

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

It has been another productive fortnight at Te Atatū Intermediate, with plenty happening across the school and much to celebrate.

A real highlight was our Open Night on Tuesday, which was a fantastic success. We were delighted with the turnout and the positive feedback from families who came along to see and experience what TAI has to offer. A special thank you must go to our students who represented the school so proudly throughout the evening. They were outstanding ambassadors, confidently sharing their experiences, showcasing their learning, and helping our visitors feel welcome. We are very proud of the way they represented TAI. Thank you also to our parents and whānau who supported the evening by helping with dropping off and picking up students – your support is, as always, greatly appreciated.

Today we farewell our Korean and Chinese international students who have been with us during the first part of this term. It has been a pleasure having them as part of our school community and wonderful to see the friendships, connections, and shared experiences that have developed between our international and TAI students. These relationships have been a great example of whanaungatanga in action, with students learning from one another and embracing the opportunity to share their different cultures and experiences. We will, however, continue to enjoy the company of three of our Korean students who will be staying with us for another couple of weeks.

There continues to be a real sense of energy and connection around the school, and it is wonderful to see our WAKA values being demonstrated in so many different ways. With plenty still ahead of us this term, we look forward to continuing to provide our students with opportunities to learn, participate, challenge themselves, and make the most of all that TAI has to offer.



IMPORTANT NOTES

OUR 60TH JUBILEE

**FRIDAY 13 & SATURDAY 14
NOVEMBER**

It's official, our 60th [Jubilee website](#) and [Facebook page](#) are now LIVE!

On 13 & 14 November 2026, we'll be celebrating 60 years of Te Atatū Intermediate, bringing together past and present students, staff, whānau, and our wider community to celebrate our history, our people, and our future.

Our Jubilee website will be the home of everything you need to know in the lead-up to November, including the full weekend programme, registrations and tickets, memories and photos from across the decades, merchandise, sponsorship opportunities, and all the latest updates.

You can also follow Te Atatū Intermediate's 60th Jubilee on Facebook, where we'll be sharing plenty from our archives, Jubilee updates, and ways to get involved as we count down to the big weekend.

Registrations are now open, so make sure you check out the website, follow our Facebook page, and spread the word to your TAI friends and whānau!

YEAR 8 COLLEGE

DESTINATION -

REMINDER

A quick reminder for our Year 8 whānau – if you know which college or high school your child will be attending in 2027, please complete our short Year 8 College Destination form. This information helps us support students with their transition to secondary school and work alongside their future schools. If plans change later, that's absolutely fine – just let us know.

FUTURE TAI STUDENTS

Last week we welcomed Year 6 students from our local primary schools, along with a number of our early out-of-zone applicants, for our annual TAI Taster Days.

Students had the opportunity to experience a taste of intermediate life, exploring our Technology and Specialist classrooms, meeting staff and getting hands-on with activities – including creating something of their own to take home.

This was followed by our Open Night on Tuesday, where it was fantastic to see our hall packed with future students and their whānau. It was a great evening showcasing everything TAI has to offer and giving families the opportunity to explore our school, meet our staff and learn more about what intermediate life looks like.

REMINDER TO ENROL

A reminder to current TAI whānau who have another child joining us in 2027 – please get their enrolment in as soon as possible!

If your child currently attends Matipo, Rutherford or Peninsula Primary School, enrol by Friday 28 August to go into the draw to win one of nine 2027 stationery packs. We have three packs to give away per school!

Our 2027 out-of-zone intake is also looking more promising than previous years, so we strongly encourage families living outside our school zone to submit an application before Wednesday 2 September. The out-of-zone ballot will be held on Wednesday 9 September, and we hope to advise all applicants of their outcome by the end of that week.

CAREY PARK CAMP

INFORMATION HUI

**TUESDAY 25 AUGUST | 6.30 PM
TAI SCHOOL HALL**

With our Carey Park camps quickly approaching, we will be holding an information hui for whānau who would like to find out more about camp, ask any questions, or hear more about what students can expect during their stay.

We would also really appreciate our wonderful parent helpers who will be attending camp joining us for this hui if you are able to make it.

