

Tauraroa Area School

www.tauraroa.school.nz

03 February 2023

Phone: 432-2643

Please 'Like' our Facebook page or visit the school website for ongoing updates of school activities.

CALENDAR 2023

7 Feb	Whole school -
10 Feb	Waka Toa competition
13 Feb	Painting starts (Tech block)
16 Feb	Te Manawa Tahī (9:00-12:00)
21, 22 Feb	Northtec L2 Barista Course
22 Feb	5:30pm Whānau hangī
23-26 Feb	L2/3 DVC Trip (KC) Rotorua
27 Feb-3 Mar	Y11 Camp - Tangihua
28 Feb-1 Mar	Northtec L2 Barista Course
1 Mar	Northtec L2 Barista Course
1 Mar	NSSSA Y9-10 Boys Cricket (GM) Kensington Park
6-7 March	Year 9KC Camp
8 March	Gateway Health & Safety Course @ TAS
9-10 March	Year 9AL Camp
13, 16, 17	March Gateway First Aid Course @ TAS
14-15 March	Year 9VC Camp
17 March	Y12 Biology Rocky Shore trip
21-23 March	Y5/6 Camp (MN)
29 March	SGCNZ (Shakespeare) @ WBHS 5-9pm
30 March	Gateway Wai Fencing Workshop
6 April	End of Term 1
25 April	ANZAC Day
26 April	Start of Term 2
5 June	King's Birthday holiday
20 June	Y11-13 to King Lear Production (AKL)
26-28 June	Northtec Mobile Automotive Workshop
30 June	End of Term 2
17 July	Start of Term 3
26-29 Aug	NZ Junior Secondary School National Basketball Tournament
2-8 Sept	AIMS Games - TAS Hockey
18-22 Sept	Y12/13 Tourism Trip (AC) Waitomo/Rotorua
22 Sept	EOT 3
9 Oct	SOT 4
23 Oct	Labour Day
12 Dec	EOT 4



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From the Principal



Huri ano te mihi kia koutou, no rēira tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

It has been a real pleasure to welcome our Y11-13 students back to school today (Friday). There is an air of expectation and determination as our students and teachers look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead.

I have been reminding the school (and myself) of our powerful and always relevant school vision: “To be the best that we can be”. This does NOT mean living at full throttle, being ‘perfect’, avoiding failure or making comparisons with others.

It DOES mean:

- Getting the small things right. These are the things that don’t require special abilities or qualifications - punctuality, courtesy, language, dress, meeting deadlines, extending manaakitanga
- Being a positive influence on those around us
- Accepting mistakes and failure as part of learning and personal growth.
- Building on our strengths and addressing our weaknesses
- Taking responsibility for ourselves, while watching out for others
- Choosing our reactions and mindset even when circumstances are not our fault. (The best poker players are not the ones who are consistently lucky in the hands they are dealt. They are the ones who react and make the best choices with the cards they have.)

Being the best that we can be is a team effort. Everyone needs to be on board. We are counting on each other to build a purposeful and enjoyable learning focussed environment, supported by whānau, our board and the wider community.

In our classroom practice, we want to focus on learning and teaching. We will be insisting that those things that might distract from this are dealt with through strong, clear and enforced routines. This means that students can quickly get onto learning activities with minimal instruction and no wasted time:

- Students and teachers are punctual to class
- Silent work or listening can be expected in every class (although some activities will include plenty of talk and noise)
- Phones are put away and turned off
- Uniform standards are maintained by everyone
- Due dates are firm and consistent

I wish to extend a very warm welcome to all the students and whānau who are new to Tauraroa AS. Thank you for choosing our school. I look forward to walking with you on your journey as we provide opportunities for learning and growth. It is quite remarkable that our youngest students may be with us through to 2036!

Our school year for the whole school will be underway on Tuesday, 7 February. We ask that new students report to the school library and returning students go to the gymnasium for our pōwhiri, which will get underway at 8:50am. Families of new students are more than welcome to attend this event. Our full, normal timetable will be underway from period 3 (11:10am).

Please mark your calendars for our 22 February school hāngi. This free event is open to all students and whānau, made possible by donations of kai.

Huri ano te mihi kia koutou, no rēira tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

Grant Burns
Principal

IN MEMORY

Our school community was rocked by news of the death of former student, Cinda Sione-Lauaki in a car accident just before Christmas. Our aroha goes out to Cinda's whānau and other loved ones at this time of loss and grief.

Staff News

- Congratulations to **Maree Neethling** (nee Nicholl) on her wedding in South Africa in December and to **Felicity Searle** on her recent engagement 🍷
- Congratulations to Associate Principal, **Helen Kinsey-Wightman**, on her appointment as principal of Ruakaka Primary commencing in Term 2. This follows on the heels of **Andy Mouat** who has taken up his new position as principal at Excellere College.
- **Ray Petrie** will continue as an acting Deputy Principal for Term 1 - looking after day to day organisation, buses, EOTC. **Justin Downes** has stepped into the Y11 Dean position for this period
- It is a pleasure to welcome:
 - **Virendra Prasad** to our mathematics team, joining us from Hawera High School.
 - **Rachael Ansley** in R4 (Y3) to 10 March while Hollie Brotherhood (and family) have travelled to the UK for family reasons.
 - **Deb O'Dell** is now 'officially' our HOD Māori, after kindly volunteering her services in this position last year.
 - **Debi Walters-Brown** is now our permanent head of Drama.
- **Gayle Perry** is taking parental leave through to Term 2, 2024. **Andrea Cameron** will be our acting head of health in Gayle's absence.
- **Chris Jenkins** has sabbatical leave for Term 1, with **Naomi Neumann** covering for his position p to 17 March
- In our Year 7/8 classes:
 - **Clare Newman** remains Room 9 teacher (and syndicate leader), with **Kyla Sneddon** in Room 10.
 - **Donna Most** is our new R11 homeroom teacher, while **Pauline Cant** takes part time study leave, is our head of sport and teaches Y9 mathematics.
 - **R13 Dave Sadgrove / Glenn McDonald** have shared responsibility

Uniform

A reminder that the correct uniform is to always be worn. [Link here](#)

Te Manawa Tahī Community Hub – Thursday 16 February 9:00-12:00

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional wellbeing, or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

This is a free service, and each site will be identified by a Te Manawa Tahī sign or flag. Drop into a hub or make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing TT.Support@education.govt.nz.

Breakfast Club

Volunteer staff and students will continue to offer Weetbix and other food to students from the tuck shop every day. We understand that hungry students don't learn, have energy or adequate concentration. We have an increasing number of families who struggle with the cost of nourishing food for their children. Donations of Weetbix, long-life milk and tinned fruit are most welcomed.

Music

TAS provides many opportunities for your child to learn an instrument and participate in musical ensembles such as jazz bands, choirs and rock bands. Students can learn guitar, bass, drums, vocals, clarinet, flute, sax, trumpet and trombone from specialist teachers. The lessons are free and consist of a weekly half hour during class time. Instruments are available for hire at \$20 per term except for guitar and drum kit, which students must provide for themselves at home (drum students can start with a practice pad and drum sticks). Students must be Year 5 or higher. Sign up forms are available from the school office.

Sustainable Rural Development (SRD)

We were pleased to find that the carrot crop planted by last year's SRD classes continued to thrive over the summer break!



Sport

Calling any interested parents or community members who would be interested in coaching a Tauraroa Area School sports team this year. If you are able and willing, please contact Julie Tarr - julie.tarr@tauraroa.school.nz. Looking forward to hearing from you.