

**Newsletter Number: 26** Date: Friday 19th September 2025

Dear parents, caregivers, students, families, and the wider community. E nga mātua, e nga kaitiaki, e nga tauira, e nga whānau, me te iwi whānui.

## A great week at Taupō Intermediate School

Tēnā koutou katoa!

What a wonderful week it's been at Taupō Intermediate School as we celebrated Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week)! It's been fantastic to hear our students and staff embracing Te Reo and incorporating it into our daily school life.

### **Announcing our new School Board members**

A huge thank you to everyone who put their names forward for the recent School Board election. We are so grateful for the commitment of our parents, caregivers, and community members to our school. We are excited to announce our newly elected board members: a warm welcome to Simon Bendall, Tracey Sainsbury, and Fiona Miller. We also congratulate Calida Brunton, who has been re-elected as our staff representative.

I'd also like to extend a special thanks to Jason Clarke for his outstanding leadership as Presiding Member, especially in developing our school's policies and procedures and managing property. A big thank you also goes to Chris Berriman for his tireless work in helping the principal manage the school's finances. We truly appreciate all you have done for our school and the wider community.

### Celebrating our student successes

This week was full of incredible achievements! We had a fantastic Awards Celebration Assembly, where we celebrated our students' hard work in academic pursuits and external exams. It was a joy to recognise the incredible talent of our "Purple Hats" troupe, who won the Dance NZ Made Nationals last weekend. We also celebrated our participation and successes at the NZAIMS tournament and presented our prestigious Bevan Docherty, Donovan Bixley, and Principal's awards to our outstanding students. A special mihi to our kapa haka group for their incredible performance, which was a perfect way to celebrate and acknowledge Te Wiki o te Reo Māori with haka and waiata.

The winning streak continued on the sports field as our Rippa Rugby teams dominated the Taupō Kiwi sport tournament on Tuesday, sweeping the semi-finals and finals! What an amazing achievement from our teams.

We are so proud of all our students and their hard work both in and out of the classroom. Enjoy the school holidays with your children.

Remember - 'The greatest gift we can give our children is time'.

Ngā mihi **Brent Woods** Principal/Tumuaki





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www.taupointermediate.co.nz

The Taupo Intermediate School Board received a total of 15 nominations for three vacancies when nominations closed on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

The following candidates are elected to the Taupo Intermediate School Board and take office on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Simon Bendall
Tracey Sainsbury
Fiona Miller

We would like to congratulate those who were nominated and have joined our board.

Thank you to all our whanau and families who took part in the school board elections this year.

The following candidate was elected to be the Staff representative on the Taupo Intermediate Board and take office on Wednesday 17th September 2025.

## Calida Brunton

We would like to congratulate Calida on being elected and thank the other candidates Pam Wood and Sarah Hack who were nominated.

Thank you to all who took part in the staff elections.

## WHY UNIFORMS HOLD US

## BACK

## (BY EMILY STANILAND R8)

For years schools have forced students to wear uniforms claiming that they create equality and focus. However, I believe that uniforms do the opposite instead of helping students, they restrict individuality, create unnecessary costs and fail to prepare us for real life.

Firstly, uniforms take away individual expression. Teenagers are at a stage where they are discovering who they are, and clothing is one of the most common ways to express personality. Forcing everyone to look the same is like trying to paint with one colour - it limits creativity and prevents students from showing their uniqueness. In addition, feeling comfortable in what we wear can increase confidence which has direct impact on learning.

Another problem with uniforms is the issue of cost and practicality. Many people argue that uniforms save money, but they can be very expensive especially when schools require specific suppliers. Families often must buy uniforms and everyday clothes which doubles the cost. On the other hand, allowing students to wear their own clothes means they can reuse what they already own. Furthermore, uniforms are not always suitable for different weather or activities making them uncomfortable and inconvenient.

