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## Newsletter

**Term 2 Number 07 - 24 April 2015**

### Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

Term 2 is underway! Welcome back to you all and a very warm welcome to the new families who have joined us this term.

It has been a busy week with two Whanau Days, one of which was our visit to the Auckland War Memorial Museum. A key priority of our Whanau group concept is to support Tuakana Teina – the older children supporting and guiding the younger children and it was wonderful to see some excellent examples of this throughout these two days. An exciting variety of activities centered around ANZAC have seen all children being creative and reflective, achieving valuable outcomes and new knowledge about the significance of this Saturday. The opportunity for all our children to write a message on a red poppy disc and add to New Zealand's giant poppy on the Auckland Domain was an added bonus to their experience, it felt very special being able to be part of this. Please check the school Facebook page as photos from our days are uploaded.

Many thanks to all those parents and whanau who supported our two museum visits, as always without your efforts we would not be able to offer these experiences. We appreciate your patience over the two days as the volume of children visiting as part of school groups was not expected. I received a call from museum staff following our day on Wednesday expressing their appreciation of the way we managed our time there and apologising for the slightly chaotic environment. The organisation for Thursday was changed slightly as a result of this and made for a less congested time and smoother tour. If you were part of our days and wish to offer any feedback you are able to do so on our school website. Please click on the Auckland Museum Visit feedback button on the home page; this comment area will be available for the 7 days.

It is also a big thanks once again to the Board of Trustees and PTA who generously covered the transport costs enabling all children to enjoy this experience at no cost.

### Staffing

This term we welcome Mrs Sonia Katu back from extended sick leave in her role as Kaiawhina. Next week we also welcome Mrs Brenda Buxton to the team as one of our dedicated Learning Assistants, Brenda will be supporting our New Entrant / Year 1 classes.

Matua Te Whati is now confirmed as our Kapahaka tutor and will also be supporting lunchtime activities on Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes, the focus this term being Ki o rahi, a traditional Maori game. A group of our senior boys is learning Taiaha with Te Whati and he will also work in with staff for whole school waiata. Next week Whaea Karen Thompson becomes part of our team providing Te Reo support in the classroom and supporting some of our older students as we prepare to launch a regular Te Reo segment on the radio. All classes will receive between 20 and 30 minutes per week of basic Te Reo and learning around our Maori context, which later this term is Matariki.

It is also warm congratulations to Miss Crawford in Room 4. Miss Crawford was married during the holiday break and we look forward to her return on Tuesday.

### Policy Review

Current policies under review are NAG 1: Curriculum and NAG 6: Legislation. Our policies are available on the school website and you can also use the comment area from the home page to offer feedback on these. This will be available to you for the next 2 weeks.

### Attendance

I am most encouraged with the positive attendance rates for Term 1 – nearly 94% attendance school wide. This is improved from the same period last year and nearly 4% higher than our overall attendance of 90% for 2014. Thank you for making sure your children are coming to school every day – we know there is a direct link between attendance and achievement. Lets aim for 95-96% this term!

### Mufti and Wacky Hair Day

This term our fundraising fun day is supporting the Westpac Rescue Helicopter and next Friday, 1 May, is the day! For a gold coin donation the children can come along sporting a wacky hair do and dress in mufti. We look forward to a bright and colourful school next Friday.

Our school website continues to be updated with Charter documents, achievement targets and curriculum overview for 2015 now available.

Tomorrow morning children are invited to join some staff members for the local ANZAC services. Mrs Simone Irvine will be attending the Dawn Service at the new memorial and will be outside the Four Square at 5.45am if any children wish to join her. Along with other staff I will be attending the college service and will be outside Suits and Gumboots on Waerenga

Te Kāwhata Childcare



& Learning Centre

We offer quality care and education, where learning and fun become one! Come & visit any time!

Operating hours:  
8.00-5.30 Monday-Friday  
9 Mahi Rd, Te Kāwhata  
Ph: 826 3280  
Email: [tkchildcare@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tkchildcare@xtra.co.nz)

**First 20 hours are now offered FREE!**

Road by 10.15am to meet any children. If your children are attending the services we ask they wear their full school uniform and feel very proud doing so. Thank you, we hope some children can attend with us.

Enjoy your long weekend.

Nga mihi nui

*Vicki Saunders - Principal*

To go directly to our website using a QR reader on your smartphone, use the QR code below.



## ***Notifying of absences...***

Parents and caregivers can **text** when children are sick and going to be absent from school.

You can also send an email from our website [www.tkp.school.nz](http://www.tkp.school.nz) - go to absences and follow the prompts. If you are texting about an absence you can now reply to that number.

