

TE ATATŪ INTERMEDIATE

Tū Tāngata

Equipping our students to stand tall: To be the best people they can be and, by becoming life-long learners, reaching their best potential.



MESSAGE FROM MR EVANS - TUMUAKI

Tēnā koutou katoa o Te Atatū Intermediate whānau

Term 3 has gotten off to a great start, with more settled weather this week-although the frosty mornings have certainly been a bit of a shock to the system!

For the first part of the term, we are delighted to welcome 39 international students from Taiwan, Korea, and China who are experiencing life at TAI and schooling in New Zealand. Each student has been paired with one of our TAI students, and it has been wonderful to see the care, support, and friendship our buddies have shown their visitors. Students from both groups have enjoyed learning about each other's languages and cultures, broadening their understanding and appreciation of different perspectives. A huge thank you to our TAI students, who have been outstanding ambassadors and have helped create such a positive and welcoming experience for our visitors.

It has also been a fantastic start to the term beyond the classroom, with plenty of opportunities for our students to get involved. Over the past two weeks, we've had students representing TAI at two Zone Sports events, competing in a Water Polo tournament, and taking part in the inspiring Girls Mean Business Technology Day, where 60 of our girls explored future pathways in technology, innovation, and engineering. Our Year 8 students also had the opportunity to hear from Rutherford College, learning more about the exciting opportunities that await them as they begin preparing for their transition to secondary school next year.

Looking ahead, the term continues to be a busy one, with camps, winter sports, cultural events, performances, and plenty of exciting learning opportunities still to come.

We encourage all whānau to keep an eye on our school communications and calendar to stay up to date with everything happening at TAI.

We're looking forward to another fantastic term of learning, participation, and success for our students.



IMPORTANT NOTES

CAREY PARK CAMP

Camp is coming up later this term, and there are a few important things we need our camp whānau to check off.

If you have not yet completed your [child's camp permission form](#), please do so as soon as possible.

We are also still looking for parent helpers for some of our camps. A huge thank you to those who have already put their hand up to join us! If you are available and interested in coming along, please complete our [parent helper form](#) here.

Camp costs \$330 per student; flexible payment arrangements are absolutely welcome, and we are happy to work alongside whānau where support is needed.

If you have any questions about your balance, payments, or camp in general, please contact Kohle in the school office.

CAMP DATES:

Kea: Monday 7 – Wednesday 9 September

Kāhāpō: Wednesday 9 – Friday 11 September

Kaiawa: Monday 14 - Wednesday 16 September

Tūi: Wednesday 16 - Friday 18 September

TE ARA WHAKAMUA – THE PATH AHEAD

**TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2026
5:30PM – 7:00PM**

A reminder that our Whānau Māori Kai & Kōrero – Te Ara Whakamua: The Path Ahead is being held this tomorrow evening. This is an opportunity for our Māori whānau to come together over kai, hear about the next steps in our journey, and most importantly, share your aspirations, ideas and whakaaro with us. Your voice is an important part of shaping the path ahead, and we would love to have you there.

MUSIC LESSONS

Tatmuze is now offering beginner keyboard and guitar lessons for students aged 8 years and over at Te Atatū Intermediate. Lessons are taught by Tatmuze's talented senior student musicians, who have been trained as tutors and are passionate about inspiring the next generation of young musicians. Starting on Saturday 8 August, with 25-minute sessions running from 9:00 am for \$20 per lesson. To enquire or register your interest, please email tatmuze@gmail.com.

WEB WISE @ TAI

You may have noticed our Web Wise section in newsletters this year, introduced through our partnership with Linewise to support the online safety and digital wellbeing of our students. Last term, we explored Navigating Social Spaces. This term, our focus shifts to Gaming & Entertainment, where we'll explore the online spaces many intermediate-aged students enjoy, including gaming safety, in-app purchases, screen time, live streaming and algorithms. Scroll down to read this fortnight's Web Wise feature: Gaming Safety & Chat, with practical tips to help keep your child's online interactions safe and positive.