A further reason against uniforms is that they do not actually improve learning or behaviour. While schools claim uniforms reduce distraction, research suggests that behaviour issues exist in both uniformed and non-uniformed schools. Discipline comes from teaching, structure and respect not from clothing. In fact, allowing students to wear their own clothes can promote responsibility as they learn how to make appropriate choices for different situations. This prepares students for life beyond school, where there are no strict uniform rules every day.

In addition, uniforms may even harm the sense of belonging and comfort that schools are aiming for. For some students wearing a uniform everyday creates a feeling of restriction rather than pride. By contrast when students can choose their clothing, they feel more relaxed and accepted as themselves. A strong school identity should come from shared values, community and respect - not from identical shirts and pants.

In conclusion, school uniforms are outdated and unnecessary in modern education. They restrict individuality, place financial pressure on families and fail to guarantee better learning or behaviour. A more effective approach would be to build school culture through respect and shared goals, not clothing. Students deserve the freedom to express themselves, while still learning responsibility for their choices. Just as no two people are the same, just as no two outfits need to be same either. It is time to move forward into a fairer more flexible school system - one without uniforms.





## CO-ORDINATOR NEWS

The end of the term is upon us - and what a way to finish!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Winter Sports Prizegiving last Thursday. It was a fantastic evening, and we are so proud of our Sports Leaders who ran the whole event so confidently. Congratulations to all our award winners on an excellent season, and a big thank you to our coaches and team managers for the time and effort you continue to give to our students. Finally, a special thank you to Mr Kuper, our guest speaker, for sharing funny stories of ex-students who have gone on to achieve great things in the sporting world.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed a brilliant day at the Taupō Rippa Rugby Tournament. Our TIS students played with great skill and spirit throughout the day.

In the boys' competition, it was an all-TIS final between TIS A and TIS B. TIS A, carrying their strong form from AIMS Games, managed to hold off a hardworkingTIS B to take the win.

In the girls' competition, we again saw a TIS showdown in the final, with TIS A taking on TIS C. Once more, the skills and teamwork of TIS A shone through.

A huge thank you to all parents, staff, King Country Rugby, and KiwiSport for making this opportunity possible for our students.

In the Sports Office, we are in the last week of sign-ups for Volleyball and Touch. So please make sure your student signs up if they are keen to play next term.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday break, and thank you for your continued support throughout Term 3. We look forward to an exciting Term 4 with the start of summer sports!





## T.I.S SPORTS

## **PHOTOS**













## VISUAL ARTS

## WHAT AN INCREDIBLE TERM IN VISUAL ARTSI

What a term it has been in the Visual Arts room! Our students have been busy designing and creating amazing wire sculptures that capture sporting poses — a great reminder of how keeping active keeps our bodies healthy.

The trickiest part? Wrestling with wire and pliers! While many students found this challenging, they showed determination, perseverance, and a real willingness to learn a brand-new skill. Once the armature was built, the fun really began. Hands could finally relax as students wrapped their sculptures in tin foil to create muscles, then carefully layered them with plaster bandages. The plastering was, without a doubt, the class favourite!

To finish, each sculpture was painted in bold black acrylic and then transformed with a touch of magic — a dry-brush technique using metallic gold paint to bring out the highlights. The results were simply stunning.

I am so proud of the resilience, creativity, and focus our students showed during this challenging project. Not only did they create fantastic artworks, but they also strengthened their fine motor skills and experimented with a range of new art media.

Here are just some of their wonderful creations - enjoy!









## VISUAL ARTS TECHNOLOGY



## VISUAL ARTS TECHNOLOGY



## Room 8 - Inspired by Don Binney

This term I had the pleasure of working with Room 8 to recreate artworks inspired by the famous New Zealand artist Don Binney. Students selected one of his striking compositions, then put their own twist on it by changing the bird or background. To meet the challenge, their work also had to include at least five colours that harmonised beautifully together and strong, bold outlines.

