

17 June 2010

Dear Parents

This week is Gifted and Talented Awareness Week and I thought that it would be a good chance to feature what we do at Tawa Intermediate School to meet the needs of this group of students.

Students can be gifted and talented in many ways and, as a school, we work really hard to provide as many opportunities as possible in this area. We try to cluster groups of students who are academically gifted within classes. The research tells us of the importance of allowing like-minded students to learn together. We encourage able students to enter events such as the Australasian Competitions, the Literacy quiz, Mathswell, Otago Problem Solving and Science Fair.

We run academies for students who have gifts and talents in the area of the arts. We know that students relish the opportunity to practise and perform their gifts alongside other similarly talented peers. Last year we began an academy for Hard Materials as we recognised that being talented in this practical area was also something to be nurtured. This year we began a Leadership programme to foster the development of this gift within identified students.

Helen Moran is the Gifted and Talented co-ordinator for our school. Over the last two years she has set up on-line environments to connect like-minded students across the school and to allow students to participate in gifted and talented learning outside the regular hours of the classroom. The area to connect our avid readers is called Bibliomania and is a place for students to recommend and discuss books. TIS Writers is the place gifted writers can share their work with their peers and give and receive feedback. Gifted mathematicians are catered for in an area called Ultramaths. Helen also organises regular times for the students in these on-line groups to meet face to face as this is something that they particularly enjoy.

Students gain access to the various programmes via parent, teacher and/or primary school identification. Unfortunately we have to audition for places in the academies simply because there are more students wanting places than we can offer. We also ask parents to be in regular contact with their child's teacher if they think we are not providing enough 'stretch' in the learning.

Helen and I attended a symposium on gifted and talented education this week. It provided us with an opportunity to reflect on what we are currently doing for gifted and talented students in our school. As with many other areas of the school, we are constantly reviewing what we are doing and coming up with strategies to do even better and, as always, we welcome hearing from our parent community.

I am looking forward to meeting with many of our parents in the library tonight while the kids disco the night away. It is not too late to join us at 6.30pm. There will be plenty of delicious cake to go around...

Warm regards

Carolyn Stuart
Principal

Room



The cross country has been a highlight for Room 1 this term. Jess Kerr came first and Makaylah Mason-Jones came second. Sadly Kate Olsson-Thwaites was away sick, because we had a really good chance of coming 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Year 8 girls. A huge effort was put in by Room 1 and we had loads of students coming in the top 30. Jess also went on to win the Inter-intermediate Cross Country competition.

To keep up with the running theme, we had to write a short story about running that included lots of descriptive language. Here are some examples.

BANG! The loud sound of the starting gun starts the cross country.
I am near the back so I speed up. Sweat starts running down my face like a waterfall.
My heart is pounding faster and faster, it feels like my heart is going to smash through my chest.
I'm nearly at the top of the hill, keep going I tell myself. My legs are dying. Every metre I gain towards the finish line.
My lungs are pumping as much air as they can handle. They are about to burst!!
Nearly there, I speed past people to the end.

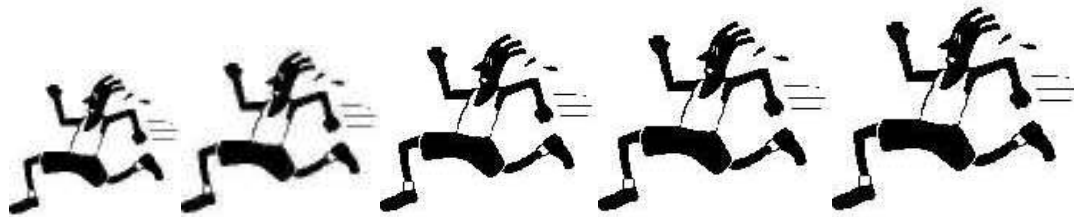
By Kyle

Bouncing up and down, the wind rushing in my face. Speeding down the hill... My blood boiling and my legs on fire.
My heart beats faster and faster still, legs screaming to stop. Lungs expand like a balloon. I speed around the corner
CRASH!...

By Gus

Running Makes Me Happy

Sweat dripping down my red burning face, water splashing on my butt, my heart is pounding and my throat is aching.
Mud everywhere on my pants and in my hair. My stitch is getting worse but I'm almost there. I need to stop but it's too late now because I'm only 400 metres from the finish line. As I turn the corner I nearly fall over but luckily my muddy spikes keep me on the soaking green grass. As I start to sprint my legs start hurting but I'm there, I'm finished. It was all worth doing. **By Jess.**



This is what some people in Room 1 had to say about the cross country.

Deja: "It was tiring but fun at the same time"

Sian: "It was fun doing all the runs but sometimes exhausting"

Makaylah: "I got tired very quickly and my legs were hurting but I still managed to come second"

Pravik: "I improved in my place because I worked hard in training"

Josh: "I think it was pretty good because I came 17th. I felt fit and better!"

India: "It was fun because I like running and I came 16th!"

Hemisha: "I didn't enjoy the run but I still came 29th so I was pleased."