PHOTOLIFE KEYCODES

PhotoLife has now sent individual photo keycodes directly to whānau via email. Please check your inbox, including your junk or spam folders, for an email from PhotoLife if you want to view or order your child's school photos to purchase. If you cannot locate your child's keycode, please contact Kohle in the school office, who can provide this for you.

GIRLS MEAN BUSINESS

On Wednesday, 60 of our students had the exciting opportunity to take part in the Girls Mean Business workshop, a hands-on day designed to inspire the next generation of young entrepreneurs. Throughout the day, students explored entrepreneurship, developed their leadership skills, built confidence, and gained an insight into the world of business through a range of engaging and practical activities. They were encouraged to think creatively, collaborate with others, and develop their own innovative business ideas. Girls Mean Business is a not-for-profit educational initiative, and our Technology team thoroughly enjoyed hosting the workshop. Judging by the excitement throughout the day, and the popularity of the Girls Mean Business merchandise, it was certainly a hit! We're excited to welcome Girls Mean Business back to TAI in Term 4, where participating students will have the opportunity to build on what they've learnt and take their business ideas even further.

ROAD SAFETY

With many of our students walking, biking, and scooting to and from school each day, we ask whānau to continue reinforcing safe road habits at home. Students should use designated pedestrian crossings wherever possible, stop and check carefully before crossing and avoid crossing between parked vehicles. Those travelling by bike or scooter should wear an appropriately fitted helmet every time, remain aware of vehicles and pedestrians, and ride responsibly. We also ask drivers around the school to take extra care during our busy morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up periods. Please observe parking restrictions, avoid stopping in unsafe areas, and be particularly mindful of students crossing roads around the school. A few extra minutes and a little extra care from everyone can make a big difference in keeping our students safe.

IMPORTANT NOTES - LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

YEAR 8'S COLLEGE DESTINATION

As we begin preparing our Y8's for their transition to secondary school, we would like to know which college or high school your child will be attending in 2027.

Having this information allows our team to work more effectively with our local secondary schools and provide additional transition support where necessary.

If you already know your child's destination for next year, please complete the short form below:

YEAR 8 COLLEGE DESTINATION

If plans change later, that's absolutely fine – you can simply let us know. Thank you for helping us support our Year 8 students as they prepare for their next chapter.



ENROL EARLY AT TAI & BE IN TO WIN!

We encourage all families wishing to attend TAI next year to complete an online enrolment application as soon as possible.

To help us plan classes and staffing for 2027, we kindly ask our in-zone whānau to submit enrolment applications by 1 September, where possible.

Even better – in-zone students who complete their enrolment by Friday 28 August will go in the draw to win one of nine FREE full Year 7 stationery packs for 2027! There are three packs available for students from each of our local contributing schools –

Rutherford Primary, Peninsula Primary and Matipo Road School.

Out-of-zone applications close on 9 September, so families wishing to apply are encouraged to submit their application before this date to be included in the out-of-zone ballot process.

We look forward to welcoming our future students and whānau to Te Atatū Intermediate!

OPEN NIGHT 2026 – SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday 11 August | 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

We warmly invite prospective students, parents, and whānau to come along and discover TAI! Meet our staff, tour our learning spaces, explore our Specialist and Technology areas, and learn more about the programmes, opportunities and experiences available to our students.

If you know a Year 6 whānau considering Te Atatū Intermediate for 2027, please help us spread the word – we would love to welcome them along!



HE WAKA EKE NOA: SUPPORTING OUR TAMARIKI

At TAI, we believe it truly takes a village to raise a child.

We are all in this waka together, ensuring that every student has what they need to thrive, learn, and grow.

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES IN TERMS 3 & 4

We are excited to be offering several additional pastoral and mentoring opportunities for selected students this term, working alongside the Warriors Community Foundation and Attendance West.

