NEWSLETTER/PANUI JULY 25, 2025 | ISSUE #10

<u>TE ATATŪ INTERMEDIATE</u>

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

Welcome back to Term 3!

The term has got off to a great start, with more settled weather this week—a welcome relief for all.

Last Monday, we began with a pōwhiri to welcome our new staff, new students, and our visiting Korean students, who will be with us for four weeks. A special thanks to Whaea Ngaire and our Tikanga classes, Rooms 10 and 11, for leading this process.

This term, our key focus is the Moana Junior Production, which will take place in the final week of term, connecting to our curriculum with our learning this term centred on science, with a specific focus on directional wayfaring.

Our science specialist, Mrs Aratema, has been busy creating science kits for class teachers to use. These kits support hands-on learning through practical experiments and demonstrations about wind, currents, astronomy, and other navigational methods that guided wayfarers to Aotearoa. These core experiments help students develop observational, recording, and critical thinking skills around key science concepts. In connection with this theme, classes will also visit the Observatory this term.

Finally, Mrs Clarke, our wonderful Deputy Principal, has launched our Knowledgeathon fundraising challenge. Students are encouraged to gather sponsors as they learn key facts about New Zealand history, geography, science, and other core subjects. All proceeds will go toward developing our technology and science resources, helping TAI continue to provide high-quality learning opportunities for all our students. We appreciate your support—there are some fantastic prizes up for grabs for both individual students and their classes!

Ngā mihi Llovd Evans -Principal /Tumuaki



IMPORTANT NOTES

BOARD ELECTIONS - WE NEED YOU!!!

Boards work best when they reflect the diversity of their communities. That's why it's so important to have support from within the parent community to ensure everyone has the opportunity to represent, and be represented as part of Board elections.

You would have received information on nominating yourself or others as a part of the Election process run through Schooled. We would love to have you - on Board - Helping shaping and guiding the school in its direction and strategy into the coming years. Nominations are now open and close on Wednesday 6th August.

Please see this <u>link</u> for more information about parent representation on school boards.

THE TIMELINE FOR ELECTIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:

Friday 18th July - Nominations called for
Monday 4th August - Supplementary roll closed
Wednesday 6th August (12pm) - Nominations closed
Wednesday 13th August - Voting forms issued
Wednesday 10th September - Election Day
Monday 15th September - Final day to accept postal votes
Tuesday 16th September - Votes counted
Wednesday 17th September - Elected Board members take
office



KNOWLEDGEATHON

Your child should have brought home their Knowledgeathon information this week. The Knowledgeathon involves 50 quiz questions across 5 exciting categories: Our Native Species, General Knowledge, Our History, Our Places, Te Ao Māori (The Māori World).

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP YOUR CHILD NOW

Everyone who signs up before Monday 28 July goes in the draw to win a pair of Nike or Jordan sneakers (in their size) thanks to our awesome sponsor, Basement NZ.

TIMELINE

Monday 21 July
Booklets handed out in class

Weeks 2-4

Ask friends and whānau to sponsor you

Keep studying those questions

Friday 8 August

Quiz Day

Monday 11 August
Sponsorship due
Prizegiving

2026 ENROLMENTS

If you have another child starting with us next year, or know of an in-zone family with an upcoming enrolment, please spread the word. Enrolment forms are available on our website or by clicking here.

Our Open Night will be held on Tuesday 12th August, 6:30-8:00 PM.

TEACHER ONLY DAY

On Friday 22nd August - we will be connecting with our local iwi partners Te Kawerau a Maki around culture, place and space, looking at local curriculum and connections to student achievement and learning.

A further teacher only day will be held next term (date to be confirmed) in which we will be focusing on curriculum upskilling for our staff around the implementation of the upcoming English revised curriculum and follow up around the implementation of Maths this year.









WHAT ARE SCHOOL BOARDS?

All of New Zealand's state and state-integrated schools have a school board which is the Crown entity responsible for the governance of the school.

- The board:
- ensures every student can reach their highest possible standard in student achievement
- is the employer of all staff in the school
- sets the school's strategic direction in consultation with parents, whānau, staff, students and the wider school community
- is responsible for overseeing the management of personnel, curriculum, property, finance and administration.

WHY JOIN A SCHOOL BOARD?

School board members are active leaders in our schools.

They have an important role of supporting strong professional leadership and ensuring effective teaching for all students through informed governance.

Parents/caregivers and people in the wider community can be parent representatives. School boards need to represent the diversity of their school communities to

The school board elections are the opportunity to vote for candidates who will make a positive difference for children's education. We need more people willing to use their skills and experiences for the benefit of students!

ensure a bright future for all our children.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Three types of representative members are elected onto the board. These "representative" board members are elected by the parent community, staff members.

There are also other types of board members, including the principal, co-opted, and appointed board members.

A standard school board's membership includes:
5 parent elected (or selected) representatives
(Board can change to any number between 3 & 7)
the principal of the school
one staff-elected representative

The board can co-opt additional people onto the board for gender, skill or ethnic balance, and the Minister of Education can appoint an additional board member.

THE TIMELINE FOR ELECTIONS IS AS FOLLOWS

Main School Roll closed: Wednesday 16th July
Nominations called for by: Friday, 18th July
Supplementary roll closed: Monday 4th August
Nominations closed (12pm): Wednesday, 6th August
Voting forms issued by: Wednesday, 13th August
Election Day: Wednesday 10th September
Accept postal votes: Monday, 15th September
Count votes: Tuesday, 16th September
Elected Board members take office: Wednesday, 17th September

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE ON A SCHOOL BOARD?

Our communities need great boards to help build great schools!

The board has overall responsibility and accountability for the school/kura. School board's legal responsibilities are determined by the Education and Training Act 2020.

The Act sets out boards' four primary objectives.

These are ensuring student achievement for all of its trudents, including for those of differing peeds, making

students, including for those of differing needs, making sure the school is a safe place for all, and giving effect to the Treaty of Waitangi.

As part of its focus on these four objectives, boards' responsibilities include:

- Setting the strategic direction for the school
 - Protecting the school's values
- Monitoring and evaluating student learning outcomes
 - Approving policies
 - Financial stewardship
 - Building community engagement and support It's important to note that the board does NOT get involved in the day-to-day running of the school.

WHAT SORT OF SKILLS DO BOARD MEMBERS NEED?

Every board member brings their own unique set of skills and experiences to the board.

As a member of your school's board, you will need to work well in a team and have good communication skills. It can help to have an understanding of the education sector.

You may have financial skills and experience in managing people, knowledge and understanding of particular communities within your school, or experience working within your school and wider communities.

Every school board member is well-supported by NZSBA's range of learning and development opportunities, our Advisory and Support Centre and our regionally based team of advisors.