



Te Kura Maori o Nga Tapuwae

TERM 3 INFORMATION

Friday 9th July 2021

Tēnā koutou e ngā Mātua,

Thank you to all students, staff, parents and whānau for the hard work put into academic studies, sporting, extra-curricular and cultural aspects undertaken during the past term. Here are a few reminders of what you need to know for the first part of Term 3.

Term 3 Starts ~ Monday 26th July

School will begin with karakia at 8:30am sharp on Monday 26th July so please ensure your child arrives promptly. There have been excessive lateness and absences this past term and we want to ensure that Term 3 does not continue in this fashion. Therefore, we need your help to ensure your child does not miss out on any learning as 5 hours per day is a huge amount to miss and is often too difficult to catch up on. So, please ensure your child is only absent if s/he is unwell or for extenuating circumstances.

Ngā Manu Kōrero ~ Friday 30th July

We are hosting the Regional Ngā Manu Kōrero Speech Competition here at school on Friday 30th July. This is an all day event where schools and whānau come from across the South & East Auckland region to compete to represent Te Whāitua o Uenuku at the National Competition in Palmerston North in September. As we will have hundreds of visitors onsite our Year 1 - 10 students will be going on Education Outside the Classroom trips for the day.

Whānau Hui ~ Monday 2nd August

The Board has identified that the next Whānau Hui date will be on Monday 2nd August at 7pm. There are a couple of big kaupapa that they'd like to discuss with you and get feedback on before making decisions. Therefore, please ensure that you calendarize this date and that there is at least one member of your whānau in attendance on the 2nd August.

Teacher Only Days for NKAI Conference ~ Thurs 5th & Fri 6th August

This is a friendly reminder that school will be closed on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th August for Teacher Only Days. All staff will be travelling to Rotorua to attend the Ngā Kura ā Iwi National Conference as our annual full staff professional development. Please ensure that you make alternative arrangements for your child/ren as there won't be any teachers onsite to supervise them.

Bento Boxes & Cutlery ~ Everyday

Please take the opportunity during these school holidays to check your child still has their Bento Boxes (pack of 2) and their cutlery. They need to bring their cutlery and one bento per day to receive their free lunch. If they do not have their Bento Box then you can purchase a replacement for \$7 from our school office.

Sporting Overview

We are extremely proud of all of the students and teams who participated in inter-school, regional and national sports over the past term. We are highly invested in the overall wellness of our students and we know that sport plays a very positive role in increasing their wellbeing. We are excited that we have qualified for 5 national sporting competitions this year and a huge thanks must go to the PE staff and parent/whānau coaches led by Mā Chapman for making this a possibility for our students and Kura.

We do however want to say that it is disappointing to hear some of the negative feedback or sideline moans from some parents. We have had coaches volunteer their time and they all come with expertise and a passion for their sport and your children, so it is disheartening to hear that some whānau have been disrespectful to them. If you want to coach, please contact Mā Chapman and she will add you to the list for next year otherwise please keep your thoughts to yourself. We want to keep the coaches that we do have as they give up a lot of time to teach and support your children so please don't whakaiti them as they don't deserve it! I am also concerned to hear parents yelling at their children and laughing/mockingly when they make a mistake or miss a conversion/try/goal. As a parent you would be livid and take exception if a staff member behaved in that way so as an advocate for your child - I ask that all parents only give positive encouragement. Too often I have been approached by parents, coaches and staff about negative comments that have been heard. One of the regular moans is when our teams aren't winning or aren't at a high skill level. Please remember that some students have only just started playing these sports this year. Our aim is to get as many of our students participating in as many sports as possible and winning is never our sole focus. There are teams that have highly skilled players and are on a different trajectory which is great but what is awesome is that our sports participation numbers have quadrupled this past term. I know that practice makes perfect but you can't be an expert if you don't start by showing up and participating whilst building your skill level. So please encourage those of our whānau who are very opinionated to use words of encouragement for our children.

On that note, I'd like to acknowledge all of the parents and whānau who come along every week or as often as they can to support their children at our various sporting codes. It is awesome to hear all of the Reo Māori being spoken on the sidelines and our students respond so positively. We have also had a number of competing schools, teachers and parents comment on how beautiful it is to hear our students, staff and parents speaking Māori. It also has prompted some of them to slip in the odd Māori word while speaking to their own students. I love that our parents are using and normalising Te Reo Māori in environments outside of our

school and marae gates. So, I really want to thank you all for not only being fantastic ambassadors of Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwāe but of us as a people!

Niki Browne & Anita Lomas

We would like to farewell Niki Browne who is going on maternity leave for the remainder of the year. We wish her all the very best and look forward to seeing the new baby. In her absence, we will have Anita Lomas on reception. She has been in training with Niki over the past couple of weeks so you may have already met her. We are glad to have Anita on board and she looks forward to meeting everyone at Whānau Hui if not before.

Special Acknowledgements

I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Scott Gemmell our Board Chairperson who has led our Whānau Hui and written monthly newsletters to keep everyone informed of progress from a BOT and parent perspective. Thank you also to the Board members who attend monthly hui and participate in different aspects of school life!

I would also like to acknowledge Christine Smith who is a Nanny of a couple of our students. She volunteers three days per week in our kitchen and loves all of the tamariki who pop in to Breakfast Club.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who help with resources, trips etc as well as our coaches and managers. Thank you all as we couldn't do what we do for your children without you.

Take care during the holidays and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office on Ph: 09 551 6161 or via email: info@ngatapuwaee.school.nz

Ngā manaakitanga



Arihia Stirling
Principal