



Taupo Primary School Newsletter

Friday 7 February 2020, Week 1

'Ko te ako te maneatanga' or 'Hooked on Learning'



A huge welcome to our Taupo Primary School community. The start of a new decade, a new year, super exciting for us all.

Taupo Primary School Board of Trustees Welcome and Reflection on 2019

As a board, we are committed to keeping you informed about what's happening at Taupo Primary School.

As you will see, there are wonderful things happening in the junior school space. Renovations to Rooms 6, 7, 10 and 11 are underway to modernise these rooms and provide improved shade and covered outdoor space.

Reflecting on 2019, it was a year of change. Any change comes with its own unique challenges and extra work. In spite of this solid progress in many areas. Below are some of the highlights:

Key Appointments

2019 began with the retirement of Cushla Seamer. Sadly Cushla passed away in November. We celebrated her and her legacy to the school in a wonderful memorial led by the students as she would have wanted. Her contribution to the school was immense with a generation of Taupo children educated with her guidance.

Our Senior Leadership Team capably stepped up to lead the school throughout 2019. Our huge thanks to Sarah Sade who took the responsibility of Acting Principal and Kirsty Tatere who took on the role of Acting DP, we thank them both for their ongoing dedication and leadership.

We were excited to appoint Zac Taylor as Principal and welcomed him to Taupo Primary in Term 4.

At the end of the year, two of our teachers, Rachel Donnelly and Hilde Young, were both appointed Learning Support Co-ordinators roles, working in school across Taupo. Within appointment processes for 2020, we were able to appoint Jo Dundas as a permanent teaching member of staff.

The Board of Trustees elections were held mid-year, with the new board forming at the start of July. We welcomed Arna Rolleston, Kirsty Darvill and Eden Stevenson as parent reps and Robyn Rutherford as staff rep.

Education Review Office Report

We hosted the ERO team in August. Our thanks to Ms Sade, Mrs Tatere and all teachers who prepared and hosted the reviewers. Our ERO report reflects well where we feel our school is at and assists us to identify where to focus our priorities. Our work this year will reflect this in the Charter and Annual plan.

ERO Report conclusions

Key strengths of the school

For sustained improvement and future learner success, the school can draw on existing strengths in:

- support for students with identified needs that contributes to working towards equity and excellence in outcomes
- parent-school partnerships for learning that are positively contributing to acceleration of progress for at-risk learners
- aspects of teaching, learning and senior leadership that contribute to acceleration of outcomes.

Next steps

For sustained improvement and future learner success, priorities for further development are in:

- empowering school leaders to build teacher capability consistently across the school
- reviewing schoolwide assessment information to make robust judgements about student achievement
- developing a local curriculum to show a coherent approach to teaching and learning across the school
- building trustees' knowledge about school governance and management, and the use of achievement information.

Areas for improved compliance practice

To improve current practice, the board of trustees should:

- fully and consistently implement the Ministry of Education Guidelines about the use of physical restraint
- continue to review school policy and procedures to cover all necessary aspects of school operation.

Our report can be accessed here: <https://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/taupo-school-23-10-2019/>

2019 Student Achievement

Students' academic progress is regularly monitored at Taupo Primary School and is a key focus of our board meetings. The school reports to the board on academic progress, wellbeing, along with additional yearly programs the school invests in. These reports identify the number of students needing additional support, meeting expectations and those needing extension. It's our aim to lift the achievement of those needing additional support and ensure that all students are making a year's progress, each year.

The targeted learning programs run by the school last year have included:

- Reading Recovery (for 6 year olds)
- Quick 60 ABC in the early years (Y0-2)
- Lexia - Core 5 (Y3-6)
- Rainbow Reading
- ESL - or English as a Second Language
- Pause, Prompt, Praise (Reading)
- ALL- Accelerated Literacy Learning in Writing (school wide)

The targeted wellbeing programs run by the school last year have included:

- Move to Learn
- Zones of Regulation
- We Thinkers
- Brick Club
- Whai Hauora
- Tales

The results being seen from these programmes are very positive and we are committed to continuing these in 2020.

