

TAUMATA SCHOOL



Key Dates:

- 27 MAY: BOOK WEEK AT TAUMATA SCHOOL
- 28 MAY: WHANAU ROPU MEETING
- 29 MAY: NZEI STRIKE DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
- 29 MAY: YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING
- 30 MAY: ENCHANTED FOREST BOOK FAIR, GRANDPARENTS IN TO READ
- 31 MAY: BOOK CHARACTER DAY & SHARED LUNCH
- 5 JUN: EPRO8 CHALLENGE

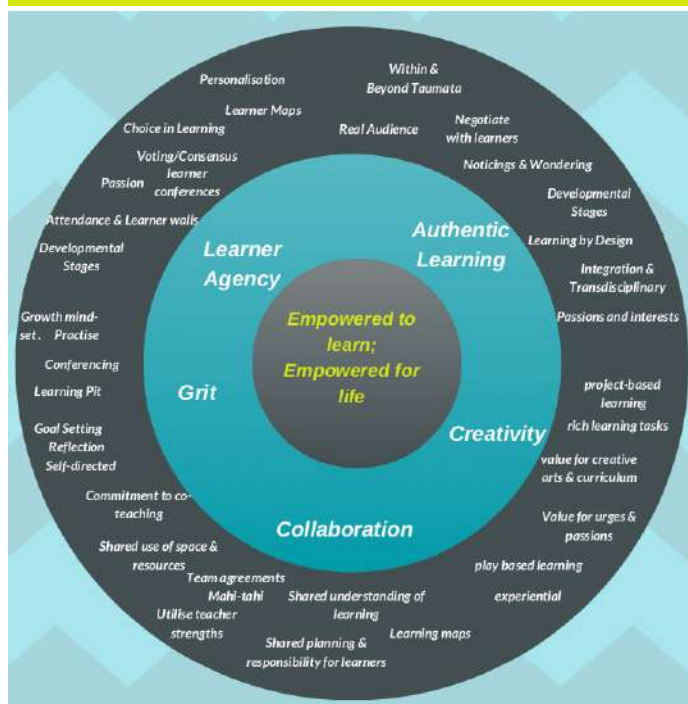
Nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa.

Last week we were fortunate to have Mark Osborne (Director of Leading Learning) back working with our team and key focii included: appreciative inquiry (celebrating what we have achieved); understanding the impact of change (1st order and 2nd order change) and also revisiting our vision, principles and practices.

Simon Sinek has a great Ted Talk about "How great leaders inspire action" and in particular the 'Golden Circle'. The Golden Circle refers to understanding the WHY behind any organisation or decision.

At Taumata School we have spent significant time using the work of Simon Sinek and Julia Atkins to define our WHY (Vision) our HOW (Principles/Values) and then WHAT (Practices). On Tuesday we revisited these to critically reflect on what we see when we walk into a room and how it aligns with what we believe about learning. This is important as we grow, as we bring on new teachers, as our community evolves and as administrative requirements are implemented.

At Taumata our vision (our why) is "Empowered to learn; empowered for life". It is founded on the belief that when we recognise student strengths, and help them to see those strengths in themselves, not only is learning more rewarding, and therefore school more rewarding but there is a sense of empowerment that they are equipped to face any problem or challenge.



This diagram (left) is the most recent reflections of our teaching team around how our practice aligns with our principles. You can see that our practices are grounded in having learners at the centre.

On occasions this can be challenging for visitors to our learning spaces, as our own experiences of learning were quite different. However we have to keep in mind that we are preparing our learners for 'anything' and 'anything' is much more than content, it is much more than 'filling' empty vessels with what we know, and it values the fact that our learners are active, generative and reflective in the learning process.

School Policies & Procedures

Do you have queries around our school policies or how we do things? Our school policies are managed through School Docs and are available for viewing at anytime. As a parent you can access our policies and procedures by visiting: www.schooldocs.co.nz in the search bar type Taumata School. Enter our username (**taumata**) and password (**empowered**)

Visitors to Taumata School

As a new establishment school there is a growing interest in how we have developed our school vision, curriculum, teaching practice and also our physical learning spaces. This is an exciting time as colleagues take a genuine interest in what we are doing and 'WHY'. Over the last two weeks we have hosted Principals and senior leaders from Canterbury, Hawkes Bay, Auckland and of course our local colleagues too. Feedback we are receiving is very positive as we share our journey to date and give an insight into our vision for learning, teaching approaches and physical environments.

National Young Leaders

Last week we sent 20 Year 6 students to Hamilton to attend the National Young Leaders Day. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to hear first hand from inspirational New Zealanders, and encourage our young people to take the lead in learning and in life. Our students were fantastic and Matua Dan was very proud of all our Year 6 students.



Year 7 and Year 8

It is that time of year when parents/whanau are exploring options for Year 7 and 8 and also the pathway beyond Taumata School. As a school we are committed to providing learning opportunities for students in Year 7 (2020) and Year 8 (2021). We believe that this is an exciting place to be as we plan and develop a unique learning experience for these learners.

Research suggests that one of the biggest factors that hinder or negatively impact learning is transitioning to a new school, particularly during crucial developmental stages. As a full primary we are committed to getting to know the specific (personalised) learning needs of your children and then catering for them within our innovative and authentic local curriculum.

Whilst we are still developing the finer details around what this will look like we are already committing to specialist technology programmes (in our own purpose built facilities), education outside the curriculum (camps etc), leadership, cultural and sporting opportunities and also using the commitment to project-based (community responsive) learning opportunities.

If you are interested in hearing more about our emerging ideas in an informal forum please join us on Wednesday 29 May at 6pm in our Grove (library).

Experiential Learning

We believe that all learners have an innate curiosity to make sense of the world around them. We believe in active engagement where our learners discover, design, communicate and teach. We value a culture where we can take intelligent risks around our learning and where failure is part of the learning process. Here are some images that demonstrate some of the experiential learning happening at Taumata School.



Learning Focus

African Masks

As part of our learning around belonging, we have been exploring the different countries from where our learners are from. This week we have explored South Africa. As a class we brainstormed different questions we had about the country. Such as; how big is South Africa? What is their national food? How many people live there? We then wanted to create some traditional style art. We used a variety of coloured paints and cotton swaps to create patterns on our African Masks. African masks are used in celebrations and other ceremonies in African tribes. They are often passed down to their children.

GRIET

COLLABORATION

AUTHENTIC LEARNING

CREATIVITY

The Arts (Visual Art): Investigate visual ideas in response to a variety of motivations, observation, and imagination.

Social Studies: Understand how belonging to groups is important for people.

Relating to Others Thinking

LINKS TO NEW ZEALAND CURRICULUM

NZ Curriculum Key Competencies

Learning Focus

Making Gingerbread Men!

These children were making Ginger Bread men to demonstrate one of our learning principles - **COLLABORATION**. The children had to work together (collaborate) and solve problems related to measuring ingredients. They used the language of 'half way' and 'fill it to the top' and 'empty' to measure the ingredients.

GRIET

COLLABORATION

AUTHENTIC LEARNING

Jaxon explained to his group that he did not know how to read the instructions and came up with the idea that he could use the pictures in the book. Saskia and Mia then used the pictures to tell the group what to do next.

The children were then given the task of asking every learning coach politely if they would like to try their biscuits. This task involved using their oral language skills.

English: (oral language) a willingness and confidence to talk about things happening now; a curiosity about language

Maths: (measurement) Order and compare objects by length and/or counting whole numbers of units

Communication: they develop verbal communication skills

Exploration: play is valued

LINKS TO NEW ZEALAND CURRICULUM

LINKS TO TEWHARUKI