

TAUMATA SCHOOL



Key Dates:

- 24 MAR: PŪWHENUA SWIMMING LESSONS START
- 2 MAR: ART GALLERY MATARAWA
- 5 MAR: ART GALLERY MATARAWA
- 6 MAR: FAMILY PICNIC @ TAUMATA SCHOOL 5:30PM
- 10 MAR: PŪWHENUA SWIMMING SPORTS
- 11 MAR: TAUMATA 101 FOR NEW FAMILIES 5.30PM
- 13 MAR: TEACHER ONLY DAY
- 16 MAR: Y5/6 WEST CLUSTER SWIMMING
- 26/27 MAR: OPTIONAL YEAR 7 KAIMAI EXPERIENCE



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

In this edition of our newsletter I challenge you to think back to your most epic moment as a student. Was it a production or show? Was it a teacher? Was it a sporting or camp experience? Or perhaps it was a passion project? If you truly think about it, chances are your epic moment didn't involve obediently working through a workbook or worksheet; and I'm almost certain it didn't involve listening obediently to a teacher lecture.

Recent research from the OECD Innovative Learning Project identifies 7 principles that schools should consider when designing learning. Of importance to us at Taumata is the principle that highlights how **emotions are integral to learning**; and the need for learning coaches and leaders to be highly attuned to these emotions. For us this means recognising that learning comes from the interplay of emotion, motivation and cognition; along with having a positive self concept and belief in ones ability.

As designers of learning, our learning coaches are constantly looking at opportunities that deepen the learning experience and shift learning from shallow to profound. John West-Burnham (2016) suggests that shallow learning is focused on memorisation, information recall and often driven by compliance. Whereas profound learning leads to wisdom, deep meaning and connection and leads to extrinsic motivation.

Some recent examples of learning design that engage such learning are: provocations used in Mauao which focus on the urges of young learners; to the exploration of "role as a learner" in Matarawa through to the noho overnight experience provided by Puwhenua.

These experiences are deliberately designed to invoke emotional connection, to deepen the learning experience and to increase engagement, motivation and essentially empowerment in the learning process. These are all based on emotional connections.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the amazing learning coaches that we have been fortunate to entice to Taumata School. These educators are highly attuned professionals, they know learning and what learners need, they go out of their way to plan experiences beyond the norm and truly believe in 'going the extra mile for learners because it is worth it'. Thank you for all that you do.

Pūwhenua Noho:

On Thursday and Friday our Year 5, 6 and 7 students took part in a noho experience focused on connections, building relationships, getting to know each other and self, challenging own boundaries and connecting with local areas of interest.

On Thursday our students were transported to Mauao where they explored the local area and connection of one of the landmarks significant to Ngai Tamarawaho. They then learnt how to paddle Waka Ama and paddle boards with the support of instructors. Upon returning to Taumata they were fed and engaged in fun team building activities that pull them together as a team - this lasted well into the evening.

On Friday the students visited Otanewainuku, another land marker for Ngai Tamarawaho - all making connections to our local history and mana whenua.

This experience was so much more than an overnight stay on the school site; but a learning experience steeped in challenge, connections, history, social science and team building. Thank you to Dan, Sjaan, Leonie, Kathy, Emma and the myriad of amazing parents that gave willingly to ensure this experiences was epic and memorable for our kids. Also... A big thank you to Jon and Anita Morrison (Pak N Save The Lakes) for such huge support with food, which enables us to keep costs down.



School Policies/Procedures:

Policies are integral to the successful running of a school because they provide guidelines, rules and expectations for learning, health and safety, accountability and educational achievement. At Taumata School we use an online policy and procedure service called school docs. You can access any of our policies and procedures online any time, any where by visiting www.schooldocs.co.nz, and searching for Taumata School. The username is (**taumata**) and password is (**empowered**). At various points in the year we will undertake a review and ask for your input into the effectiveness of certain policies and procedures. This term we have a review of "Recognition of Cultural Diversity" and encourage you to log in, click the current review tab and select "Recognition of Cultural Diversity". To make a comment about the document click the RED Policy Review Button on the top right.



Recently we have had queries from our community about the meaning of Hika-a-te-awe. In keeping with our belief in culture, language and identity and connections to the history of this area we worked closely with Ngai Tamarawaho to find an appropriate identity for this amazing resource in our school.

Hika-a-te-awe is the earliest known inland pā site of the Ngai Tamarawaho people. Although a coastal hapu, they also travelled inland to hunt and gather food from the forests. The pā site was built by Tuaurutapu and his people.

A warring party from Ngati Rangiwewehi, led by Kereru, came to attack and take the pā site, Tuaurutapu had been away and on his return, he sensed something was awry. He entered the site through the back of the whare and came upon Kereru and his men, waiting to attack.

Tuaurutapu had outsmarted his foe. Knowing all was lost for him and his men, Kereru negotiated a boundary between the two tribes. The line ran through the Mongorewa gorge. Later the boundary became known as "Te Rii o Tamarawaho" This boundary was an important agreement going forward.



GOBSMACKED PRODUCTION:

In 2019 we had feedback about a genuine desire to provide a production/drama experience for all Taumata students. We are excited to inform you that we have teamed up with GOBSMACKED productions a performing arts company that works with schools to give students a polished and professional experience in drama, music and dance. Over five weeks (Term 2) the team work with all students around a show theme "The Tale of Dilbert Clancy" and at the end of the five weeks we perform one matinee and two evening shows during the week of 25/29May. Whilst some costs will be covered internally by the school, there will be costs associated with costume hire. If you would like to know more about Gobsmacked check out their website at <https://gobsmacked.nz/>

Notifying an Absence:

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason please notify us as soon as possible. You can let us know by calling the office on 07 579 0990, using the absentee notification on our website, using the absentee notification on our school app or by emailing Vanessa at office@taumata.school.nz

If a child is absent and we have received no formal notification you will be contacted via phone between 8:45 and 9:15am as part of our Health and Safety procedures.

Property Update:

You will have noticed that much of the space behind the large teaching block has been levelled and ready for seeding. This is the last phase of grass works in our stage 1 build. The BOT are currently in discussion with the Ministry of Education around planning for stage 2, and master planning of the site. In the near future the BOT will call for feedback and input from our community so that we can ensure we capture the positives and identify any challenges. Towards the end of February we hope to have our new seating from STREETScape. These will be installed in key areas under the covered walk ways.



Technology Suite up and running for 2020



A massive thank you to the following organisations for their help & support in helping us set up the new technology suite at Taumata School:

Mitre 10 Mega, Tauranga
Machinery & Power tools, Mount Maunganui
A1 Kitchens & Interiors, Tauranga

Furnware, Hastings

Sharp Electronics NZ

Isometric solutions, Auckland

Kendall Engraving, Auckland

Pak n Save, Tauriko

Appliance Plus, Tauranga

A1 Containers, Tauranga

McLeod Cranes, Tauranga

Techsoft, Wellington

Coredesign, Tauranga

