

Tauraroa Area School

www.tauraroa.school.nz

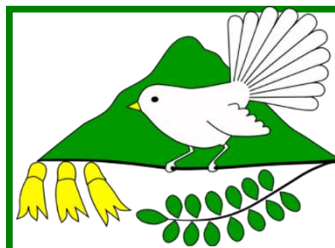
22 February 2022

Phone: 432-2643

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

Calendar 2022

24 Feb	Y11 PE Navigation Pukenui Forest 9:00-7:00pm
25 Feb	Y12 Biology Trip Waipu Cove
1 March	NSSSA Y7-8 Boys Cricket
2 March	NSSSA Y7-8 Girls Cricket
4 March	NSSSA Y9-13 Mountain Biking
7 March	Y11 PE Kayak Ngunguru Estuary
15 March	NSSSA Y9-13 Girls Volleyball
17 March	Y11 PE MTB Waitangi MTB Park
17 March	NSSSA Y9-13 Surfing Sandy Bay
21 March	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
22 March	Kathryn Burkett presentations to teachers (4pm) and parents (7pm) (online)
28 Mar/1 Apr	Relay for Life (at TAS through lunch hours)
14 April	End of Term 1
14-20 April	DOE Gold qualifier (on 'Hold' pending COVID regulations at the time)
15 April	Good Friday
2 May	Start of Term 2
16 May	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
6 June	Queen's Birthday holiday
20 June	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
24 June	Matariki holiday
8 July	End of Term 2
8-12 July	DOE Waitakere Ranges silver practice
25 July	Start of Term 3
15 Aug	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
12 Sept	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
30 Sept	End of Term 3
17 Oct	Start of Term 4
24 Oct	Labour Day holiday
31 Oct	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
9-11 Nov	Y4-6 camp Mangawhai
5 Dec	Board of Trustees meeting (5:30pm)
9 Dec	Prize giving ceremonies
	End of Term 4



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From the Principal's Desk

Ki ngā tangata katoa o to tatou whanui, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa: To all the people of our school community, greetings.

We have been notified of our first confirmed case of COVID in one of our school whanau. I want to reassure everyone that we are carefully following through with the necessary contact tracing measures (guided by the Ministry of Health). Our high rate of mask wearing has reduced the chances of the virus spreading further at school.

Our school year is off to a great start, with a real sense of purpose and determination evident among students and staff. Although the threat of disruption caused by the COVID-19 virus remains present, we are doing what we can to reduce the likelihood of it taking hold in our school and community. Further details are in this newsletter.

Our 2022 Charter is now being considered by the board and staff. Our clear goals are raising achievement in literacy (reading and writing) while further lifting overall excellence and equity in the senior school. Our school again showed why it is increasingly becoming a school of choice for senior students, with our NCEA results showing **Merit or Excellence endorsements** were gained by 52% of our Level 1 candidates, 35% Level 2 and a remarkable **64% of Level 3 students**. These figures are well above national averages.

I am very pleased to welcome Colette Davis, Robyn Riley and Gareth Gillatt to our learning assistants' team, as they support the learning and achievement of students with extra challenges.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Emer Quinn from her Year 4 teaching position this week. Emer has made a wonderful contribution to the school since joining us last year. We wish her well and congratulate her on her appointment to Maunu School. Felicity Searle will be our interim teacher for this class until our permanent appointment, Clare Newman starts in April.

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

Grant Burns
Principal

PAID UNION MEETING – 23 February (Wednesday)

Teachers who are members of the PPTA will be holding a paid union meeting on Wednesday afternoon. This means that, although our **Year 9-13** students will be supervised, we will not be holding regular classes for most of them in Period 5 (2:10-3:10). Parents and caregivers may pick their students up from school from 1:00pm on this day. Students will need to sign out of school as usual.

COVID-19

We are determined to continue to do everything we can as a school to reduce the chance of COVID impacting on learning and teaching. Measures include:

- All staff are fully vaccinated
- Teaching spaces are well ventilated, and students are spaced as widely as possible
- Curriculum-related physical activities are held outdoors
- Face masks are worn by students (from Y4) and staff when inside or on buses
- Good personal hygiene practices are followed
- Thorough cleaning of the school is undertaken daily
- Large gatherings (eg assemblies) are not being held
- Hand sanitizer is available to all students and staff
- Anyone feeling unwell is to stay home from school. If they have COVID-19 symptoms, they should *get tested and remain at home until a negative result is received and they are symptom free for 24 hours.*
- **Symptoms:**
 - A new or worsening cough
 - Sneezing and runny nose
 - A fever
 - Temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
 - Sore throat
 - Shortness of breath
 - Less common symptoms include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain or confusion/irritability.

In the case of a person diagnosed with COVID being on site, all close contacts of that person will be identified and notified of the need to get tested and isolate. These close contacts may now return to school on day eight if their day five test was returned negative and they are symptom free.

As a school, we are increasingly adopting a 'hybrid' approach to teaching programmes. This means using common tasks and online resources in classrooms that may also be used if students are learning from home. You will be asked to complete a survey shortly to let us know if your children don't currently have access to devices or internet connection.