SCHOOL NOTICES



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Our caretaker, John Morley who was nominated for the recent Tawa Civic Awards. John was nominated by the school and the nearby Playcentre for all the many tasks he does over and above the job he is employed to do. At TIS this has included running quizzes for students and providing the prizes, going to the library at lunchtimes and reading to the students and telling them stories about his life, organising draughts competitions and working with the boys doing outdoor projects. When we asked the Playcentre if they were happy to be included in this nomination they said, “We are very

happy to support your nomination for John in the Tawa Community Civic Awards. He is a fantastic man who has a great manner with children and adults alike – a very warm, generous and likeable person”. We are very lucky to have him here at Tawa Intermediate. Well done, John!

2010 CROSS COUNTRY

We apologise for the misspelling of Katie Balmer’s name in the newsletter last week.



DISCO

Disco tonight!! The disco theme is “Syndicate Pride” where students are encouraged to wear their own syndicate’s colour. The disco starts at 6.30pm and finishes at 9.00pm. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee to cover the cost of a DJ. Each student will receive a complimentary drink and there will be other food and drinks on sale on the night. **Please ensure that you are there to collect your child by 8.55pm. The school reserves the right to order a**

taxi at the parent’s expense if the student is not collected by the designated time.

PARKING IN RANUI TERRACE

Please be considerate of the residents in Ranui Terrace when dropping off students to Tawa Intermediate. Please do not park over driveways or on their grass verges. Parking wardens regularly patrol the surrounding areas of the school for illegally parked vehicles. These will be ticketed if they are found to be illegally parked.



PASIFIKA EVENING

Invitations to the Pasifika Evening have been sent home to the parents of our Poly club students and Pasifika families. **Please RSVP to the school by Friday on 232 5201 or office@tawaint.school.nz** to let us know if you can attend. If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend, please contact the school and we can send one out to you.

The Little Red Book

New to our area

An alternative to the Entertainment Book

The Little Red Book contains *\$1000 worth of Discounts ranging from 25-50% off* and **2-for-1** Vouchers on meals, coffees/drinks and entertainment from lots of great places like Dockside, Tulse, The Flying Burrito Brothers, Muffin Break, Sky City; a free WOF inspection worth \$47.

At \$29.95 they have been selling fast, so please support your child's school and buy your copy now. **\$8 from the purchase of each book is donated to Tawa Intermediate.** Hurry – only a few left.



Disco
Pasifika Evening
Last day of term
First day of Term 3

17 June
23 June
2 July
19 July



POSITIVE PUPILS

Respect	Protection	Caring	Fairness	Honesty
Dannie Abel	Maea Worters			
Hayden Johnson	Connor Woolf			
Maea Worters				



Netball

Ngati toa

	TIS 83	TIS RED	TIS 73	TIS PINK	TIS GOLD
time	9.00	11.45	9.00	10.50	11.45
court	2	3	1	1	2

Kapi Mana

	Emerald	Jade	Pearl	Quartz
time	12pm	1.00pm	1.00pm	2.00pm
court	10	5	4	3

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO RENT

In Ranui Terrace. 2/3 bedroom unit with garage. Two bathrooms \$375 per week. For more information telephone Joan on 478 6003 or 0274738998

FREE ZUMBA CLASS



On Wednesday 30 June at 6:30pm there will be a Free Zumba class in the Tawa Intermediate Hall for adults and teenagers. You can try out the class and if you like it, enrol in the class that will continue on Wednesdays in term 3 through Tawa College Community Education. For further information phone 2327163 or email comed@tawacol.school.nz

ROLLER SKATING

Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club info for July school holidays Roller Disco, Mon - Fri both weeks, 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Entry \$6 Blade hire \$3 Skate hire Free. 34B Goodshed Rd Rink phone 9390507

www.skate.wellington.net.nz skatewellington@yahoo.co.nz



LOVE YOUR CHILDREN READING BUT FINDING BOOKS TOO EXPENSIVE?

Romawibooks is a Kapiti based, family run business importing children's books in from the UK and the USA.

Prices are between 4-60% of retail outlets, and most children's fiction titles are between \$6 and \$10. Please take a look at our website www.romawibooks.com for age specific book lists, our full contact details and the opportunity to ask us for particular titles you are after. Delivery is free in the Kapiti area and to all schools in Porirua/Tawa.

10% of the books sold will also go towards fundraising for the school library.

Matariki Disco

Come dress as your favourite superstar/singer - Prizes for the best dressed !

Sausages and drinks will be on sale for a \$1each

So round up your friends and come dance the night away with DJ Mau.

Tawa Community Centre
18 June
5.30pm- 7.15pm – Primary aged
7.30pm- 10pm – Intermediate and over
No charge

Sponsored by Wellington City Council

ANIMATION – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and Games Design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop this July. Other courses in Science, Inventions & Technology and Afterschool Animation at selected venues. For students aged 6 to 16 years. Tel: 0800 GET BUBBLE (438-282) or Email: info@bubbledome.co.nz or Visit: www.bubbledome.co.nz