

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 our families

Newsletter Number: 05
Date: 6th March 2020



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:

“Be the kind of person who dares to face life's challenges and overcome them rather than dodging them.” - Roy T. Bennett is the author of *The Light in the Heart*. He loves sharing positive thoughts and creative insight that has helped countless people to live a successful and fulfilling life. He hopes that his writing will help you become what you are capable of becoming.

On Thursday we held a special assembly and we were honoured to host two of the best Ironmen who will be competing on Saturday.

- Cameron Brown (NZ): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cameron_Brown_\(triathlete\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cameron_Brown_(triathlete))
12 times winner of New Zealand Ironman
- Mike Phillips (NZ and last year's winner): <https://mikephillips.co.nz/profile> - Winner in 2019 of the New Zealand Ironman

It was great to hear them share with us about their training regime, their food intake, goals and aspirations and real insight into these professional athletes and the challenge that lay ahead.

Hats off to Cameron Brown who is back again this year, a phenomenal effort and Cameron will no doubt get the greatest support from the Taupo Community.

Our personal support goes to our own **Cassie Nicholson, teacher in Room 10 – CWAA class**. All of Taupo Intermediate's support is with Cassie as she races on Saturday. Hats off to you Cassie, what with the valuable teaching job you do, your Team Leadership, your Head of Mathematics role, as well as training and competing in the Ironman event.

Our “Athletic Staff” are also working tomorrow at the Special Needs, second leg of the cycle race, stationed in Rifle Range Road as our contribution to the Ironman Event.

As you are all well aware of the impact the COVID-19 is having on our country and the rest of the world, that we are asking you all to follow simple Hygiene protocols.

I include today a letter /statement we got from Iona Holsted - Secretary for Education bulletin@education.govt.nz

As you will know the Ministry of Health's Director-General announced the second confirmed case of COVID-19 in New Zealand.

The parent of two students - one at Westlake Boys High and one at Westlake Girls High - has been confirmed with coronavirus (COVID-19). While this is concerning for everyone, there is no risk to students, staff or others at the schools.

We want to reassure you that we will continue to update you with the latest information.

Some people have been asking when a school might close. The answer is that we are a very long way from that situation. At this stage, there is no reason that children should not be going to school. Our Directors of Education will be discussing some key notification and planning protocols with the local medical officers of Health over the next day or so – we will be working very closely together as the situation evolves. Today in Auckland was a very good example of the speed with which we can mobilise to support you if and when it may be needed.

A decision to close a school if that became necessary would be made by the local medical Officers of Health.

As for the current situation in Auckland – there is no risk to students or staff in either of the schools. The two students have not been infectious while they have been at school, and are not considered infectious now.

In the meantime, we can provide you some further facts from the World Health Organization.

- Evidence from China shows that only 1% of reported cases do not have symptoms, and most of those cases develop symptoms within 2 days.
- Young people 18 years and under represent less than 2.4 per cent of those who have contracted the virus.
- From the data we have so far, COVID-19 does not transmit as efficiently as influenza.

It continues to remain that the best thing to do is to practice good preventative measures, particularly good hygiene:

- Washing hands with soap & water for 20 seconds before & after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- Covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or with an elbow.
- Putting used tissues in the bin.
- Encouraging staff and students to stay home if they are unwell.

VALUABLE INFORMATION

- **Cell-phones** – At our school cell-phones are not permitted. However, if your child brings their cell-phone to school it must be dropped off in a named zip-lock bag or named Tupperware container to the office before the bell and picked up at 3pm. There are multiple reasons why cell-phones are not permitted, they are a useful tool but can cause unnecessary grief in our school.

- **Parent Teacher Interviews – School closed for instruction - 1pm 1st of April**

We have made some changes to our timeline of parent teacher interviews, more information about the reasons for this and an overview for reporting for 2020 will be sent out in a separate letter next week. This is to inform you that there will be parent teacher interviews about goal setting in **Term 1, week 9**. The majority of interviews will be on **Tuesday the 31st between 3.15-5.30 and the 1st of April from 1.30-8.30pm**.

Therefore school will be closed for instruction from 1pm on the 1st of April.

As in past years, **classes for all students** will cease at 1:00pm **Wednesday 1st April** to allow students, teachers and parents to attend interviews during that afternoon. Starting at 1:30pm - 5.30pm / Dinner break for staff 5.30-6.30pm / Interviews continue 6.30-8.30pm. Parents and students who **DO NOT** have an interview that afternoon will have to arrange some alternative custodial care.

Students are expected to go straight home at 1:00pm following parent's specific instructions for the afternoon.

In cases where alternative care cannot be arranged, the school has **some limited** capacity to provide supervision until 3pm. For this to happen, parents will need to inform the class teacher prior e.g. out-of-town students.

Bus time-tables are not affected. Minimal numbers however are expected. Your assistance is sought for this interview afternoon.

Please telephone the school office for further clarification if needed – 07 378 8097

Wiremu

Taupo Intermediate Triathlon: This is being held at Wharewaka Point on Monday 16th March, with the start order being individual Yr 8 boys, Yr 8 girls, Yr 7 boys, Yr 7 girls and then the duathlon.

The Yr 8 boys will start at 12.30pm, with the remaining starts approximately 5 minutes apart.

Where at all possible we ask that parents take their child's bike out to the event as we have over 200 students involved. We will have staff on site from 9.30am, though bikes can be dropped off up until 12.15pm.

The students will be bussed out to Wharewaka Point and back to school after the event.

However if parents wish to take their child with them after the event they can sign them out from there.

Students who live nearby and wish to walk or cycle home afterwards will require a note.

TIS Tuckshop Kristie's Kai

Lunch Specials

Tuesday

Mini Pizza \$3.50

Friday

Spaghetti Bolognaise \$4.00



'Photos of the "Yeah Girls" after school 1 hour cricket programme - every Thursday afternoon 3.30 - 4.45pm till the 24th March. Cost \$10. Register online at

<https://www.yeahgirls.nz/hubs>



Printed Newsletters: We will be phasing out the printed version of our weekly newsletters so please inform the school office of your e-mail address, so they can be e-mailed to you.

If you are unable to access the internet, please let the office or your child's teacher know, and they will be issued with a printed copy.