WE GOT YOU – YOUTH MENTORING

Through Attendance West, selected students will have the opportunity to participate in We Got You group mentoring sessions. These activity-based sessions provide a safe and supportive environment where students can build connections, strengthen communication, and develop positive relationships through shared experiences. The programme is grounded in culture, values and relationships, with a strong focus on identity, belonging, and resilience.

[Find out more about We Got You Youth Mentoring](#)

TAMA TOA - BOYS PROGRAMME

Designed specifically for Year 7 and 8 boys, Tama Toa uses rugby league as a way to engage rangatahi while developing leadership, positive relationships, physical and emotional wellbeing, social media awareness and a stronger sense of connection. The programme also creates opportunities for positive role modelling and encourages students to take an active role in shaping their experience.

[Find out more about Tama Toa](#)

TUPU MĀĪA – GIRLS PROGRAMME

Tupu Māia is a health and wellbeing programme created for Year 7 and 8 girls, with a focus on building confidence, increasing participation and enjoyment in sport, and supporting students to remain physically and mentally active alongside their peers. Underpinned by the Te Whare Tapa Whā model of wellbeing, the programme aims to provide a positive and supportive environment for our young wāhine.

[Find out more about Tupu Māia](#)

We are incredibly fortunate to be able to provide our students with access to programmes like these. Students are selected based on where we believe the opportunity may be particularly beneficial. Whānau of participating students will receive further information directly.

WHAT'S ON IN TERM THREE

WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY

GIRLS MEAN BUSINESS

THURSDAY 30TH JULY - SUNDAY 02ND AUGUST

TIM SONDERER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY 31ST JULY

TAIWANESE STUDENTS LEAVE

MONDAY 1ST AUGUST

TAI Y6 TASTER - PPS/RPS

TUESDAY 2ND AUGUST

TAI Y6 TASTER - MPS/OZ

THURSDAY 4TH AUGUST

WHĀNAU MĀORI KAI & KŌRERO, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

FRIDAY 7TH AUGUST

TOUGH GUY & GAL

MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA, 6:30 PM AT RUTHERFORD COLLEGE

TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST

OPEN NIGHT, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST

KOREAN STUDENTS LEAVE

TUESDAY 18TH AUGUST

CROSS COUNTRY ZONES

WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST

TREES FOR SURVIVAL

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST

DAFFODIL DAY

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS CLOSE

MONDAY 7TH - WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

KEA CAMP

WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

OUT-OF-ZONE BALLOT

WEDNESDAY 9TH - FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

KĀKĀPŌ CAMP

MONDAY 14TH - WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

KAIAWA CAMP

WEDNESDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

TŪI CAMP

MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

VOLLEYBALL ZONES

THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

KING'S COLLEGE BAND

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

LAST DAY

SPORTS ACADEMY TRIALS BEGIN

Sports Academy trials get underway over the next three weeks, with more than 100 Y7 students registering their interest in joining the programme. With only 40 places available, all applicants will take part in a trial process before selections are made. Students have been allocated to one of three trial groups and will participate in two trial sessions—a 60-minute morning session and a 35-minute lunchtime session. During the trials, students will be assessed on their athletic ability, effort, coachability, teamwork, leadership, and positive attitude.

The Sports Academy is designed to develop students with strong sporting potential and is the first step in our Sports Camp pathway, with the final Sports Camp team selected next year based on each student's development, commitment and performance throughout the programme.

Emails have now been sent to whānau outlining each student's allocated trial group, the dates and times of their two trial sessions, and everything they will need to bring on the day.

Please check your inbox to ensure you have received this information.

If your child is unable to attend either of their allocated trial sessions, please contact Kōkā Amorangi as soon as possible.

TIM SONDERER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Finally, a massive congratulations to our water polo teams who competed over the weekend in the Tim Sonderer Memorial Water Polo Tournament. While TAI has been dominating our local competition at West Wave, this tournament stepped things up a notch, pitting our players against highly experienced Auckland Central schools.

