

Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

The school year has started very positively and students are well settled and all our programmes are underway. Year 7 Camps commenced last week at Tirohanga and Year 8 Camps will start at Waiora next week. Thank you to the parents and caregivers that are able to assist with these events. Tahuna fully supports EOTC experiences with extra staff provided, and we appreciate the support from our community.

We have also had our Meet the Teacher evenings that were very well attended. This was an important step towards building the working relationship between home and school. Thank you for your time so we could outline many important points that will help make 2012 a success. Keeping up a good line of communication with your child's teacher is vital throughout the year so either using the homework book or email direct to your teacher are good ways to keep in touch.

Parent / Teacher Interviews are in Week 6 (the following week for Rooms R.1 & R.11 who are on camp) so they will also be an opportunity for you to establish a good rapport with your child's teacher. To get the time you wish, book early.

Tony Hunter
Principal

Parent / Teacher Interviews March 6th & 7th

Parent / Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 6th March 3.30 – 5.30 pm & 6.00 – 8.30 pm and Wednesday 7th March 3.30 – 5.30 pm to discuss your child's progress and any concerns you, or their classroom teacher may have. Interviews will be 10 minutes in duration. Rooms 1 & 11 will have their interviews on the 13th and 14th March. All bookings can be done on-line.

Book on-line

You can book the interviews yourself through the internet by visiting www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and entering the school code **FA6EL** and then following the steps on the website.

If you are unable to access the internet just contact the school office and we will do the booking for you.

Congratulations

Swimming

Between 25 – 29 January, Tame Govoerts swam in the Otago / Canterbury Swimming championships. He had good competition in the 12 -13yr age group but came through to win gold in the 100m Breaststroke and bronze in the 50m Breaststroke.

Fitness Run Success for R6 Children



The above group of new Year 7 children in Room 6 were delighted to make the time criteria for our eight lap run over 2400metres. Each is holding their Bronze badge which no doubt by now will be sewn on their polar fleece sleeve.

New Zealand Inline Speed Skating Champion



Mark Mc Cormack proudly wears his three medals won recently at the NZ Inline Speed Skating Championships held in Blenheim. Mark raced in the Juvenile Division and took gold in the 500m and silver in the 1Km and 2Km. Well done Mark.

Letting us Know

Children are asked to see Mr Hutton if they have had successes / good news which should be celebrated through the newsletter. Parents can also let me know of news worthy items.
keithhutton@tahuna.school.nz

Y.I P. Awards



The following have been successful in receiving their awards at recent assemblies.

Silver

Sophie Mears
Anika Fraser
Jack Verhoef

Newsletters

Newsletters are normally sent home each fortnight on Wednesdays. You can also have a copy emailed to you, or view them on our website. If you would like to be added to the emailing list, please let me know on -
tahuna@tahuna.school.nz.

Diary Dates.

- Tuesday 14 February 3.30 – 5.00 – After school art class starts in Rm 18.
- Wednesday 15- 17 February Mrs Stuart's class [R14] at camp.
- Wednesday 15- 17 February Mr Phillips class [17] at camp.
- Thursday 16 February – Water Polo starts at Moana Pool.
- Monday 20 February Ms Connor's class [R15] at camp.
- Monday 20 - 24 February Mr Scoles and Miss Jamieson at camp.
- Wednesday 22 – 24 February Miss O'Leary's class [R18] at camp.

- Monday 27th February- Mrs Reddington's class and Mr Owen's class at camp.
- Thursday 5 April – 9.00 – 12.00 School Swimming Sports at Moana Pool.
- Thursday 5th April- Term 1 ends

Health Nurse talks to Yr 8 Girls about the HPV Vaccines.



Nicky our new Health Nurse talked to our Y8 girls about HPV vaccines. All Yr 8 girls are asked to return their permission slips for the HPV vaccines by Wednesday no matter whether they are having it or not. Thank you.

Resene's Random Acts of Using our School Values



Mrs Toa presents Alex McDonald with her prize after Duncan New has spun the winning number.

Congratulations to **ALEX McDONALD** who was the lucky recipient of the RESENE'S GOODIE BAG this week. Our value was **RESPECT** and it was pleasing to see that so many of our students apply this in their every day life.

Nathan's Holiday Highlight

In the holidays I attended an Education for Life seminar on the Gold Coast. I met Jamie McIntyre, the wealthiest businessman in Australia. He is tall, wears a business suit every day, has short, upped brown hair and is around his 30's. He was at the 4 day seminar and talked about business and motivation.

On the first day he introduced himself as a rich person and wanted to motivate us to be wealthy. He said that by being active and motivated, you can do anything. The seminar started at 9am and finished at 11pm, with only one dinner break.

There were other guest speakers who had their own subjects that they excel on, such as Warren Buffet and Lee Wong and many more. Lee excelled at Internet Accounting and other subjects that were covered were Social Business and creating Shares. Another topic he discussed was exercising. He taught me how to break a block of wood with my bare hands!! I learnt a lot at that seminar and I hope it is not wasted when I finish university!