The standard of work was absolutely amazing! A huge thank you goes to their teacher, Pamela Clydesdale, for her wonderful support & planning throughout this project. After a lot of deliberations, and prizes coming your way, the winners are:



## T.I.S. ENROLMENTS

#### 2025 Enrolment Process for Local Primary School

#### (for 2026 year)

This year we are encouraging all our parents/caregivers to complete the online enrolment form found on our Taupō Intermediate School website by Friday 14 November 2025. If you do not have access to internet or a device, we encourage you to come to the office and complete the enrolment form online.

Hard copies will be available, but we prefer for all 2025 enrolments to be completed online.

#### 2025 Transitioning Plan for Local Primary Schools

The 2025 Transitioning Plan includes a promotional visit to our main contributing schools for the Year 6 students followed by an evening presentation for parents & caregivers at each of the following schools.

#### TIS Promotional School Visits for Year 6 Students

1. Taupo Primary School	Tuesday 21 October 2025	09.30am	
<ol><li>Wairakei Primary School</li></ol>	Wednesday 22 October 2025	11.30am	
<ol><li>Waipahihi Primary School</li></ol>	Wednesday 29 October 2025	09.15am	
4. Tauhara Primary School	Thursday 30 October 2025	09.30am	

#### TIS Promotional School Hui for Parents/Caregivers

5. Taupo Primary School	Tuesday 21 October 2025	06.00pm
6. Wairakei Primary School	Wednesday 22 October 2025	06.00pm 05.30pm
7. Waipahihi Primary School	Wednesday 29 October	
8. Tauhara Primary School	Thursday 30 October	05.30pm
9. At Taupo Int. for Other Local Schools	Tuesday 28 October	06.00pm

## TAUPO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

TURF CANOPY
OPENING

FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup>
OCTOBER

(WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER DETAILS)

## ROOM 24 - WRITING

## OPINION WRITING-ROOM 24

In Room 24, we have been looking at persuasive writing and the different ways in which we can convince people to agree with us. We have explored reviews, ads, and opinion pieces. Here are some of the opinions we have in Room 24!

Pesto Pasta, in my opinion...

"Have you ever been bored of the same food? Well I am going to tell you what you should have for dinner. One of my favourite pastas is pesto pasta. I think it is good because you can pick what you want on it; I like to have crispy bacon and sundried tomatoes. The best part of the dish is the pasta because you can use any type of pasta like penne or spaghetti. I think that pesto pasta makes you full and it has a good taste to it. You just have to be careful because if you eat too much, it might make you feel sick! I think that pesto pasta is a great food"-Milly Rakei

"Bluey, the dog who thinks hide-and-seek is a full-time job. She's got more energy than a toddler after three juice boxes and less chill than Bingo trying to meditate. Bluey is just a dog teaching kids how to behave.

Every episode is basically: "Let's play a game!" followed by 7 minutes of chaos, Bingo packing a sad, and Dad pulling a muscle. Honestly, if Bluey ran a country, nap time would be mandatory, and every citizen would be required to wear glitter. And let's not forget – she's six years old and already has better emotional intelligence than half the adults I know."- Patrick Wilson

"Have you ever been playing outside and get really thirsty? I reckon you should try drinking Water. Water is way healthier than energy drinks. In fact water is the healthiest drink. I also prefer water because you can swim in water but you can't swim in energy drinks. There are also Water Parks, that are fun and have water. If they didn't have water they would be less fun. I believe that everyone should drink, swim and play in the water"- Nixon Williams

"Do you ever wonder what the best dog breed is? I believe German Shepherds are the best. I believe that they are a courageous, outgoing dog breed. They are considered one of the best dog breeds because of their remarkable intelligence, fearfulness and loyalty. My opinion is that German Shepherds are easier to train due to their eagerness to please, making them easier to train. They are

a great family dog. They are amazing around kids and able to protect them. In my opinion German Shepherds are one of the best dog breeds to exist"- **Zoe Mepham** 

