

4 March 2010

Dear Parents

Developing leadership in all members of our school community is something we take seriously. We believe it is our responsibility to develop and grow leaders from within our student body. The two main committees for this are the student council and sports council, each made up of a representative from each classroom. As well as this we are implementing a leadership academy to deepen further the leadership capabilities of our students.

In assembly yesterday we were delighted to present to our school leaders their merits. Traditionally this has happened in the last month of school in recognition of service. We decided to change it to the start of the year to make our leaders more visible in the school. We have also altered the writing on the merit to be gold.

From the adult perspective we believe that the hallmark of a great school is that it grows educational leaders. The down side of this is that sometimes we lose valued staff members to other schools as they advance in leadership but this is a price we are prepared to pay.

We encourage teachers to undertake courses in leadership. This year Lou our DP is participating in the Aspiring Principals course and I am part of an Experienced Principals Development Group. We offer many leadership opportunities across a variety of curriculums and contexts and we allow our staff to become involved in leadership activities with organisations outside of the school. An example of this is two of our teachers, Jacqui Watts-Pointer and Tanya Chalk, have been given Royal Society Fellowships for Science, which enables them to up-skill in both science and leadership. I am also involved in mentoring first time principals in the Wellington region.

The management structure within the school consists of three senior managers, Louise Bray-Burns, DP, Keith Rickard, AP and myself. We have vertical leaders who run our syndicates. Our vertical leaders are Phillipa Christie (Tui), Pam Clarke (Toroa), Helen Moran (Huia), Keith Rickard (Pouakai), Lee Smith (Kakapo), Sarah Taylor (Piwakawaka), and Ian Bunckenburg (Kea). We also have horizontal leaders who look after areas that run across the school. They are: Lee Smith (assessment), Phillipa Christie (cultural co-ordinator), Maryanne Kavanagh-Todd (events), Helen Moran (gifted and talented), Sarah Taylor (information literacy), Michael Tolley (Ultranet), Keith Rickard (literacy and Google apps), Lou Bray-Burns (numeracy, special needs and student data management), Jimmy O'Carroll (sport and P.E.), and Iain Westphall (Science). As you can see, Tawa Intermediate is quite a busy place!

As parents you are welcome to communicate directly with any of our school leaders. If you have an expertise in something that could help us as a school then please do not be shy in coming forward.

The future of our nation depends on the nurturing and growth of leadership. We are pleased to play a part in this.

Kind regards,

Carolyn Stuart  
**Principal**

# ROOM 17

In room 17 we have been learning about how to collect data and turn the data into a graph on Excel. In the graph you see here ↑ it shows how student in room 17 get to school and the total amount of children that actually participated. 12 people walk to school, 6 of the students come to school by car, 3 come by bus and 1 by train even though it says **bike** no one really bikes to school in room 17!!!

This is part of a statistical investigation. The stages of a statistical investigation are: Create a question, devise a way to gather the info, start collecting the info, organise your information, display/present your info, understand and decipher your information and write a conclusion about your statistical investigation. Now you're done!!!

## Literacy

Some samples of work from room 17 - a 7 sentence story!

One early morning, a terrifying ghost appeared in my room, "Ayahhhh!" I screamed.

Every year on the Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> it came back!!!

Until one day the ghost came to school and shouted "Give me your lunch money!"

Suddenly, the ghost swooped in and the whole school was forced to give their lunch money to the ghost.

Afterwards the ghost came back and stole some kids' school bags.

This meant that the kids had no lunch or money!

Ever since then the school has had to employ Ghostbusters to keep the ghosts away.

## *SCHOOL NOTICES*

### PAID UNION MEETING

The paid union meeting on Thursday 25 March 2010 has been postponed. School will finish at the usual time on that day.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS IN 2010

The elections for the Intermediate's Board of Trustees for a new three year term are to be held in early May 2010. The Intermediate is permitted to have five parent representatives and may co-opt other members. Nominations will be called for on 15 March 2010. A letter will be posted to all parents/caregivers in the next few weeks. Nominations will close on Friday 23 April 2010 at noon. Voting papers which will have been posted out are to be returned by noon on Friday 7 May 2010.

### LIFTING NATIONAL STANDARDS

Join Katrina Shanks and the Minister of Education, Hon Anne Tolley for a Q & A session on the new National Standards.

When: 10am Tuesday 9 March 2010  
Where: Office of Katrina Shanks  
2 Broderick Road  
Johnsonville

### AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITION

If you wish your children to participate in these competitions, please fill out the form your child has brought home and return it, with the required fee, by 19 March. A copy of the information is available on the website.

### LEARNING CONFERENCES

Learning conferences will take place on 17 and 18 March. School will close at 2.00pm on both those days. More information will be available soon.

### KO TOURNAMENT

Every year we run an inter-class tournament called K.O. The winner for K.O. for 2010 is Room 16. Congratulations on your team work and effort.

### BULLRUSH

The re-introduction of Bullrush to Tawa Intermediate has met with much enthusiasm from our students. On Wednesday we had more than 100 students participating in the game with almost the same number watching.

### DO YOU ENJOY READING WITH CHILDREN?

Tawa Intermediate School is looking for volunteers to come on a Thursday morning at 9:15 and/or 9:45 to read with students who need some reading practice.

If you are interested in joining our group of volunteers from the community, or just want to know more, please call Angela on 2325201 extension 226.

## COMING EVENTS

Athletics Day	Tomorrow
Huia syndicate trip	10 March
Piwakawaka syndicate trip	12 March
Girls Self Defence	11/12 March
Learning Conferences	17/18 March
Last day of term	1 April

## *PUBLIC NOTICES*

### Author Visit

Derek Landy, the British author of the hugely popular Skulduggery Pleasant books will be at The Children's Bookshop in Kilbirnie Plaza on March 30th from 4pm until 4.30pm to meet his readers and sign copies of his books. All are welcome, there is no charge, and readers may bring their books with them for signing.

### Tawa Junior Hockey Club.

Registrations for anyone interested in playing 11-a-side turf hockey are on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 7:00pm @ North City Cricket Clubrooms, Gee St, Linden. Players from previous years and any new players in years 5-8 are welcome. Subs: \$115 first child; \$95 each additional child. For further information contact Rik Foote on ph: 2355105 or email: rik459@hotmail.com.

### Brian Webb Kindergarten – Open Day

Monday 8 March 2010

28 Victory Crescent, Tawa.

8.30 am - 3.00pm. All Welcome.

### Missing Cat

Bella has been missing from her home in Takapu Road since 11 February. She is a one year old female grey tabby Tonkinese cross with apricot cream underbelly and paws. She is friendly but shy. If you have any information, please call 232 9656.

### Art classes for children (all ages)

Painting and drawing in any medium

Time: 3:30-4:45pm

Day: every Friday

Place: 27 Mexted Terrace, Linden

Fee : \$10

booking essential with Gerda Smit

P: 04 232 3007 or [e:gerda@arthome.co.nz](mailto:e:gerda@arthome.co.nz)