Parents and caregivers can also phone the office on 826 3564 and leave a message.

***The number for texting absence messages is 027 503 7425***

# PTA News

## **School Gala – Sat 14 November 10am to 2pm**

Yay it's gala year. The School Gala only happens every 2 years and it's worth the wait. This huge community celebration takes over the whole school. It is the PTA's big fundraiser but the programme is also packed with fun free stuff so everyone can have a great day out. In the tradition of all great school galas we will have clothing, toy, book & white elephant stalls. Please start saving up your pre-loved treasures and we will let you know as soon as we are ready to receive these donations.

The PTA will give you regular Gala updates as the year goes on. Also follow preparations on <https://www.facebook.com/TKPSchoolFair>

For now please pop the date in your diaries. It just wouldn't be the same without you there!

## **PTA AGM Report**

Last term the PTA held their Annual General Meeting. At this time PTA Members Louise Trousdale, Brenda Buxton and Karen Bayliss were farewelled and thanked for their contribution. They were all instrumental in the development of the PTA since it started in 2012. Also at the AGM Candice Crawford and Kara Burns joined the PTA as staff representatives. Officers for 2015 were elected: Lauren Hughes & Jo Mako as Co-Chairs, Sandra Guerriero as Secretary and Sherie Blank as Treasurer.

The PTA resolved to gift the following funds raised to the school:

- \$2000 to the school's building fund
- \$5000 to the Lower Domain Project
- \$500 towards wet weather gear for staff on duty
- \$1300 towards buses for the Museum Trip



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The PTA will also continue to provide catering for Whanau nights and the We CARE Awards at Prize Giving. Further donations to the school are considered as they arise at monthly meetings.

New members are warmly welcome at PTA Meetings. Many hands will be needed in the lead up to the Gala. The next PTA Meeting is Wednesday 29 April at 6.30pm in the staffroom. We'd love to see you there.

### **Entertainments Books 2015-2016**

Te Kauwhata PTA are into a new year fundraising with Entertainment Books and if you haven't already got one, there are physical and digital copies on offer for Waikato, Auckland and Tauranga. With hundreds of 50% and 2-for-1 offers for the best dining, attractions and services to take advantage of, Entertainment Books are a popular choice.

\$12 of every book sold goes towards fundraising for our school and the PTA's initiatives to improve education and school life for our children. We would not be able to do what we do without your support so spread the word, gift a book or recommend this to friends/family.

For more information you will notice the posters around town, supported by our local businesses. There will be a sign up sheet for the 2015-2016 year with Brenda in the TK School Office.

Should you wish to make an order, you can do this online through the link below, or call Sandra Guerreiro on 0226577613.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/158576z>

## *Coming Up:*

<i>April 27</i>	<i>: Anzac Day Holiday (Monday) - No school</i>
<i>May 01</i>	<i>: Mufti &amp; Wacky Hair Day</i>
<i>May 08</i>	<i>: Principal Chat 9.45am Staffroom</i>
<i>May 29</i>	<i>: Teacher Only Day</i>
<i>June 01</i>	<i>: Queens Birthday</i>
<i>June 09</i>	<i>: Boys n Blokes night</i>

# Community News:



Calling all parents of toddlers aged 3 – 4 years old!

Are you Interested in signing your child up to an invaluable programme called HIPPY (Home Interaction Programme for Parents and Youngsters) it's an initiative run through Waahi Whaanui Trust. It's been in town for a while... in fact they are coming up 21 years this year!

HIPPY is a two-year home-based parenting and early childhood enrichment programme that builds the confidence and skills of parents, to create a positive learning environment.

The programme gives a workbook each week for parent's and children to work together for fifteen minutes a day with storybooks, puzzles and learning games that help children to become successful learners. And most importantly get use to doing 'homework'.

If this sounds like you, and you're up for the 2 year commitment.... Make contact with the HIPPY Co-Ordinator Val Frires on Ph: 07 828 9695 / 0800 THE TRUST, Cell: 021 802 260 OR Email [friresv@whanui.org.nz](mailto:friresv@whanui.org.nz) to express your interest now!



## BODY and MIND WORKSHOP with Nicole

We will explore breath awareness and mindful movements to relax, nourish and restore well being.

FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> May 12-3.00PM

TE HOE HALL \$50.00

Must RSVP by the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

For further info and to book your place phone Nicole 021 469 642

Or email [yogaroom@xtra.co.nz](mailto:yogaroom@xtra.co.nz)

Workshop suitable for all ages , no experience needed.





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Developed by Sport Waikato 2015