Have you ever been playing outside and get really thirsty? I reckon you should try drinking Water. Water is way healthier than energy drinks. In fact water is the healthiest drink. I also prefer water because you can swim in water but you can't swim in energy drinks. There are also Water Parks, that are fun and have water. If they didn't have water they would be less fun. I believe that everyone should drink, swim and play in the water. Nixon Williams



## **Learn to Roller Skate**

Beginner Classes Wednesday 4.00-4.55

Intermediate Classes Wednesday 5.00-5.55

Adults and Teens Classes Wednesday 6.00-6.55

All Classes at Taupō Events Centre 8 Oct - 10 Dec

Www.SkatescoolTaupo.co.nz Kazna 021-118-0513



## BIG MUSIC DAY OUT

## 2025

















On Thursday 18th September, Taupō School of Music hosted their annual Big Music Day Out at the Great Lake Centre. 22 budding musicians from Taupō Intermediate School were invited to take part in this fantastic day of rehearsing and being part of an orchestra, made up of members from all over the Taupō community, including local schools, and members of local youth bands. The orchestra, made up of keyboards, strings, brass, wind, percussion, bass, acoustic and electric guitars, were lucky enough to be led by an impressive group of talented conductors and truly got to experience what it is like to be part of an orchestra.

Students had been given five pieces of music to practise for the day, including "Somewhere Out There" from the movie, An American Tale, and an arrangement of the "Locomotion" by Kylie Minogue. All this practising culminated in an evening concert, which was filled with doting parents and whānau in an epic and truly impressive performance.

Also worth a special mention, half a dozen members of the Royal Navy Military Band were also in attendance and spent some time answering the student's questions.

We are so blessed to have such talent at Taupō Intermediate School! If your child is interested in joining our Music Group or our School Choir in Term 4, please get in touch with whaea Pinky Dawson:

pdawson@taupointermediate.co.nz.

## COMMUNITY SPORT

## EVENTS





## ENROLMENT FOR 2026

Tauhara College and Taupo nui a Tia College ballots have closed and all successful applicants have been notified.

Of our Year 8 students currently 151 students are enrolled at a College for 2026 - either in town out or out of town.

We have 120 remaining students still to enroll.

Please be sure to get your child enrolled at a College for 2026 as soon as possible so the school can be staffed correctly and all the necessary supports and information in place for your child.

We have paper enrolment forms at the school office or applying online - it is very easy.

# NGATI TUWHARETOA TAIOPENGA KAPA HAKA FESTIVAL TAUPO INTERMEDIATE 'TE TIRA KAPA HAKA O TAUPO TANIWHA'

## Kia Ora e te whānau.

First of all, I want to give all my aroha to our performers. Super proud of every single 1 of you but you all know that. All the hard work paid off. All the growling's, all the sacrifices. You should all be proud of your performance on Friday.

All our supporters, what beautiful haka tautoko! All our parents and teachers who gave up time to be there for our roopu. E mihi ana ki a koutou. Thank you all.

Matua Jon, thank you for inviting us to perform with the Music Overdrive and the dancers on the give back cultural tour. Our tamariki discovered the mauri they didn't know they had sharing with like-minded performers, giving them the edge that they now have. One of the best experiences in my teaching career.

Just magic.

Team Tongariro, looking after Room 6 so that I can make practices with our Roopu. I appreciate my team so much. E aroha ana.

Lastly, Whaea Calida always makes sure we do the right thing at the right time on top of all your other commitments. E mihi ana e hoa. You honestly dampen the ahi when I need it. The rangimārie to my uira. I am truly grateful.

Now it's time for me to have a much needed no sugar coke and a rest e whānau. Tīhei, mauri Ora. Here is the link to our performance today if you missed it. We are on at 1h 16m.

