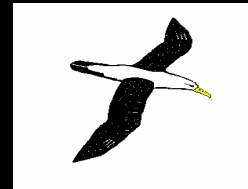


Tahuna News



Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Firstly a reminder of the correct start to Term 2. I know there are incorrect dates in diaries, and on calendars, but as on our Diary Dates –

**Term 2 starts on Monday
April 23rd.**

This week I have been fortunate to read over some students excellent homework activities. I was impressed by the real pride these students had in their work, and by the thinking and creativity demonstrated. Thank you for supporting your child with homework. It is an ideal time to share their learning, to discuss not just set activities, but the joys and issues in the world around us. It should be an enjoyable, shared and short session.

As winter approaches, the sun is lower in the sky in the mornings, making it difficult for motorists to see cyclists. This is particularly so for motorists travelling east towards Tahuna. Please keep your child safe by ensuring they have coloured, reflective clothing appropriate for being on busy roads.

If you would like newsletters emailed to you, please let me know your email address. Newsletters are also available on our website.

Brent Ward
Principal.

Fundraising

Thank you for the fantastic support with the chocolate fundraising over the last two weeks. Sales have been so successful that we have not had extra boxes for those who need more for their tremendous sales efforts.

Please return all money, and any unsold chocolate to the office now. That way we can have those who desperately need more chocolate to sell using their skills over the long weekend and final few days of sales.

Prizes for the most successful sellers, and spot prizes for all those who sold at least one box will be drawn next Friday.

Thank you.

School Donations & Technology Fees

Notices about School donations and technology fees will be sent home shortly, and we ask for prompt payment. We have kept these at modest amounts with no increases for many years. The Technology fee is required from all students and helps go some way towards just the take home component of their Technology activities. The school donation helps ensure your child has the

resources and opportunities that are not possible from the Ministry grants alone. The photocopying, the paper and paint, and the many other consumables that are charged to parents in other schools can continue to be supplied with the help of every parent. Our modest request is calculated with knowledge that our community values education and has strongly supported us with donations.

Hard Materials



The process of shaping through beating has been used to good effect here by Mathew Chilcott & Cameron Scott. Great work in the Hard Materials workshop.

Absences

A reminder to phone absences in to the school office. If your child is not at school and we haven't heard from you, we do our best to contact you to check their whereabouts. This is a time consuming task that we continue for your child's safety.

One of the changes to school requirements re absences is for

schools to code not just whether we have been contacted about an absence, but whether it is a justifiable absence. This data is being collated in the interests of learners. We know that lateness and frequent absences are strong indicators of students not working at the level they are capable of. It's about valuing educational opportunities.

2007 Australasian Examinations

Entry forms are out for these examinations in Computing [closed], science, mathematics, spelling and English. If your child is competent in or has a great interest in any of these then he or she may like this added challenge of sitting these exams over the next few months. Entry forms are available from the office or Mr Hutton and it is easier to submit one entry for several exams with one cheque if possible, as the closing dates are scattered like the exams, over the next few months. Please return science entries to me by Tuesday 27th March and Mathematics by Thursday 5th April. Children will be assisted in their preparation for these exams.

Super Squad

Remember to watch these shows involving Tahuna students and to vote for Caitlin and Jenna thus enabling them to go on to the next round and finally to travel to Auckland in the south Island team.

Brain Box Wednesday 21st March 4.30 on TV 2.

DAREDEVIL

Thursday 22nd March (we will need to vote, results will air on Friday 23rd March .

To vote for:

JENNA from Tahuna Normal
Int text S2vote(space)D to 8972
Only one vote can be cast per phone and voting is free thanks to Just Juice

Then, the film crew will be visiting us at Tahuna Intermediate either on the 17th or 18th May and will be either here for a half day, or a full day depending on the results of the voting for Caitlin and Jenna.

Rippa Rugby

After our two weeks of cricket coaching we are now delighted to have Mr Joe Snee and Liam Scanlon in the school for a two week block of Rippa Rugby coaching. Classes have been scheduled in so that Joe and Liam are flat out throughout the day sharing their knowledge with Tahuna pupils.

The first session starts with the viewing of a short video clip on Rippa Rugby and key points are highlighted before they move into the practical section. With the weather being so good most classes have been out on the large grassed area but the hall has been a great backup on those days when we saw a weather change.

I have observed numerous drills with a focus on children doing a variety of things with the ball as they run about. There has been a focus on the children thinking as they participate, looking about as they move, passing and catching accurately, avoiding defenders and playing as a team.

Last Monday I saw Joe down at the Edgar Centre watching the

children play and it was good to see skills taught in the school sessions evident in the games being played.

Lit Quiz

Keen children have been attending extra classes where they have been reviewing many of those questions that could come up in a Literacy Quiz. To date we have covered questions on main characters, famous authors, settings, classics, famous animals, myths& legends, nursery rhymes, comics important poems, strange creatures and many more.

At the start we identified children who had a sound general knowledge and as they surfaced we put them in pairs to sort through solutions. Then, it was the combining of twos to get teams of four. Two teams of four will participate at DNI next Friday 30th March starting at 11.00 and finishing around 2.00pm.

Our teams will be selected from the following children and we wish both teams all the very best at the Quiz.

