

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

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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:

'Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It is transporting, for sure. It can take you right back, years back, to the very moment certain things happened in your life. It's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening.' - The late, great singer Aretha Franklin

Term 2 Mid-Year Community Report from the Board of Trustees

Dear Whanau and Tamariki,

As I am writing this, the frost is sitting thick on the ground and there is a promise of another beautiful crisp, cold winter's day in Taupo. We are so lucky to live in this beautiful part of the world! On Monday we had our last Board meeting for term 2, and we agreed to share the following messages with you, our community:

- Student Achievement - from the initial data received from our teaching staff, nearly all students have made a positive difference in their learning progress in Maths, Reading and Writing. We will be receiving reports from the other curriculum areas at our half day meeting in August, but we are pleased the progress and student achievement. Thank you to the students who have tried to improve themselves and take advantage of all the opportunities at Intermediate. Thank you to our dedicated staff who work to make a difference each day with our kids!
- Financial Position - we have reviewed our financial position and confirm the school has managed its funds prudently and effectively. A very big thanks to Mr Clarke, who ensures our school is managed efficiently and is financially sound.
- Property - you will have been enjoying the thermal heating around the school and it is pleasing to note that classes are still able to use the swimming pool, even when it is winter! At our Board meeting we confirmed our decision to fund covering our outside courts. This is a significant investment and from this we hope that this area will be used all year round for sports, cultural activities, assemblies and as a learning area. Mr Clarke has had this dream for many years now and it is a tribute to his prudent financial management that we are able to now be able to fund this project. Watch this space - exciting things to come!
- Behaviour - the Board has needed to form several Student Discipline Committees over the last two terms. This is where students have been suspended and is the very last step of the disciplinary process for our kids. In a nutshell, it means the Board is legally required to decide to: lift or extend the suspension (maybe with conditions), so the student can return to school; or exclude the student from school. To be excluded from school is extremely serious and can have lasting impacts on young people in our community. This is not what the Board wants to be doing and we believe that school is the best place for our young people. Please, please, help us to make school a safe place where we can make a positive difference in the lives of our students by following the school rules and the T.I.S. Way - respect yourself, respect others and respect the environment.
- Vaping - we are concerned about the growing number of students that are vaping and bringing vaping devices to school to use in our school grounds. Schools are Smoke Free by law. Vaping was introduced as a measure to help people that smoke to stop smoking. Vaping products still contain nicotine and can also contain other harmful substances. It is concerning that growing numbers of our kids are using vape products and starting an addiction early in life. We are not sure what the lasting consequences of vaping are on our bodies. Vaping is not safe, and we do not support vaping at school. Please support us in keeping all our kids safe by enforcing no vaping for kids - and no vaping at school!
- Staffing - at our Board meeting we discussed our current staffing levels and class structure in view of the report commissioned by NZEI - "Puaotanga". As a Board we acknowledge that Intermediate Schools are not adequately staffed and should be funded at a level comparative to Secondary Schools. This would make our schools more effective and the outcomes so much better for the children we are growing in our communities. If you have a chance, look, and send us your feedback - <https://www.puaotanga.org.nz>.

We hope you have had a good first two terms of 2021 and, if you are going for an Achievement Medal, that you have started ticking parts off. In Term 3 we welcome Mr Sam Blake, our new Deputy Principal. Sam has come to us from Dilworth School in Auckland and has a keen interest in Education Outside the Classroom. Sam will join Mr Clarke, Mrs Chapman, and Mrs Robinson in forming our Senior Leadership Team.

Have a wonderful break and a cold, but fun winter's break! Take care and thank you for choosing to be part of Taupo Intermediate School.

Best regards,

Vanessa Donald – Chairperson

Today we welcomed the Performing music group from Lindisfarne College under the guidance of D. Flemming Kristensen Director of Music and Performing Arts and were thoroughly entertained and I am sure enjoyed by all of us here at Taupo Intermediate. It was great to also welcome back one of our ex-pupils Jonty Bothamley who plays in the Pipe Band section of this group, and I know he was very excited to return to perform for us along with his fellow students.

Some wonderful events that happened this week which I want to congratulate our students for their participation and our parents for the wonderful support.

- 1st XV RUGBY for your excellent standard of behaviour and performance when representing us in our game in Rotorua Thursday 1st July at Mokoia Intermediate playing against the Eastern Bays Representative team. I thank them for giving us a game to help with our team preparation and help them with their upcoming tournament.



Have a great weekend and one more week to go

Reminders: LAPTOPS: Reminder, please make sure your laptop payments are up to date before the end of term. Laptops with overdue payments may be held over the holidays at the school.

Monday 5th July school will close for an NZEI Stop work meeting for our Teaching Staff - School Buses will operate as per usual.

Tuesday 6th July – our Sponsored Clean-up will take place for only those students who have gained sponsorship – The rest of the school and classes will operate as per usual. Thank you to those parents who have offered to help us with this clean-up and a huge thank you to - Shannon Hanson Environmental Ranger – Programmes and Steve Giles Events Manager from Taupo District Council for their awesome support.

Wiremu

Friday last week Taupo Intermediate held the BOP/ Poverty Bay Wall climbing championship at the A/C Baths Rock wall. We had a great turn out of around 70 students for the event. Our team of five climbers performed well over the day and we had two climbs in the finals and place. Well done to Danielle Raikes and Tyler Heald on their silver and bronze medals.



Congratulations to the four students who competed at the South Waikato Schools MX for Primary/Intermediate in Tokoroa on Saturday the 12th of June. For these students it is no big deal to compete at Motocross events in their weekend. In fact, this is their whole world. It was awesome to see them in their element competing against other schools from across Waikato and representing Taupo Intermediate at the same time. They managed to walk away with 4th place overall despite only being able to enter two classes, 8-11yr 65cc and the 11-13yr 85cc events. This is an incredible achievement. Taupo Intermediate is so lucky to have these skilled racers as well as many others who were not able to make this event.

Maz Parkes #259 – 2nd overall Layne Pepper #36 – 8th overall Mikayla Griffiths #329 – 16th overall Harrison Fletcher #47 – 18th overall