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/194jrkY2JK/



















# DANCE NZ MADE

## **PURPLE HATS**

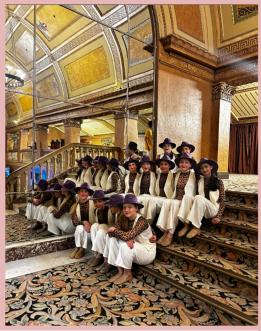
They came, they saw, they danced, they conquered! It's hats off to the Purple Hat dance troupe, named year 7-8 champions at the Dance NZ Made Nationals in Palmerston North. All the many months of early morning, lunchtime and weekend practices culminated in a stunning finals performance, one that captured the imagination of the audience and judges alike. A big thanks to our troupe's band of dance mums (and dad) for their unwavering support. Thanks too to Nathanael for stepping in for Holly and getting the team to, and over, the finish line. And of course, a huge shoutout to Holly for her inspirational choreography, music choice, costume design, leadership and vision, that made this result possible.

## **DALI & MADDI**

Congratulations to Dali Cowie and Maddi McCarthy, year 8 solo finalists at the Dance NZ Made Nationals in Palmerston North. To make it into the top seven in a national final is a fantastic achievement. Well done girls.













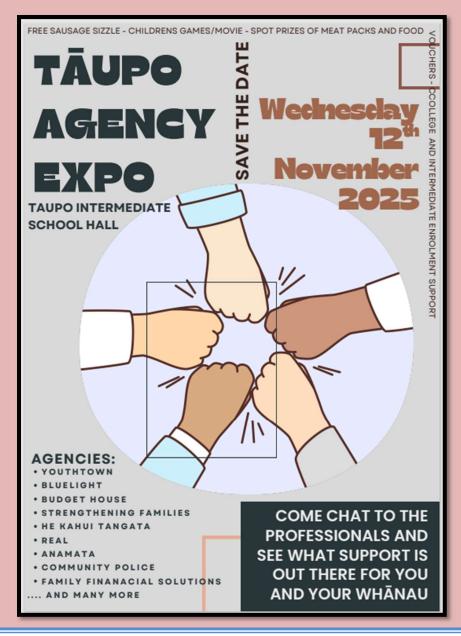
## THE SUPPORT HUB

End of term lost property. Everything was washed and dried last week. Named clothing was returned to the owner. Unnamed has been folded and placed in the help yourself shelf. If your child needs a fleece, please encourage them to come to the Support hub to find one that's suitable. There is also a small selection of shoes and mufti clothing.









