

TAUMATA SCHOOL



Key Dates:

- 30 NOV: TAUMATA QUIZ NIGHT
- 2 DEC: LIFE EDUCATION
- 3 DEC: MAUAO LEARNING SHOWCASE 5:30PM
- 3 DEC: WHANAU ROPU MEETING 7PM
- 4 DEC: PUWHENUA LEARNING SHOWCASE 6:00PM
- 5 DEC: GOLF LESSONS
- 5 DEC: MATARAWA CHRISTMAS MARKET 5:00PM
- 10 DEC: MAUAO & MATARAWA ATHLETICS



Nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa.
Warm greetings to you all.

Over the last two weeks the leadership team have been focused on information and communication around the 'Taumata Way' and also how we support positive behaviour and programmes. We have been absolutely delighted with the positive feedback we have received from new families to our school, and those enrolling for a 2020 start. As we head into the last two and half weeks of school, the feedback has prompted us to look up from the 'busy-ness' of our daily work, and appreciate what we have achieved in partnership with our community. We feel proud, excited about our continued growth in 2020 and further committed to our mission to provide a world-class learning experience that prepares and empowers our children for the adventure that is life!

Over the last few weeks we have been busy recruiting learning coaches to join our 2020 team. We had a strong field of applicants eager to join our team and spent considerable time looking at the strengths that each educator could potentially bring to Taumata School. Later in the newsletter you will see our new recruits and also how the teams will be made up next year. In addition to this, you will note that Natalie Ward has made the decision to work in a more balanced 'part-time capacity'. We feel privileged to have Natalie as a key foundation member and know that she will continue to support our growth in 2020.

Lately I have been following the works of George Couros (educationalist) and his reflections on learning innovation. In particular George talks about the struggle of learning and how it is a necessary part of the 'adventure of life'. Couros suggests the following:

- it is good to struggle - struggling pushes us out of our comfort zone. At Taumata we talk about being comfortable with the uncomfortable as that shows real, profound learning.
- modelling our struggle with learning as adults will help children to normalise this as learning behaviour. When our children see us struggle and persevere through something they see it as part of the journey.
- Practising learning (even when it's a struggle) models resilience and grit. Try something new and use 'think alouds' to model your own repeated practice. This demonstrates that learning requires tenacity and perseverance..

Couros goes further to look at the work of Carol Dweck who drew our attention to fixed mindset and growth mindset.

Couros goes a stage further with innovators mindset:

Situation	Fixed Mindset	Growth Mindset	Innovator's Mindset
Challenges	Challenges are avoided to maintain the appearance of intelligence.	Challenges are embraced stemming from a desire to learn.	Challenges are sought out and seen as an opportunity for growth and development.
Obstacles	Giving up in the face of obstacles and setbacks is a common response.	Showing perseverance in the face of obstacles and setbacks is a common response.	When obstacles arise, the thinking is shifted to look for opportunities and possibilities.
Effort	Having to try or put in effort is viewed as a negative. If you have to try, you're not very smart or talented.	Doing hard work and putting in effort paves the path to achievement and success.	Hard work and effort are continuous, and we look to make time to create new solutions and ideas for growth.
Criticism	Negative feedback, regardless of how constructive, is ignored.	Criticism provides important feedback that can aid in learning.	Criticism provides important feedback which creates the opportunity to implement new and better ideas for learning from others.
Success of Others	Other people's success is viewed as a threat and evokes feelings of insecurity or vulnerability.	Other people's success can be a source of inspiration and education.	Other people's success is learned from, and something we modify and apply in our own context to create our own success.

End of YEAR process and organisation:

At this time of year we are busy finalising events and organisation for 2019 as well as planning for the 2020 academic year. The following is a guide to items we are working on:

- Friday Week 8: We complete our reporting cycle. The final general summative comment for the year will be published. This comment sits alongside the published final OTJ (overall teacher judgement against the curriculum). Please be aware that you need to log in to Linc Ed to see all comments and learning stories, and this should now show a progressive pathway of learning for your child in 2019. If you wish to download as a report and print you can do this in the comfort of your own home.
- Week 8: Learning Showcase: Please be aware that all teams will have their learning showcase (celebration of learning and exhibition) for Semester 2. You will have received an invitation to this already and if not please email your learning coaches directly. This is a culmination of learning for Term 3 and 4 and we encourage you to come and share in your child's learning.
- Week 9: Learning coaches will be working on whanau group organisation for 2020. Coaches will use all information collated during the year to determine whanau groups, however recognising that each space will continue to work collaboratively with multiple learning coaches.
- Week 10: Tuesday 17 December 1:30-2:30pm all students will visit their new hub (if applicable) and their 2020 learning coach. Please be advised that we do not take requests for whanau teachers as we believe we have exceptional educators at Taumata School.
- Week 10: Wednesday 18 December: Final day of school. Please be aware we finish at 12:30pm.

Message from our BOT Chair:

Kia ora tatou,

The Board of Trustees has been hard at work in it's governance role since the election in June.

The last few months have seen the school ready for 'final handover' by the contractors. . There are still a few outstanding issues but the actual physical spaces are complete. Our thanks to the contractors (Southbase Construction) and the Ministry of Education for their continued work and support. We are excited by the end of Stage I (400 children) and have recently learned of the approval to start Stage II. In addition to thanking the construction team and MOE our thanks is extended to our Principal Genavier Fuller who has worked tirelessly in negotiating, planning, checking and generally acting as a conduit between all of the parties involved in the development of Taumata School.

We began the year with a little over 100 students. We end the year with approximately 260 students. And... we anticipate a starting role of 310+ students in February 2020. We anticipate that the demand for places at Taumata School throughout the year will remain very strong.

The Trustees have been intimately involved in many of the decisions and continue to monitor on-going development in their governance role. It is important to maintain the momentum we have developed as the school's numbers grow. Part of our role is to ensure that all of our learners are catered for in the most complete way as we move towards our second year of operation. Our strategic planning activities towards the end of this year will ensure this.

The Board is in the process of considering the installation and placement of a large number of benches for our learners. These will be an important addition to our landscape.

My thanks go to all of the Trustees who so willingly give time to the business of governance.

Jay Kedian
BOT Chairperson

Taumata Team 2020:

Leadership



Gen Fuller - Principal



Jacq Price - Deputy Principal



Mike Rankin - Deputy Principal

Technology



Raina Urwin



Sean Fullick

Mauao 1: NE/Y1



Sandi Valentine



Arlenna Porteners



Hannah Rowland

Mauao 2: Y1/2



Pippa Woods



Sean Clarke



Bailey Harris



Michaela Jesney

Taumata Team 2020:

Matarawa: Y3/4



Sharon Baggaley



Trudi Fausett



Kylie Forlong

Pūwhenua: Y5-7



Dan Priest



Sjaan McDivitt



Leonie Belk

Administration & Support



Vanessa Le Roux -
Office administrator



Graeme Higham -
Caretaker



Nina Leslie -
Administration and
Learning Assistant