Alexa Anderson
Erana Mc Kinley
Chelsey Templeton
Luke Bridgeman
Matthew Chilcock
Kathrin Rades
Catherine O'Donnell
Garth Fulton
Vyenna Percy
Shayna Dodds
Deina Knox
Freya Griffiths

Biography Poem

Kiana
Fun, active, competitive, outgoing.
Sibling of Rawiri, Anton and Mia.

Lover of shopping, sport and surfing.

Who feels happy, energetic and fun.

Who needs friends, family and to win.

Who gives happiness, love and affection.

Who fears ghosts, losing and losing friends and family.

Who would like to see no homeless people in the world, no homework and ... P/E all the time.

Resident of Ocean View, Dunedin.

Wereta

Kiana Wereta Room 5

Australasian Computer Examination 2007

This exam is scheduled for 9.00am Thursday 29th March and children sitting it have had the opportunity to meet and find out the answering procedure as well as reviewing old papers in pairs.

We are grateful to Matt Chilcott [very successful in the 2006 exam] for programming questions and answers so that children can run through these on the lap top and get a good idea of the content as well as realise their success rate.

REMUERA INTERMEDIATE EXCHANGE [Auckland] 13th May – 18th May

On Sunday 13 May, up to 30 pupils, two teachers and a parent, will fly to Auckland where they will be met by their billets from Remuera Intermediate School. . From Monday 14 May to Friday 18 May, they will be engaged in a number of educational activities at Remuera

and other venues around Auckland. This programme will be developed by the host school and the group finally flies home on Friday.

In addition to airfares there will be other costs during the week such as bus fares and entries to venues and social activities. Until the programme is finalised, we can only guess at the final cost. Based on last years figures this is likely to be around \$550.

Details on the trip and data required in the short CV, have been handed out to children and discussed on Monday 19th March. Further information and assistance can be gained by contacting Mr Hutton.

Applications for this trip must be received by **Monday 2nd April**

Mathematics

Over the last few weeks our maths groups have been finalised thus enabling children of like ability to be working together with syndicate mates on mathematical matters at their level. In many cases your child could be working with another teacher in the syndicate and not the class teacher. Progress checks are on-going and if children are finding the work too hard or too easy then a regrouping may occur.

At the end of the day we want our children to be happy in their learning and gaining a greater understanding of this curriculum area as they move through the year.

Tahuna Hockey

Miss McKee and Mrs Stuart are still taking names of budding hockey players who want to play for the school .

If you are keen then please see them as soon as possible as teams have to be finalised in the near future.

Congratulations

It was great to hear that some Tahuna pupils gave their best in the triathlon at Macandrew Bay on Sunday 11th March.

Those to stand out were Cameron Burrow, Sam Paris and Jamie Mowat who won the team section in the short-course option. Cameron Burrow completed the full course as an individual, finishing 17th overall and an amazing third in the Junior men's section. There is a rumour out there that Hamish Carter heard of these outstanding results which prompted an early retirement.

I did say rumour!!

Well done to all involved.

Process Technology



Students working with Mr Boyes have been busy with robotics. The making

something out of Lego is a start, but then programming into the computer steps to ensure it moves as you want it to is another development. These boys used a split axle too to have their machine complete the desired circular movement, with wheels programmed to move in the opposite directions.



All smiles as they complete their constructions with pulleys.

The classroom was a real buzz of activity with students working on such a variety of activities. Real learning and lots of fun. Well done all.

Dear Editor

I think smacking kids should be banned.

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of child abuse and it needs to be stopped. Smacking your kids won't teach them anything it will only make them cry louder.

If parents are going through a hard time they need to get help but they should never lash out at their children.

Kids look up to their parents as role models and it is very common that smacked children can grow up to be violent and abusive to their children.

Smacking children is wrong and should be against the law.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Shannon

Diary Dates

Tuesday 20th + Wednesday 21st March – Yr 7 lunch time Netball trials on school courts.

Wednesday 21st March, 2.00 pm – Rm 6 arrive back from camp.

Thursday 22 March, 9.50 – 11.10am. Group of Yr 8 children to attend OGHS Clubs Programme.

Friday 23rd March, 2.00 massed singing of National Anthem + 2.20pm – Techno Presentation at Assembly

Monday 26th March – Anniversary Day Holiday – School shut.

Tuesday 27th March – Room 13 off to camp.

Thursday 29th March, 12.30 – 1.45 Multicultural Group to attend Pacific Expo at the Edgar Centre.

Friday 30th March, 2.10 – Rms 16-17-18 Assembly

Friday 30th, 11.00 – 2.00 Lit Quiz at Dunedin North Int.

Sunday 1st April 4.00pm – Rm 1 off to Camp

Monday 2nd April – Last day for Remuera applications to be handed in.

Monday 2 – 4th April – Self Defence Sessions for Yr8 Girls.

Wednesday 4th April, Room 1 back from camp around 2.00pm + 7.00- 9.00pm – Disco by invitation.

Thursday 5th April, 9.00 – 12.00 – School Swimming Sports at Moana Pool.

Thursday 5th April - Last day of Term 1.

Good Friday 6th April – Holiday.

Monday 23rd April – Term 2 commences.