# HERE ARE ROOMI'S NZ BIRD OF THE YEAR RESEARCH AND PERSUASIVE WRITING TOP 3 BEST ONES ©

HARROOP DID THE PUTEKETEKE

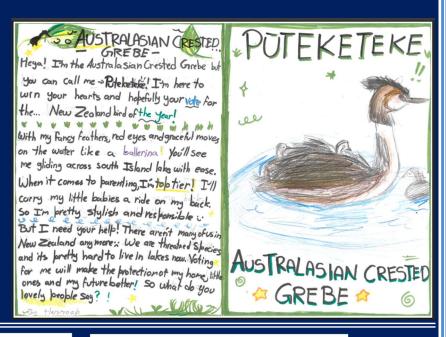
KAYLEEN DID THE RURU

ELHANA DID THE KOTUKU

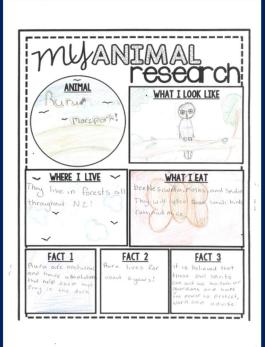
THANKS,

ZOE



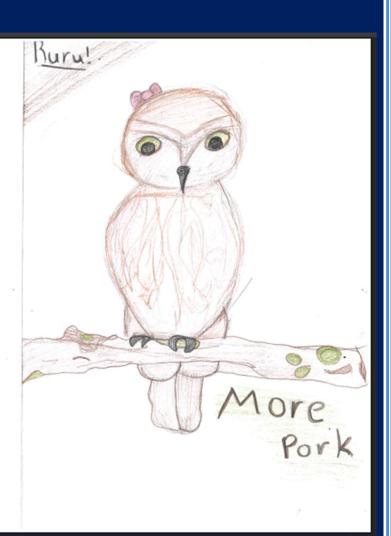






## Ruru/Morepork

Hey guys! I'm Ruru, also known as Morepork! I'm competing to be the best bird of the year! I can live for about 5-11 years in the wild! You can mostly find me in forests throughout the mainland of New Zealand and on offshore islands. I also have bright yellow eyes, and a short tail. I love to eat Beetles, weta, moths, and spiders there so tasty! I'm mostly awake at night because I'm a nocturnal bird! Oh you might be asking what does "Nocturnal" mean? Nocturnal means that I'm mostly awake during the night! I'm also able to lay eggs! in natural cavities of trees, among rocks and roots on the ground, or in clumps of epiphytes. Hehe I hope I can win your souls, I mean hearts and you should vote for me to be the best bird of the year!!: D



#### Kotuku/White heron

Hello I'm Kotuku, also known as a White heron. Soon to be the best bird of the year! I'm a native bird of New Zealand and my breeding site is near whataroa on the south island. I'm a large white heron with a long yellow bill, long dark legs, and a very long neck. I'm often seen in harbours and estuaries, but I also visit freshwater wetlands including high country lakes. Usually white herons are widespread and abundant throughout Asia and Australia where I'm usually known as eastern great egret. I love to munch on small fish like whitebait, small eels and aquatic invertebrates shrimp and insects. I am as white as snow and I have black eyes with furry skin and beautiful wings. I'm not chubby like the other birds and I'm very friendly and I love nature just like you! So I think you should really vote for me!





## YOUTHTOWN SINCE 1932

## TAUPŌ YOUTH HUB

PROGRAMME

FOR AGES 12 - 18 22<sup>nd</sup> September - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 8:30am - 4:00pm 21 A C Baths Avenue, Tauhara, Taupō 3330

## **BOOK NOW**



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	22 SEP	23 SEP	24 SEP	25 SEP	26 SEP
WEEK ONE	HUB HANGOUT  Today is all about whakawhanaungatanga. Let's get to know each other with fun games and team building exercises!	COOKING & CHALLENGES Bring your chef game and come learn how to budget, hygiene and create same delicious kail	TECH DAY  Bring along your device and join in with some online games and quizzes.	PAY IT FORWARD  Make, create and do some good deeds with us! Lets learn how to pay it forward!	MINIGOLF  Join us to finish off the week at Taupo minigolf!
	\$5	\$10	\$5	\$5	\$15
	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	29 SEP	30 SEP	01 OCT	02 OCT	03 OCT
WEEK TWO	GAMES & BMX DAY  We have a marning of fun games planned before we head off to the BMX track!	GIVING BACK & COMMUNITY  We're pitching in to lend a helping hand around the community.	HOW TO: LIFE SKILLS  Today we're learning valuable skills that we can carry forward and share with others.	CULTURAL DAY  With traditional games and yummy kai, let's go over the basics of all types of cultures!	CINEMA @ THE HUB  We're finishing the holidays off with a movie fest at the hub!
5	\$10	\$5	\$5	\$10	\$5
	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM	8:30AM - 4:00PM



## TI.S IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Friday 19th September Last day of Term 3

TERM 4 – WEEK 1

<u>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October</u>

First day of Term 4

Life Education booked for the week

Friday 10th October
Turf Canopy Opening

WEEK 2

<u>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October</u> King Country Rippa Rugby Final Mathsmatters Year 5 & 6

Thursday 16th October
Mathsmatters Year 7 & 8

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October Super 11 Touch

WEEK 3
Monday 20th October
BOARD MEETING 5.30PM

<u>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October</u> Principal/Deputy Principal visits to Taupo Primary

<u>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</u> Principal/Deputy Principal visits to Wairakei Primary

> <u>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</u> NZEI Strike Action – School Closed

> <u>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October</u> Teachers Only Day – School Closed

> > WEEK 4
> >
> > Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October
> >
> > Labour Day – School Closed