We look forward to seeing you there!

DAFFODIL DAY IS COMING!

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST

Our Kaunihera team have a yellow-packed week planned as TAI gets behind Daffodil Day and raises funds for the Cancer Society!

There'll be plenty happening throughout the week, including a Kaunihera Bake Sale on Wednesday, raffles, fun competitions, and other activities along the way.

On Friday 28 August, students can come to school in yellow non-uniform for a gold coin koha, before we finish the week with a fun TAI Talent Quest assembly in the afternoon. All funds raised throughout the week will be donated to the Cancer Society, so get behind our Kaunihera team, bring along your yellow and help us support this great cause!

HAVE YOUR SAY - HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF TAI

Our Board is currently developing Te Atatū Intermediate's Strategic Plan for 2027–2028, and we want to hear from our whānau and wider school community.

Your feedback will help us understand what matters most to our community and ensure our priorities and direction for the next two years reflect the needs and aspirations of our students and whānau.

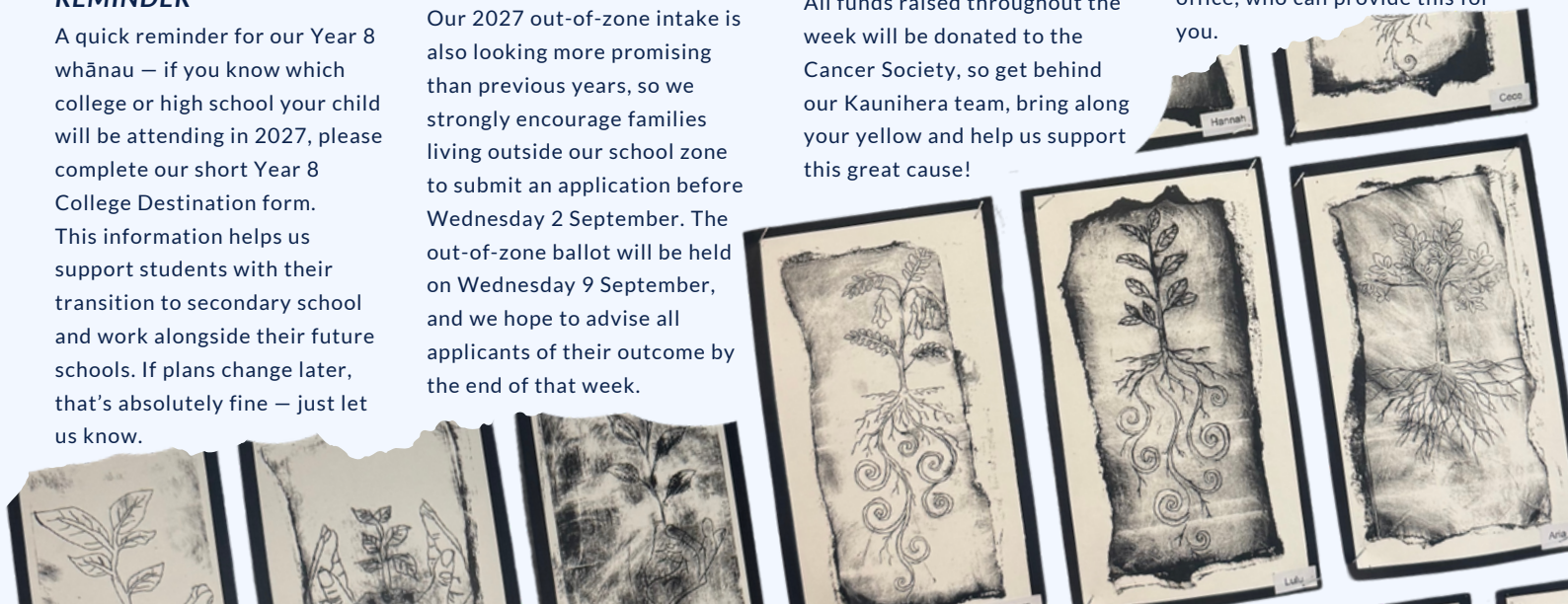
The survey takes around 5 minutes to complete, and **everyone who submits a response by Monday 17 August can go into the draw to win a \$50 New World voucher.**

Have your say and help shape the future of TAI!