2019 has seen the continuation of WTE, (Write That Essay) and ALL, (accelerated literacy learning in writing) across the school. Teachers have been involved in professional learning about how to accelerate learners in writing which include Doctor Ian Hunters writing models from WTE. 2020 will see a continuation of our learning in this area. The Taupo Schools Kahui Ako (CoL) has had a strong focus on literacy, specifically with the implementation of the 'Write that Essay' programme. Children across the school have worked within this framework and will continue to do so in 2020. Oral Language will be a key focus in 2020. This will support the work already done around writing and will enable teachers to cater to the diverse range of needs within our classrooms. The senior school will be focusing on mathematics and are involved in a case study around this in 2020.

Policies Reviewed

Another responsibility of the board is to review all school policies. In 2019, we enrolled our school into 'School Doc's' an online platform for maintaining accurate and robust school policies. This year, the following policies have been reviewed and updated.

- Health safety and welfare
- Performance management
- Education Outside the Classroom
- Sun Protection

You can access these policies, at any time go to schooldocs.co.nz - User name: taupoprimary password is: hookedon

School Maintenance and Infrastructure improvements

2018 saw the completion of rooms 19, 20 and 21. 2019 saw the laying of new water reticulation pipes to improve water pressure throughout the school.

As a result of the Ministry of Education selling half of the backfield to Toi Ohomai Polytech in 2019, additional funds were allocated to our school which will assist us in property improvement. Additionally, governmental funding which was announced late in 2019 will also contribute to property and infrastructure improvements. The current upgrades to Rooms 6, 7, 10 and 11 have begun and now extended to include verandahs. The Board were pleased to approve heat pumps for cooling and heating and these are now being placed in all classrooms, just in time for summer cooling.

Later in the year recladding work will occur on the hall to improve weather tightness. The current Board is pushing for works to be undertaken to improve the quality of our main field outside room 16-21, so watch this space in 2020.

Community Consultation – thank you for everyone's feedback throughout the year! We will be seeking your opinions on school reports at the up and coming meet the teacher afternoon.

New Entrant Cohort Entry: After consultation with the wider community, there will now be 2 intakes per term for new entrants starting at Taupo Primary. We expect benefits for students and staff with this new approach and will be monitoring how it goes.

Charter Review: Parents and students were surveyed about their aspirations for our school and students. The feedback is being worked through at present and we greatly appreciate everyone's input. There are some common themes coming through clearly and we look forward to progressing the charter and presenting to you in 2020.

2020 School Roll

We expect to start the school year with a strong school roll, with approximately 420 students. Thanks to the ministry of education zoning rules we are able to maintain a comfortable number suitable for our school spaces. Unfortunately this means we have to decline enrollment to many out of zone families. Those we do enrolled from out of zone have gone through a rigorous ballot process.

Upcoming Board matters

Our focus in February and March will be to finalise the school Annual Plan and associated budgets, ensure the completion of the heat pump project and construction in junior school and ongoing policy reviews. We look to commence further community consultation on the school charter later in the year. Regular review of student achievement data will assist with timely support for teaching programmes as needed.

This later this year we will have mid-term board elections, a system of electing Board members our school uses to ensure continuity in the governance of the school. More information about this will come out closer to the time of election.

As always our Board meetings are open to all and we would welcome you to come along if you are interested in finding out more about the work that is happening at the Board level.

