

TŪ TANGATA

Te Atatū Intermediate School

Term 2 | Issue 08 | 16th May, 2019



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tēnā koutou parents and whānau. Now that the colder weather has started, please could all jumpers and jackets be named, along with room number also, so any misplaced items can be returned to their owner as quickly as possible. All lost property is kept with Mr Edwards in his Workshop if any item has been lost.

A special thank you to all parents/whānau for supporting us last week with the paid union meetings. As you may have seen on the news, teachers overwhelmingly rejected the governments offer and are now heading to a mega strike day with our secondary colleagues, on Wednesday 29th May. It's a clear signal from tens of thousands of teachers across the country that our profession is facing a crisis that must be resolved with urgency. Currently, there is a shortage of teachers. This impacts on our relievers, as many of our relief teachers now have positions in schools in a full time capacity. Therefore, if a teacher is sick, we do our utmost to find a reliever, however if there are no relievers to cover the class, this results in a class split. This is not ideal, but is the reality faced. Once again, we do thank you for your support with the disruptions faced.

Ngā mihi,
Lloyd Evans, Principal

Board of Trustees elections

Last week, information letters around nominating someone for the Board of Trustees were sent to all current parents and contributing school parents whose children are in year 6. You can nominate more than one person. All nominations must be in by **noon on Friday 24 May**. Please make sure all details are correct. Candidates can submit an optional statement up to 400 words, which can include a photo.

Currently, our 5 elected BOT representatives:

Mike Hirst - Board Chairperson
Amanda Magnus - Treasurer
Haley McNickle - elected member
Chris Larking - elected member
Nathan Hooker - elected member

Pink Shirt Day

This Friday 17th May, TAI will be holding a mufti day to promote Pink Shirt Day - Join the movement to stop bullying and spread aroha and kindness! (gold coin donation)

Pink Shirt day began in 2007 and promotes an anti bullying message and started with a group of students in Canada who stood up for a boy who had been bullied for wearing a pink shirt. The whole school joined in and shut the bullies down - powerful positive peer pressure!

Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa

Talofa lava ma Afio Mai o Aiga Te Atatū Intermediate School.

In preparation towards our upcoming Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa beginning on the 26th of May. I would like to invite our school family & friends to come into school that week and be willing to teach our students song, dance, cooking, art, weaving, orator telling in the Samoan way. If you are available on any day throughout that week, please let me know and I can make arrangements for you to take a session in any of the above mentioned. I would love our school to share in the richness of the Samoan culture and help keep our language and traditions alive. Please contact me via our school email and I would be keen to organise this. Fa'afetai Lava Tele - Mrs. Satele

Enviro Group

Our school Enviro programme welcomes and requires parent volunteers to help during lunchtimes Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:20-12:50.

Please contact Cathlin Ward
cathlin.w@teatatu.school.nz for more information.

Netball news

The Netball season is well underway and we have been very pleased with the effort put in by our teams. A big thank you to the coaches and managers. A very big 'welcome back' to coach Jane who has returned to our coaching staff.

Please remember that the school has a big bill to pay to Netball Waitakere and if you have not yet paid your fees, please do so asap.
Lyn Northwood

KEY DATES TERM 2

21 May - Girls Waitakere Zone Football
29 May - Nationwide Teacher Strike Action
30 May - Boys Waitakere Zone Football
10-14 June - St John's safety class sessions
18 June - Netball Waitakere Zone

From the NZEI – May 2019

We greatly appreciate the community support that we have already received following the decision by teachers and principals to strike on Wednesday 29 May.

The decision to take further strike action was not taken lightly by any of us. For the first time, both primary and secondary teachers are striking together because the crisis in education hits us all very hard and we need the Government to understand how serious it is.

Schools are grappling with the fallout of a 40% nosedive in the number of people training to be teachers between 2010 and 2016, even while the population grew by 400,000. While the situation improved a little last year and the Government has announced an urgent \$95m package to recruit teachers, this is not sufficient to address the crisis. Schools struggle daily to find enough teachers to meet their relief teacher needs and this will worsen as winter approaches. There is also a desperate need for more support for children with additional learning needs.

The fact is that teaching is no longer considered an attractive profession due to long-term under-funding of the education sector. A significant pay jolt is part of the solution, alongside significant improvements to our heavy workloads. Otherwise our schools will end up with larger class sizes and more teachers leaving.

On Wednesday 29 May we hope you will join us at our local public event, likely to be from midday. We would love to see you and your children standing with us – together we are a community and we can make a difference. We will advise you of further details when they are confirmed.

Newsletters will be emailed to you

Parents – from now on we will be emailing our fortnightly newsletters to you. The newsletters are a very important source of information about what's happening in the school and we do not want you to miss out. Can you please complete the following and return to your child's class teacher? We will update your email address on our system if this has changed. Thank you

Name of students _____ Room No _____

Email address _____

Do you prefer the newsletter emailed to you? ☐ Yes ☐ No