

TOKOROA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

10 February 2010

Term 1 - No.2



www.tokoroa.school.nz

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Kia Ora Kia Orana Talofa Lava Greetings

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A warm welcome to all those families returning and new families as we start this year. Like always, we are hoping that the children settle early and we will be looking after their learning in a safe and settled atmosphere.

Rick Rudolph

Board of Trustees Chairperson

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PLAN

Attached to today's newsletter is the school's Discipline Plan, which is a Board of Trustee Policy. It is important that parents as well as students know, what our Discipline Plan involves.

MEET THE TEACHER

next Tuesday 16th February between 3.30 and 5.00 pm

This opportunity to have a brief meeting with your child's teacher is available next week. The main purpose is to start the process of the parents and teachers working together to learn what is needed to assist/support each child's learning. These meetings are by nature very short and informal. Some parents/caregivers may wish to make a further time to have an extended conversation. (Please also remember there will be formal interviews in week 9).

To allow teachers to plan this time, please contact the school office or your child's teacher and indicate your attendance and the approximate time you are coming.

As mentioned above - in week 9 there will be a written report and interview opportunity. This will further involve you in the process of assisting / supporting your child to reach their next step in learning in the basic subjects of Reading, Written Language and Mathematics.

STUDENT DETAILS UPDATE

With this newsletter we are sending home a form with all the contact and personal details we have on file for your child. Please check, correct where necessary, sign the form and return it to school as soon as possible. It is important that all information we hold is accurate and up to date. This is especially important for contact names and numbers in an emergency.

All students who identify as Maori, we require iwi information on the form. This is a ministry requirement, as it is to have each form signed.

BOT MEETING

This will be held next Wednesday, 17th February at 7pm in the staff room.

TE REO MAORI

On Monday we sent home a notice with a reply slip for our Te Reo Extension classes. These classes will take place each Friday morning. If you would like your child to have Te Reo Maori lessons, please return the form to the school office by Friday 12th February.

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME 2010

This year public health nurses will be delivering two different vaccinations at Tokoroa Intermediate School; one is for all Year 7 students the other is for Year 8 girls only.

All Year 7 students will be offered the Boostrix vaccine which is a booster for their early childhood immunisations of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough).

Year 8 students (girls only) will be offered the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine.

Information about these vaccines will be given to the two student groups at school and information sessions will include watching the relevant Ministry of Health DVDs ('Year Seven Immunisations' or 'HPV Vaccine Information - a vaccine to help prevent cervical cancer'). You are welcome to attend.

If you do not want your child to attend these sessions, please send a letter to the office asking for your child to be excused.

- Consent forms will be given to your child at the information session.
- Please complete the consent form
 - answer all the questions
 - return the form to school.
- If your child is not being vaccinated at school you still need to fill in the relevant sections with your child's name and details on it and return it to school.

EACH CHILD'S FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

The public health nurse at Tokoroa Intermediate school is Raewyn Matthew, Ph. 021 227 5388 or 886 0020 ext. 856.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

The Board of Trustees elections will be held on 7th May 2010. If you are interested in becoming a trustee, you are welcome to attend Board Meetings or contact the Principal for more information.

GRAFFITI

The school has a 'No Graffiti' policy. This includes school books, bags, caps or anything brought to school.

Please assist us by ensuring that your child does not bring 'graffitied' items to school. Books that are 'graffitied' may be confiscated and replaced at the student's expense.

SWIMMING SPORTS

The school swimming sports were held today at the town pools. Results will be published next week.



STUDENT ABSENCES



If your child is away from school, we would appreciate a phone call as we carry out absence checks every day and use the services of Tokoroa Truancy Service. Our school is working with the Ministry of Education on an initiative to reduce absenteeism. There will be further details of this in future newsletters.

VISITORS TO SCHOOL - Must check in at the office

It is important that visitors check in at the office. This includes parents/guardians. Although it may be an inconvenience it is to ensure student safety and welfare.

There are three main reasons for this:

1. There are a number of students attending our school who have protection and court orders against family members having any contact with them.
2. To help us prevent older youths coming onto our grounds and hassling and intimidating our students.
3. To help us prevent people who have no right or authority to be in our grounds mixing with our students.

When you call at the office you will be given a permission slip.

FUN FAMILY BIKE WISE EVENT

Saturday 20th February from 10am at Lake Moana Nui, Maraetai Road carpark. Junior obstacle course and then a mass bike ride around the lake. Heaps of spot prizes. Get your bike checked during the week leading up to the event at South Waikato Cycles and Lawncare on Roseberry Street for free. Everyone welcome. For details phone Heather on 886 9002.

JEWELLERY, HAIR, UNIFORM

The school Board has made the following statements:

Jewellery – "The only jewellery that can be worn to school is a watch, signet ring, taonga and, children with pierced ears, a maximum of two studs. With taonga they must be worn inside school uniforms".

Hair – "Schools are not the venue for showing off the latest fashion and from time to time the Board of Trustees will advise parents of fashion which is not acceptable. Hair must be the student's natural colour and not have accessories which are a safety concern or make a fashion statement in it". Children who ignore this policy do run the risk of missing out on socials, sports trips, etc.

Mrs Stobie and Mr Fisher (our Deputy Principals) will be starting checks shortly. Please assist us by ensuring these rules are adhered to.

Unless there are special circumstances all students must follow the uniform policy. If special circumstances do exist please contact the Principal, Mr Straw, or the Deputy Principals, Mrs Stobie for Year 8 students or Mr Fisher for Year 7 students, to discuss the matter. We would appreciate your co-operation.

PIANO LESSONS

Private lessons are available at the school again this year. Phone Paul Bowers-Mason on 883 8116 to book a lesson time.

PE GEAR

A reminder to parents that part of our uniform policy is PE gear. We require students to change into correct PE gear for all PE lessons and sport. The correct gear is:

- Plain black shorts
- Red school t-shirt or a plain red t-shirt

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TELSTRA CLEAR REWARD POINTS

If any parent has a cell phone, broadband or landline on the Telstra Clear network the school can get reward points similar to the now defunct Telecom scheme.

If you are a customer of Telstra Clear and would like to sign up for the reward system, you can do this online on www.intelligentrewards.co.nz or contact the school office for a registration form.