Nathan Choun Rm4

An Experience From the First Camp of 2012

On the first morning of camp I woke really tired. When I got up I immediately realized that it was raining like mad so we had to drop the tents in world record time! I had an awesome breakfast - scrambled eggs and French toast – Yum. We then did some awesome activities like electric spiders, grass skiing, drawing and walking on a tight rope blindfolded. Lunch was spectacular – pizza and sausages. Bivvy building in the nearby woods followed. When we arrived back at camp we had a camp fire and for dinner we had

burgers and chips. Then it rained more than I have ever seen so we ran out and played in it. Later we played some funny games like hitting an orange with another orange tied around your waist. IT WAS AWESOME!! Camp was a KNOCK OUT.

Kate Higham



Olivia, Blaire and Kate from R8 told me about their charcoal sketches created at Camp Tirohanga last week.

Bumper Crop for Eco Group



Arie Bloemsaat and Liam Kinraid get their hands dirty digging the spuds.

Last week was time to harvest the annual potato crop in the vegetable garden. We had about a dozen tyre stacks for our spuds this year and were very happy with the crop. The spuds were sold to the staff and we are hoping to use the proceeds to buy a grape vine. We now have

more space for our activities and are looking forward to doubling our capacity for next year. We have focused on growing herbs in the raised beds and these have taken off over the summer. Eco leaders Arie and Liam from Room 1 did a good job looking after the gardens over the holidays. Our next jobs are to plant more herbs and some winter vegetables.

Itinerant Music Teachers Perform at Friday Assembly



Last Friday we were lucky to have the itinerant music teachers in to perform a variety of pieces on a wide range of instruments. Each year these specialists provide a great little concert where their individual talent is blended to provide some outstanding music. Children have the opportunity to learn a good range of instruments and if you have any question about lessons and instrument hire then please contact Mr Nigel Waters on 4553994.



Learning a Musical Instrument at Tahuna

Tahuna provides fantastic opportunities for our students to learn musical instruments during school hours. We host several Itinerant Music Teachers who provide high quality, professional tuition every week to small groups of children. The range of instruments being taught this year includes piano, guitar, violin, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and drums.

Costs for tuition and instrument hire vary but are very reasonable. The convenience of learning at school during class time is a real bonus for those busy, active students who play sport or have other commitments after school or at the weekend.

Instrumental Music is coordinated by Mr Waters, who also conducts the school's orchestra. Classes begin next week, so if your child would enjoy the opportunity to learn a musical instrument while at Tahuna, or you would simply like further information, please contact Mr Waters by email (nigelwaters@tahuna.school.nz). Alternatively your child is welcome to go and see him in Room 10.

Academy Music

Academy: provides an orchestral and ensemble experience for late-primary and secondary school students who play their instrument at a grade 3 – 6 level. The academy has a string section and a woodwind section which rehearse both together and separately. It will meet on Thursday evenings between 7 and 8.30pm for school terms 2 and 3. For further information, or to book a place, contact sandy@garner.net.nz or phone 4822 764 (Anthony Ritchie and Sandy Garner).

Touch Rugby

Touch Rugby is a sport available to Tahuna students, however it is led by parents each year. It is held at the Oval on Thursdays. If you are interested in taking a team, or your team is continuing from last year, please contact me as soon as possible at: saloterouvi@tahuna.school.nz or through the school office. Touch starts for Tahuna on Thursday 23rd February.

Thanking you
Salote Rouvi

Ben's Holiday Highlight

From the 5th to the 23rd of January I competed in the 2012 Queenstown Chess Classic, which was held in the Millennium Hotel in Queenstown. The tournament was 9 rounds, with a time control of 100 minutes per player for the first 40 moves. There was an additional 50 minutes for 20 moves, then 15 minutes after that, with 30 seconds added on for each move. Some of my games went for 5 hours!! There was one game a day which began at 3pm. Overall it was an incredible experience and I enjoyed it.
Ben Clayton Rm4

Technology



Oliver Edmunds from Room 5 made a splendid job of his aluminium cocktail glass at last week's technology class. First of all he had to beat the aluminium into its bowl like shape and then

he used pot rivets to join it altogether. Oliver found a plastic straw to add the final touch.

Chocolate Fundraiser



Keen sellers select their next box to sell.

Thanks to all parents and caregivers who have supported our yearly fundraiser to date. The return response over the last few days has been outstanding and we are on target to be able to purchase safety beacons for the outdoors and the Apple I-Pads. Children have been encouraged to do their bit and we acknowledge that the length of selling and amount sold varies from child to child. Once selling has run its course we ask that money and/or chocolate are returned promptly to Mr Hutton in the shop. All classes have been prepared for this two week promotion and we talked about -

- Being safe out selling - best to sell in pairs .
- Not to sell when it's dark .
- Care for chocolates and money – Keep them safe.
- School uniform recommended to be worn and politeness a must.
- Return \$ and /or chocolates when you have sold what you can.

Researching Robots for Technology



- A **robot** is a mechanical device that can perform tasks automatically or with guidance. Often directed by remote control.
- **Lego Mindstorms NXT** is a programmable [robotics](#) kit released by [Lego](#) in late July 2006.^[1]
- It replaced the first-generation [Lego Mindstorms](#) kit, which was called the [Robotics Invention System](#).
- It comes with the NXT-G programming software, or optionally LabVIEW for LEGO MINDSTORMS.



Reference: Google.com in wikipedia and google images

By Alicia Mckean
and
Monique Restieaux in Rm11.