Complete the Strategic [Direction Survey here](#)

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.



TE ATATŪ INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 60TH JUBILEE

13-14 NOVEMBER, 2026

Celebrating 60 Years

WEEKEND PROGRAMME



STUDENT MARKET DAY – FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER | 12.00–3.00 PM

EVERYONE WELCOME | FREE EVENT

Our current students will be right at the heart of the celebrations with a huge Student Market Day!

Throughout the term, classrooms will be developing enterprise projects inspired by the six decades of TAI, culminating in decade-themed stalls selling their creations. The afternoon will also include a sausage sizzle, coffee cart, historical displays and school memories, a whole-school drone photo and a special time capsule ceremony.

Market Day will be cashless, with students using our special Jubilee Dollars instead of handling cash. Jubilee Dollars will cost \$2 each, with stall items priced accordingly – for example, 5 Jubilee Dollars = \$10. These will be available to pre-purchase through Kindo or from the Jubilee Dollar booth on the day.

We can't wait to see our current whānau come along, support our students and be part of the celebrations!

FRIDAY EVENING SOCIAL – 6.00–10.00 PM

R21+ ALUMNI | TICKETED EVENT

On Friday evening, our school hall will transform into a relaxed social space for alumni to reconnect, catch up with old friends, and reminisce about their time at TAI. There'll be music, a photo booth, Wedg Ave Pizza Food Truck and a cash/card bar, subject to licensing approval.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION GALA DAY – SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER | 10.00 AM–3.00 PM

EVERYONE WELCOME | FREE EVENT

On Saturday, we'll open the school to everyone for our Community Celebration Gala Day. Expect memorabilia and displays from across TAI's 60-year history, kapa haka and cultural performances, music from current students and alumni, food trucks, Jubilee merchandise, and plenty of activities for the whole whānau.

SATURDAY EVENING STAFF DINNER – 6.00 PM–LATE

PAST & PRESENT STAFF | TICKETED EVENT

We'll finish the weekend with a special mix-and-mingle dinner at Et Tu Bistro for our past and present staff, with food, drinks, staff photos and memorabilia, and plenty of opportunities to reconnect.

Registrations are now open, and we encourage anyone with a connection to TAI to register their interest – even if you're still deciding which events you'll attend. Ticket sales for our ticketed events will open once pricing is confirmed.

Make sure you're following Te Atatū Intermediate's 60th Jubilee on Facebook and check out our new Jubilee website for the full programme, registrations, memories, photos, and all the latest updates.

Save the date – 13 & 14 November. We can't wait to celebrate 60 years of TAI with you!



TAI SPORTS AWARDS EVENING

With the incredible level of participation and success we have seen across sport at TAI this year, we are excited to announce our first official TAI Sports Awards Evening!

This special evening will celebrate our standout athletes from throughout 2026 who have represented TAI across a wide range of sporting codes — from Zone Days and after-school competitions through to regional and national representation.

The Sports Awards Evening will be held in our school hall on Thursday 3 December (Week 8) and will be an invitation-only event. Whānau of students receiving recognition can expect an invitation via email early in Term 4.

We are looking forward to having an opportunity to formally recognise and celebrate the sporting achievements, commitment and contribution of our students this year.

KŌKĀ AMORANGI COACHING ON THE WORLD STAGE!

Some of you may have noticed Kōkā Amorangi was away at the beginning of the term — and for a very exciting reason! Already a New Zealand Flag Football player herself, Kōkā took on a different role on the international stage, coaching the Auckland Girls' Grammar School team representing New Zealand at the NFL U15 Girls Flag Football Championships in Westfield, Indiana, USA.

The team competed against Mexico, Panama, Germany, and Great Britain, finishing an incredible third overall. What an amazing achievement and experience. We are incredibly proud to have our very own Kōkā not only representing Aotearoa as a player, but now coaching on the world stage as well! Congratulations to Kōkā Amorangi and her team on an outstanding result.