The rules around vaccination requirements can be complicated! Please note the following requirements in force at present:

- Akonga (students) over 12 years and 3 months are able to access all education-related activities when at school regardless of their vaccination status, but they may need to show their My Vaccine Pass in order to participate in non-curriculum-related sports and activities held onsite
- Many sporting and cultural venues providing **non-curricular activities** will require evidence of a pass for participants
- All tamariki under 12 years and 3 months can participate in curriculum-related and extra-curricular activities, onsite and offsite, regardless of their vaccination status

2022 Head Students and Prefects

Our head students and prefects are doing a fantastic job! Our head students and prefects, with their portfolio areas, are as follows:

Head Students:	Brianna Powell (Service) Will Visser (Service)
Deputy Head Students:	Georgia Taylor (Cultural) Madoc Therkleson (Cultural)
Prefects:	Jessica Hill (Wellbeing) Shalise Hunt (Sports) Max Keay (Sports) Dahnika McCollum (Academic) Ryan Murray (Academic) Mark Yearbury-Murphy (Wellbeing)

NCEA MERIT AND EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS

Considering the disruption to their learning throughout 2021 our Year 11, 12 and 13 students deserve recognition of their outstanding successes in NCEA courses.

Just over half (21) of the Year 13 NCEA Level 3 students achieved at least one Merit or Excellence course endorsement. Of particular note were:

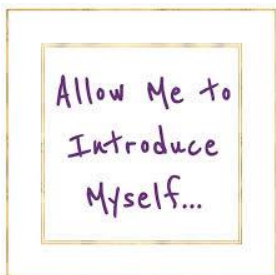
- **Hayden Burns** - 4 Subject Excellence endorsements
- **Sam Buckwell** - 3 Subject Excellence endorsements and 2 Merits
- **Trinity Parker** - 3 Subject Excellence endorsements and 1 Merit
- **Hannah Winters-Dodd** - 2 Subject Excellence endorsements and 3 Merits

Just over a third (20) of the Year 12 NCEA Level 2 students achieved at least one Merit or Excellence course endorsement. Of particular note were:

- **Jessica Hill** - 4 Subject Excellence endorsements
- **Mark Yearbury-Murphy** - 3 Subject Excellence endorsements and 2 Merits
- **Will Visser** - 3 Subject Excellence endorsements
- **Ryan Murray** - 2 Subject Excellence endorsements and 3 Merits
- **Ayla Truman** - 2 Subject Excellence endorsements and 2 Merits

Just over half of the Year 11 NCEA Level 1 students (31) achieved at least one Merit or Excellence course endorsement. Of particular note were:

- **Charlotte Atkinson** - 5 Subject Excellence endorsements and 1 Merit
- **Emily Dainty** - 5 Subject Excellence endorsements and 1 Merit
- **Jennifer Burchett** - 4 Subject Excellence endorsements and 2 Merits
- **Tobin Stevens** - 4 Subject Excellence endorsements and 2 Merits
- **Ashley Mansell** - 2 Subject Excellence endorsements and 4 Merits
- **Amelie Loots** - 4 Subject Excellence endorsements and 1 Merit
- **Blake Nicholson** - 2 Subject Excellence endorsements and 3 Merits



Ko Mendips te maunga

Ko Severn te awa

Ko Ingarangi te iwi

Ko Helen Kinsey-Wightman toku ingoa



It is a real privilege to be the new Associate Principal at Te Kura Takiwa o Taurarua with a responsibility for learning and teaching in the school. I have had a warm welcome from staff and students. I recently moved up from Palmerston North where I was the Deputy Principal at Palmerston North Girls' High School. I am really enjoying life in an Area school and look forward to meeting more of our community members in the coming weeks and months.



Wanted – Washed or Unwashed ...

Y11 - 13 TAS Basketball singlets (and those of former Y3-10 players not playing in the current 2022 competitions) to be returned to the school office as soon as possible for a stocktake.

Youth Development Voyage

If you're aged between 13 and 18, you can sign up for an adventure of a lifetime, and develop your confidence, leadership and teamwork skills.

Your 7-day sailing voyage aboard the R. Tucker Thompson will take you places that you normally can't reach by road. It will be an experience you will remember forever.

If you are interested, meet on Thursday 24th February, at 1.15 pm in D3 with Whaea Christine.



Breakfast Club Donations

Thank you to our staff and parent community for your donations towards breakfast club. We have a lot of cereals, but 'Friday Toast Day' is going down a real treat! We would be incredibly grateful for any donations of bread, jams, or spreads.

Any donations of intermediate-sized hockey sticks no longer being used, would be appreciated!



Community Library

Under the current Red light setting, please note that members of the public can only come into the library when there are no students present. We have a library timetable which will help you to know what times of day you may come. If you would like a copy, please email library@tauraroa.school.nz or phone 4322643 ext 825. There is also an opportunity to come in after school hours, from 3:10 to 3:30pm, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. A contactless collection of books can also be arranged.

Attendance

Student attendance is monitored daily and recorded electronically, period by period, by the class teacher.

An important reminder that parents are expected to contact the school to explain absences of their children **before 9:00am on the day of an absence**. If known, parents/caregivers should advise the school of an impending absence **ahead of time**. This ensures that attendance is marked promptly at the start of each day and our records are accurate.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



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