

TAUMATA SCHOOL



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

Key Dates:

22 AUG: PRESCHOOL VISIT 3
27 AUG: WHANAU ROPU MTG
4 SEPT: YEAR 7 PARENT EVENING - THOSE INTERESTED IN YEAR 7
5 SEPT: WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH
10 SEPT: SENIOR SPEECHES COMPETITION
12 SEPT: TAUMATA'S GOT TALENT 6PM



This last fortnight has seen a number of visiting educators to Taumata School. We are really proud of our school and the learning on offer, and as a new school it makes sense that other educators are interested in our establishment journey, what learning looks like and also how our spaces operate.

Whilst our visitors come with a specific learning goal of their own, having 'fresh eyes' on what we are doing is also positive. The questions we are asked, ensure we are clear and confident of our learning principles (Collaboration, Creativity, Authentic Learning, Agency and Grit) and confident that our learning practices (what we do) align with those beliefs. To date, the feedback to us has been positive and full of praise about the commitment and knowledge of our learning coaches, along with the tremendous community support and belief in what we are doing. In saying this... one thing I acknowledge at the outset with all visitors is that we are a 'learning school' at the beginning of our learning journey. We have much to learn and we will have some moments of failure - however we acknowledge failure as a by-product of real and profound learning.

This week we were treated to week 2 of Taumata TV. This is a group of enthusiastic students keen to catch learning during the week and what an amazing job they are doing. We look forward to further episodes in the coming weeks and sharing these with our community.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety: This week we have had two reminders related to health, safety and well-being of our students.

In the first instance we had one of our students approached on her way home from school. We were asked to communicate this on facebook as a way of reminding our community to talk about 'keeping safe' on the journey to and from school. I hope all families have had a chance to talk through the need to walk in groups of two or more; identified expectations for going straight home after school, and having a conversation about possible strategies if they feel unsafe.

On Thursday we had our "LOCKDOWN DRILL" and our school reacted and implemented our procedures really well. Whilst it is difficult to plan for what a 'real' event might look like, we were able to have students safe and secure in the learning spaces and out of sight very quickly. I hope you have had a chance to talk through our actions with your children.

Swimming Opportunity

Recently parents of students in Mauao and Matarawa received information about swimming lessons at Liz Van Welie Swim School. Earlier in the year Pūwhenua students had this opportunity and a number of parents asked about younger students. Whilst we recognise the late notice (less than 2 weeks) to parents we wanted to provide this opportunity in response to earlier requests. We do however acknowledge that this late notice has disadvantaged some families and created a financial challenge. We wish to apologise for this and will work with Liz Van Welie to ensure that 2020 and any swimming is well communicated in the future. Please also be assured that learning will continue as normal for those children unable to attend on this occasion. Once again we apologise for the short notice and any inconvenience it has caused.

Tough Guy and Gal:

This week a number of our students represented our school at the Tough Guy and Gal Competition. What a great day our kids had as they navigated challenges, pushed boundaries and competed with other children locally. In speaking to the children involved it was fun, stinky, slippery, muddy but really cool.



Father's Day Raffle:

Our amazing Whanau Ropu (PTA) are doing a wonderful job of planning for and completing fundraising opportunities that support our school. The latest is the Father's Day Raffle where the prizes are really amazing. If you are interested please contact Vanessa for more information or contact our whanau ropu members.