NETBALL AT TE PAI END OF SEASON RESULTS

Wednesday night netball at Te Pai wrapped up last week after a fantastic 14-week season. A huge thank you to all of our coaches, managers and whānau who supported our teams throughout the season — it simply wouldn't have been possible without you.

We are also incredibly proud of the more than 80 students who turned up week after week, rain or shine, and represented TAI with pride, showing our WAKA values both on and off the court. Regardless of final placings, you should all be proud of the way you represented our school.

Congratulations to our teams on some fantastic results in their respective grades: Rivals – 1st, Toki – 2nd, Onyx – 2nd, Opals – 3rd, Marvels – 3rd and Pulse – 3rd. Ka rawe!

CROSS COUNTRY ZONES

Our Cross Country team will be heading to Tāhūrangi Park, Titirangi on Tuesday 18 August, with 30 students representing TAI at the Zone competition. Ms Harrington has been putting the team through their paces with early-morning training sessions to make sure they are ready to go. We wish them all the best for Tuesday!

SPORTS ACADEMY TRIALS

Sports Academy trials are now underway, with the final group beginning their trials next week. We had an incredible 110 students register for just 40 places, and the successful Sports Academy group will be announced in Week 6.

From this group of 40, 30 students will eventually be selected to represent TAI at Sports Camp in early 2027, giving us plenty of time to begin training and prepare for the competition.

WEB WISE @ TAI: IN-APP PURCHASES & LOOT BOXES

UNDERSTANDING THE PSYCHOLOGY OF "FREEMIUM" GAMES

As we continue our Term 3 look at Gaming & Entertainment, this week we are diving into the complex world of In-App Purchases & Loot Boxes. Many modern games are free to download but are psychologically engineered to encourage continuous spending. We explore the design tactics behind these "freemium" games and provide practical strategies for whānau to avoid unexpected digital bills.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF "FREEMIUM" AND DIGITAL CURRENCIES

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, and Brawl Stars are free to download, but they rely heavily on subtle psychological tactics to turn players into paying customers.

- Game developers translate real-world money into virtual currencies—such as Robux or V-Bucks—which disconnects a young player's mind from the actual dollar value of what they are spending.
- Limited-time store items, seasonal passes, and countdown timers trigger an intense fear of missing out (FOMO), pressuring intermediate students to buy virtual gear before it disappears from the game store.
- Unlocking cosmetic items like player "skins" or dance moves serves as a major status symbol in intermediate social circles, causing students to feel immense social pressure to keep up with their friends' digital looks.

LOOT BOXES AND THE GAMBLING MECHANIC

A loot box is a virtual reward container that players purchase or earn, containing a randomized selection of mystery digital items.

- Because a player never knows if a loot box contains a rare, highly coveted item or a common worthless one, opening them triggers a sudden rush of dopamine similar to the mechanics of a slot machine.
- Games often celebrate opening a loot box with flashy animations, loud sound effects, and bright lights, specifically designed to make the experience feel thrilling and encourage players to buy "just one more."
- Many popular games lean into a "pay-to-win" model, where players who spend real money on randomized gear gain significant competitive advantages over players who choose to play for free.

TIPS FOR WHĀNAU

- **Require Password Approval for Purchases:** *Ensure that your smartphone, tablet, or gaming console requires a master password or facial recognition before any digital transaction can take place.*
- **Remove Stored Credit Cards:** *Never save credit card details directly onto a shared tablet, phone, or gaming console, which prevents accidental "one-click" purchases during gameplay.*
- **Switch to Prepaid Gift Cards:** *If you choose to allow your child to spend money on games, use physical gift cards (such as Playstation, Xbox, or Roblox cards) so they learn to manage a fixed, tangible budget rather than linking a live debit card.*

LEARN MORE ON THE HUB

For step-by-step guides on setting up purchase locks across different gaming consoles and mobile devices, visit the Te Atatū Intermediate Online Safety Hub:

- **In-App Purchase & Gaming Advice:** Go to teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent-advice and look under the "Gaming" and "Parental Controls" tiles.