



Tauraroa Area School

TE KURA TAKIWA O TAURAROA

Principal: G Burns B.Ed, Dip.Tchg

Newsletter 9 March 2016

From the Principal's desk

Nga mihi nui, kia koutou katoa,

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Kyla Sneddon as a teacher in Years 5 and 6. Kyla is a former Tauraroa student who has completed her teaching degree with the University of Auckland. We look forward to having her join our team and contribute her considerable skills and energy to our school.

The school roll now sits above 500 students for the first time. I certainly take this as an endorsement of our positive learning environment - built on high expectations and clear values - we enjoy here. The growth in numbers does not occur evenly across year levels, nor in a predictable manner. For example we have 38 Year 5 students and 21 Year 4s. We now have more Year 9 students than Year 10, in spite of all indications at the end of 2015 being the opposite to that. This growth is very positive and I very grateful for the efforts and determination of staff to ensure the unique needs of every individual student are effectively met.

Our students have been very fortunate to attend year level camps in recent weeks. Apart from the Year 13 trip to Tongariro, all of our students have taken advantage of the wonderful venues and excellent weather we enjoy here in Northland. I am very grateful for the willingness of staff to give up their own time and put in extra preparation to make these events so successful. The reliable and enthusiastic support of parents in assisting at the camps and contributing willingly to their cost makes them viable. Thanks!

Congratulations and thanks to the students who participated in the Relay for Life event at the weekend (including a number of our musicians who performed). The money raised from this goes to cancer research.

Our thoughts and condolences are with Mr Chris Jenkins, whose father passed away last week.

I encourage all parents to talk with their children about what they are doing at school. This obviously varies from year to year, from spelling lists in the junior primary to tracking NCEA credits in Years 11-13. Rooms 3 and 5 are trialling the 'Seesaw' app, which allows parents the chance to view and comment on work their children are doing. Each week, our Y7-8 students undertake a wide range of interesting and challenging tasks with their Independent Learning - this provides another opportunity for parents to stay involved with their children's learning. Mapping out when various assessments are due for senior students helps them get organised and avoid those 'last minute' panics. Please plan to participate in our Year 1-10 Student Led Conferences on afternoon of 4 April. Booking details will be available shortly.

Heoi ano,

Grant Burns

Principal

News from TAS Primary

What an incredible start to 2016! Our new classes opened and are fully operational. We have six state of the art classrooms that have facilities to be proud of. I'd like to say a huge "thank you" to all the staff involved in making that transition as seamless as possible. Great work team!

Year 5 and 6 students attended Coopers Beach Christian Camp and had a wonderful time. Years 1-4 attended Marsden Bay camp at One Tree Point and also had an outstanding time. It is great to see the students bonding together and developing greater maturity and independence. Thank you so much to all the parents who transported students and worked tirelessly to make these events so successful. We couldn't do them without you! Many thanks also go to the teachers who give up time with their own families to organise and attend these camps.

As always contact me on 09 4322463 ex 829 or email andy.mouat@tauraroa.school.nz Deputy Principal – Primary

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