Thanks to the Taupo Wake Park, several Year 8 students have been given the opportunity to have a go at cable wakeboarding for free on Wednesday afternoons. While most of the students have never tried wakeboarding or skiing before, they all had success in the small lake by the Prawn Park, many thanks to Odette who runs the sessions.

Winter Sports: Registrations for **Netball** have already been taken, while those students wanting to play Wednesday afternoon **Hockey** need to have picked up a form and returned it to the school office by next Friday the 15th of March. **Rugby** registrations can be made online at www.sporty.co.nz/taupojuniorrugby

Taupo Intermediate Triathlon: This is being held on Monday the 18th of March, with entries needing to be in to the office by 3pm Wednesday the 13th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As is the custom at Taupo Intermediate School we are already planning and preparing for the next events including;

- **Thursday 14th – Friday 15th March 2019** – We are taking 70 x students to a Leadership Camp at Papamoa to work with Year 12 Students from Taupo Nui a Tia.
- During and after this camp we will be getting feedback from these students as well as our own observations we will be selecting 20 x students to attend a major camp at the end of the term, **7th – 9th April 2019**, with Ilminster, Northcross and Taradale Intermediates in Napier
- **Early reminder;** Our School Triathlon is being held at Wharewaka Point on **Monday 18th March 2019**
- Followed by our Teachers 'STOP WORK' meeting **Tuesday 19th March 2019** – for our school in the afternoon at Waipahihi Primary School.

Kiwi Volley

Begins today (8th March) at 5pm at the events centre. Dates: 8/3, 15/3, 22/3 & 5/4.

Students must wear TIS PE uniform & sports shoes / barefeet (no socks). Each team must have an adult to supervise them each week.

Students must make their own way to and from the Events Centre (no school transport).

Central Plateau Memorial Ski Lodge – Mount Ruapehu

On Saturday and Sunday 23rd and 24th March we are holding a 'Working Bee' at our Ski Lodge as part of our Annual Maintenance, with members of the following schools contributing personnel:

- Taupo Intermediate / Wairakei / Waipahihi Primary / Taupo Nui a Tia & Tongariro High School
- We are meeting Saturday morning at the Lodge 8.30 a.m. will stay overnight at the Lodge, leaving Sunday around 2pm.
- We need at least 4- 5 people from each school, in particular, if you are a painter or have painting experience and or you are an Electrician then you would be most welcome to join us. Sorry NO children or Pets on this excursion.
- All the details about travel and accommodation will be supplied once we have established our numbers.

If you can help on these days then please contact

Bill Clarke: principal@taupointermediate.co.nz

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES On behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to extend a warm welcome to all our new year 7 families and returning year 8 families.

Firstly a correction. Last Friday I sent a letter regarding the Paid Union Meeting planned for Tuesday 12 March - not Strike! This meeting is for all union members, and as employers we are required to give our union members the opportunity to attend. Unfortunately this means we are unable to hold normal school instruction for this time, and we ask that you collect your child from school at 1:00pm. If this is not possible, there will be limited supervision available at school, please complete and return the form from the bottom of the letter if your child needs supervision.

The School Prospectus outlines opportunities available to your child while here and to get involved. The Newsletter and Taupo Intermediate School Facebook Page contains information of what is coming up so that you know what's going on.

Last week we held our first Board meeting focussing on planning and approved the 2019 Charter, Board Work plan and Budget, 2019 Principal Performance Agreement. If you are new to our school you are more than welcome to join us as an observer.

In June we will be holding the 2019 Board of Trustee Election to select 5 parent elected trustees to our Board. Three for a 3 year position, and two for an 18 month period while we transition to a staggered election process. If you are interested in becoming a Trustee or want more information, please contact the front office and they can arrange a Trustees to phone you, or check the resources available on becoming a school trustee at <https://www.trustee-election.co.nz>.

We all hope that you have a wonderful year, get involved and fully get into all the opportunities that are on offer!!!

All the best from Vanessa Donald, Board Chair, Taupo Intermediate Board of Trustees.