

# 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: 12  
Date: 12th June 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”.

*“All mankind... being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty or possessions”.* John Locke [FRS](#) was an English [philosopher](#) and [physician](#), widely regarded as one of the most influential of [Enlightenment](#) thinkers and commonly known as the “Father of [Liberalism](#).”

## **In my opinion:**

This week in the world it has been another interesting and in lots of ways rather tragic, along with us having to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Well we are in Covid-19 Level 1 which for us at school is outlined in the Ministry of Education Guidelines**

## **Changes from Alert Level 2**

The key change for schools and early learning services is that there are no specific public health requirements at Alert level 1.

Schools are no longer required to keep a contact tracing register, but as is usual practice will continue to keep a visitor register and maintain their attendance register (and will need to work with local health authorities to identify close contacts, should there be a case connected with the school).

- **At Taupo Intermediate School we are still requiring Parents and Contractors to check in at the front office and not just proceed into the school during school hours.**
- **If you want to meet with a staff member then please ring the school office – 07 378 8097 - for an appointment**  
**It is not practical or required that you need to sign in and out, if you are coming in after school to do coaching of sports teams etc. Our main office is closed at 4pm**

Physical distancing is not a requirement but where possible or practicable, is encouraged when you are around people you do not know.

- **At Taupo Intermediate School we will respect personal space and as we are entering the Winter months this will help to prevent the spread of flu and other sicknesses**

There are no restrictions on numbers at gatherings or on physical activities including cultural and sporting activities, practices and events.

- **At Taupo Intermediate School we will be holding assemblies and cultural and sporting events as per normal but will be conscious of personal space and observing hygiene protocols**

**There are key public health measures ([golden rules](#)) for everyone in New Zealand to follow.**

- **At Taupo Intermediate School we will follow the protocols with your support.**
- If people are sick, they should stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if they have cold or flu symptoms)
- Wash and dry hands, sneeze and cough into elbow
- Regularly disinfect shared surfaces
- Soap, water and the ability to dry hands should be provided in bathrooms.
- Stringent self-isolation of those who display relevant symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19, or have been overseas in the last 14 days – [Ministry of Health information for self-isolation](#)

**At Taupo Intermediate School we are also reinforcing the protocols that exist in our school and this notification serves as a reminder for all our students and parents.**

We have a **school uniform** which must be worn including correct shoes and socks. We have several Polar Fleece tops here at school that students can wear so we do not need any other tops to be worn. If you are having difficulties with buying articles of our uniform, then you need to contact the Principal or the classroom teacher – **via email or phone: [admin@taupointermediate.co.nz](mailto:admin@taupointermediate.co.nz) – ph. 07 3788097**

- There are **no cell phones** to be used during our school hours. Students are encouraged to hand their phones in at the office upon arrival and pick up after school. We will not take responsibility for loss or damage if your child chooses to store their cell phone elsewhere. We will confiscate any phones from students if they are used during our school hours for any purpose. Students who wish to contact home must use our office phone. We have our laptop and computer programs, which allows our students in a control manner to access online learning, so they do not need to use any personal phones.
- We expect all our students **to attend school** and only stay at home for sickness and health reasons. If you wish to excuse your child from school for other reasons, then communicating with the class teacher and or office is required. We mark our rolls twice a day as directed by the Ministry of Education and these must indicate what the reason for the absence is, this includes “holidays” or extended weekends etc.  
Following the Covid-19 pandemic the Ministry is asking all schools to provide them with up to date, **data about school attendance**. The reason given is that there are still a high percentage of students who have not returned to school, as well as a concern that on a daily basis we have at least 30% of students in the total population who regularly don’t attend school each day.
- Students who **arrive late** to school need to re-program themselves. If they arrive late that is after 9.00am they are likely to be marked absent and you will receive a txt indicating that.

Thank you to the majority of our school who are adhering to our requirements and therefore not wasting our time on having to police these areas I have outlined. Your support is much appreciated and allows us to spend time on putting all the activities together.

**You may have seen the New Zealand Herald article about the “\$87 million school IT lockdown disaster”. This was referring to the planned allocation and distribution of laptops and internet modems.**

Well at Taupo Intermediate School we were grateful that we had implemented our Laptop program 5 years ago and are still very thankful for the community support for this scheme.

We have not had the same support from the Ministry of Education but I am grateful to our Board of Trustees who have realized the benefits to our students and have indeed supported us to introduce and continue this scheme.

During the Lockdown ,we had to fill in some forms to indicate which students and households did not have access to a laptop or Internet and approximately 24 students had no laptops, 11 no internet and 11 both no laptop and internet. Our school was included in that data and to date we have not received any of the equipment.

We believe that the majority of our students were able to successfully participate in Online Learning thanks to our laptop scheme however to gain a better understanding of this process, we will be sending out to you all, a short survey concerning the online learning and about other areas of the school.

We would appreciate you completing this survey, so we can evaluate our present system and initiate any changes if necessary.

A huge thanks also goes out to me staff, because I can categorically state that a lot of hard work has gone on in this school over these past years and I have appreciated the Leadership and work of Jon Wood and the various members of the staff in the ICT department, Natalie Robinson, Jess Vincent, Kerri Robinson, Amanda O’Brien, in fact every single staff member who over the years have worked hard to upskill and provide a very successful program into our school.

Another fact is that over the past 10 years, you our parent group, and us as a school, have supplied and organized approximately 1250 x laptops into your homes and our schools in this role – area.

We can all be very proud and pleased with our efforts. **Have a great weekend and may we, I, enjoy some more live sport. Go the BLUES!!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT WIREMU**

**TIS Tuckshop Kristie’s Kai**  
**LUNCH SPECIAL**  
*One day only*

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**Fish or Sausage & Chips \$5.00**



**JOIN US FOR LOTS OF WINTER FUN  
DURING THE JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!**

Unison Light Trail, Wairakei Estate Ice Rink,  
Rapids Jet Ice Slide, Ebbett Taupo Fun Zone!

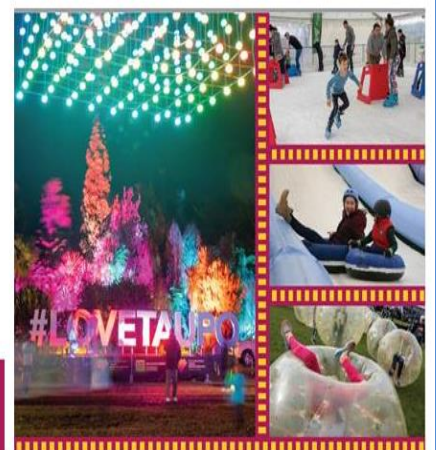
Plus more surprises announced soon!

Keep watching our website and facebook page for more information as we work through bringing as many events to life as possible under the new COVID-19 regulations. We are also planning a second round of events in the October School holidays!

[www.taupowinterfestival.co.nz](http://www.taupowinterfestival.co.nz)  
[facebook.com/taupowinterfestival](https://facebook.com/taupowinterfestival)



**TAUPO  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST**



***Triadic Interviews will be this term on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of June 3.15-5.30 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. The first of July will be 1.30-8pm so classes will cease at 1pm. This is a great opportunity for parents/caregivers and teachers to celebrate our student’s success in learning and collaborate on their goals moving forward. We would love as many parents and caregivers to come as possible. There will be information about booking your slots coming out next week.***