It proved to be a fantastic step up for our athletes. Although the competition was incredibly tough, our teams rose to the challenge, gaining invaluable tournament experience and taking away some massive learnings and lessons that will only make them stronger players moving forward. We are so proud of the grit they showed competing at this higher level over the weekend.

A huge thank you to our amazing parents, Ron Aratema and Kristi McWha, for their incredible time, effort, and commitment in organizing the students and making this tournament experience possible for our kids. We couldn't do it without you!

NETBALL WAITAKERE ROUND 10 & SEMI FINAL RESULTS

What a fantastic way to begin Term 3 and bring another successful netball season to a close! Over the past two weeks, our TAI teams have taken to the court for the final round of competition and the semi-finals, producing a mix of nail-biting finishes, determined performances, and dominant wins.

The commitment shown by our players throughout the entire season has been outstanding. From early morning and after school trainings to Wednesday night games, every team has represented TAI with pride, resilience, teamwork, and excellent sportsmanship. Regardless of the results, we couldn't be prouder of everything our players, coaches, managers, and whānau have contributed over the season.

A huge congratulations to our teams heading into this week's Grand Finals!

PLAYING FOR 1ST/2ND PLACE

Te Atatū Onyx vs BBI Stars
Te Atatū Rivals vs HIS Paratutae
Te Atatū Toki vs HIS Lava

PLAYING FOR 3RD/4TH PLACE

Te Atatū Pulse vs St Dom's Green
Te Atatū Marvels vs ACG Sunderland

TE ATATŪ PULSE

Round 10: Won 16 – 6 against BMIS Taimana
Semi Final: Lost 10 – 18 to GEIS 7A

TE ATATŪ ONYX

Round 10: Won 15 – 9 against GEIS 7D
Semi Final: Won 27 – 5 against GEIS 7D

TE ATATŪ TOA

Round 10: Lost 8 – 12 to HIS Lightning
Semi Final: Lost 2 – 17 to GEIS 7E



TE ATATŪ OPALS

Round 10: Lost 21 – 14 to HEIS Maungaroa
Semi Final: Lost 18 – 12 to HEIS Maungaroa

TE ATATŪ RIVALS

Round 10: Won 15 – 11 against WIS Orange
Semi Final: WBD against AIS Thunder

TE ATATŪ TOKI

Round 10: Won 8 – 7 against Holy Cross
Semi Final: Won 12 – 3 against St Doms Black

TE ATATŪ MARVELS

Round 10: WBD against GBS Midcourt Madness
Semi Final: Lost 3 – 17 to GEIS 8G



McIntosh Dental

West Auckland Students Offered the Chance to Win Life-Changing Orthodontic Scholarships Worth \$10,000 Auckland, NZ

West Auckland families have the opportunity to access life-changing orthodontic care thanks to an exciting scholarship launched by McIntosh Dental Group, which includes McIntosh Dental (Henderson), Fraser Dental (Hobsonville) and Titirangi Village Dental.

This August, the group offers **two Orthodontic Scholarships**, each valued at up to **\$10,000**, to deserving Year 7–13 students from selected West Auckland and West Harbour High Schools. The scholarships will cover comprehensive orthodontic treatment, helping recipients achieve a healthy, confident smile.

"We've seen first-hand how transformational orthodontic treatment can be, not just for teeth, but for confidence, self-esteem and opportunities in life," says Dr. Alex McIntosh, McIntosh Dental Director and scholarship committee member. "This is our way of giving back to the community and supporting young achievers who might not otherwise have access to this care."

How the Scholarship Works

Members of the public are encouraged to nominate outstanding students for the scholarship. Nominations are open to **family members, teachers, peers and community members and multiple nominations for the same student are welcomed**.

Finalists will be invited for a free orthodontic consultation, and two winners will be chosen by a selection panel, including Dr. McIntosh and Dr. Milan Raniga, to receive treatment at one of the participating practices.