Nga Mihi

Taupo School Board of Trustees

								
Catriona Eagles	Kirsty Darvill	Eden Stevenson	Arna Rolleston	Sarah Eyre	Tom Dickie	Robyn Rutherford	Zac Taylor	Phil Walker

Upcoming Events

Term 1

Tuesday 18 February	Whanau Day and Meet the Teacher Evening
Monday 2 March	Swimming starts for the Junior School
Thursday 5 March	Athletics at OD park from 9.15am
Tuesday 17 March	Interschool Athletics (postponement day Tuesday 24 March)
Last day Term 1	Thursday 9 April
Term 2 starts	Tuesday 28 April



Our Student Leaders with their new hats and badges. A huge thank you to **Brandfuel Taupo** for the hats and to Mark Durrant at **1st Choice Engravers & Badges** for working overtime to have our badges ready for the first Student Leader meeting.

Uniform Swap

Our uniform swap continues this year on Thursdays from 2.45pm to 3.15pm until week 6, then restarting in Term 2 on Thursdays at the same time. Pop along to the school hall foyer and see our lovely mum Rika to swap or obtain second hand uniform items.

Taupo School of Music

Is Your Child interested in learning an Instrument?

Taupo School of Music is now open for enrollments for instrumental lessons at the Taupo School of Music! TSOM tutors students up to and including Year 8. Students learn in small groups and most lessons are on Tuesdays after school. Instruments such as clarinets, trumpet, trombone, cello, violin, flute, keyboard and alto sax are available to hire. There is also tuition on guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, percussion (not drum kit) and recorder. For more information on cost and availability etc, please email the Principal – admin@tsom.co.nz
Lessons start on **Tuesday 25th Feb.**

Taupo School of Music - Keynotes Children's Choir

Does your child love to sing ? Our children's choir is for students aged 6-14yrs old. It is cost free and audition free. A willingness to attend most rehearsals on Tuesday 5.30-6.15. Rehearsals start on Tuesday 25th Feb. For more information please email the Principal on admin@tsom.co.nz



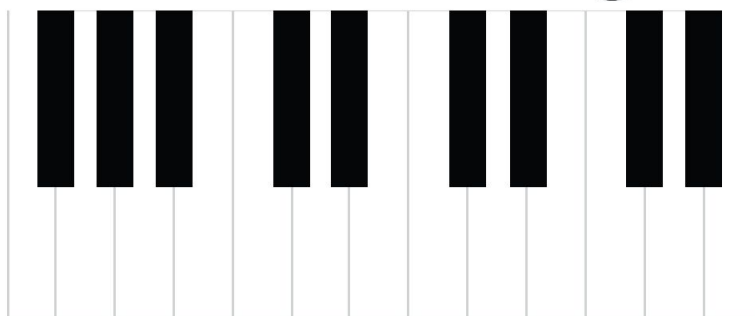
PIANO LESSONS

LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO

Spaces available for piano lessons this year
Lessons done during school time



Contact Jessica Parker
0275895900
jppianoteaching@gmail.com





WAIRAKEI
ESTATE

IRONKIDZ

TAUPŌ NZ 2020

T R I A T H L O N



swim bike run

WAIRAKEI ESTATE

IRONKIDZ TAUPŌ 2020 TRIATHLON

Sunday 1st March 2020

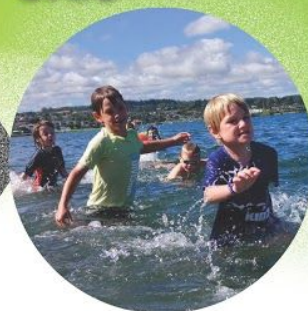
A fun triathlon for 7 to 15 year olds



**Elite
Category**
for more serious
athletes

**Splash
& Dash**
for 5 to 7
year olds

www.ironkidz.com



proudly supported by



WAIRAKEI
ESTATE





Support safer swimmers in Taupo by advertising on the back page of our newsletter next year?



ALL proceeds go towards providing swimming lessons for ALL students at Taupo Primary

Email the office to book your space (office@taupopprimary.school.nz) - \$500 to advertise for one year (approximately 38 publications). Bookings will be taken on a first in, first served basis. There will be 10 slots available.