Who Can Be Nominated?

Eligible students must be currently enrolled in any of the following schools: St Dominic's College, Liston College, ACG Sunderland, Massey High School, Henderson High School, Rutherford College, Waitakere College, Henderson Intermediate, Rangeview Intermediate, **Te Atatu Intermediate**, Bruce McLaren Intermediate, Middle School West Auckland, Hobsonville School, Whenuapai School, Hobsonville Point Primary School, Hobsonville Point Secondary School, Marina View School, West Harbour School, Scott Point Primary School, Green Bay High School, and Glen Eden Intermediate.

What Makes a Great Nominee?

The scholarship committee is looking for **students who excel in academics, sports, cultural activities or community service** and who would significantly benefit from orthodontic treatment. Past winners have included students with exceptional talent, dedication and potential but who lacked access to the care they needed. You can find [previous scholarship winners here](#).

How to Nominate

Nominations open in August and can be submitted via the McIntosh Dental website. Nominees with multiple submissions may have a better chance of being selected, so community support is encouraged.

For full details, eligibility, and terms & conditions, visit: McIntoshDental.co.nz

WEB WISE @ TAI: GAMING SAFETY & CHAT

UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL PLAYGROUNDS

For many of our Year 7 and 8 students, online multiplayer games like Roblox, Fortnite, and Minecraft have replaced traditional phone calls as the primary way they hang out after school.

While these platforms offer incredible opportunities for teamwork and creativity, they also function as open social spaces. This week, we explore the reality of in-game chat environments and how whānau can ensure their child's digital interactions remain positive and safe.

THE REALITY OF MULTIPLAYER CHAT

Modern multiplayer games are no longer just solitary experiences; they are fully realised communication networks where players talk, text, and cooperate in real time.

- Many intermediate students treat these gaming lobbies as secure, private spaces with their friends, often forgetting that public multiplayer lobbies are shared with thousands of completely anonymous users worldwide.
- Because text and voice functions are heavily integrated into gameplay, young players are frequently exposed to unvetted conversations that can feature mature themes, aggressive language, or forms of toxic gaming behavior.
- Without active safety boundaries, the open nature of these channels makes it incredibly easy for students to transition from playing alongside a classmate to receiving direct messages or friend requests from complete strangers

THE TRAP OF TRADING AND "IN-GAME" TRUST

A major sore point for intermediate students involves the social dynamics of digital economies within games, particularly when it comes to trading rare items or cosmetic gear.

- Students often make the mistake of trusting an online player simply because they are playing the same game or belong to the same virtual group, which leaves them vulnerable to manipulation.
- It is common for malicious users to promise rare gear or virtual currency in exchange for private account details, leading to stolen profiles and significant emotional distress for the student.
- Reminding your child that an online player is still a stranger—regardless of how helpful they seem or how long they have played together—is an essential step in building digital resilience.

TIPS FOR WHĀNAU

- Audit the Chat Settings: *Open your child's favourite games together and navigate to the audio and privacy menus to completely disable public voice chat, limiting it only to confirmed real-life friends.*
- Keep Gaming Central: *Encourage your child to play multiplayer games in shared family spaces like the living room rather than tucked away in bedrooms so you can stay aware of the general tone of the lobby.*
- The "Exit Strategy" Rule: *Teach your child that it is entirely acceptable to immediately leave a match or mute a player if the chat turns toxic, reassuring them that their safety is always more important than their game rank.*

LEARN MORE ON THE HUB

For deep-dive platform reviews, specific console setup tutorials, and expert safety checklists for popular games, visit the Te Atatū Intermediate Online Safety Hub:

Gaming Safety Advice: Go to teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent-advice and look under the "Gaming" and "Online Safety Basics" tiles.

For a practical look at setting up these boundaries in your home, this Online Gaming Parent Guide video offers great strategies on how to talk to your kids about staying safe while gaming without causing constant friction.

