

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

Over the last few weeks, I have been thrilled to see how well all students have settled into school routines. It has been wonderful to see them fully involved in the activities now underway, and it has been pleasing to see so many students trying new opportunities, such as music and sports. Over 100 students have been regularly orienteering - an incredible number, with many also participating in other term one sports. A special congratulations goes to the Year 8 boys' softball team, who have won the Waitākere Zone and are now off to the Auckland Champs of softball. We wish them all the best for this competition.

On the music front, all lessons are now underway for our Year 7 students, and practicing can begin in earnest. We look forward to bringing you our autumn music concert next term. Thank you to all the teachers, coaches, and parents for their support in getting these events up and running.

As we move past two-thirds of the way through the first term, it almost feels like a switch flipped in March with the colder mornings. Could you please ensure that uniform items, especially hats, are clearly named, including your child's room number? As the weather warms during the day, jackets and jumpers get shed, and our lost property pile starts to grow. If any items of clothing go missing, Mrs Northwood in Room 6 is the person to see.

Below is another action packed newsletter showing what's been happening over the last two weeks - Happy Reading!





IMPORTANT NOTES

KAI & KŌRERO WITH TE KAWERAU Ā MAKI

*Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou,
ka ora ai te iwi.*

*With your food basket and my
food basket, the people will
thrive.*

We are honoured to invite our whānau and community to a very special evening at Te Atatū Intermediate on Monday, 23rd March. This gathering marks a significant milestone in our school's history as we officially receive our unique school pepeha, gifted to us by mana whenua, Te Kawerau ā Maki. For the past year, we have worked closely with Te Kawerau ā Maki through the Mana Kura programme - a three-year partnership that embeds local Māori history and mātauranga into our curriculum.

This evening is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the journey of our pepeha, celebrate our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and strengthen our connection to the whenua.

Evening Programme

6:00 pm: Arrival & Welcome

Opening: Tumuaki welcome, Karakia, and Kai

Presentation: Ko wai mātou - The story and journey of our Pepeha

7:00 pm: Floor opens for whānau feedback and pātai

7:45 pm: Whakakapi (Closing) & Karakia

To help us cater correctly, please click here to RSVP by Friday, 20 March. Please let us know how many adults and children from your whānau will be attending.

WHĀNAU KAI & KŌRERO

MONDAY 23 MARCH

6:00 PM

TE ATATŪ SCHOOL HALL



Denise Kingi-Furey
Kaimahi Mātauranga



Josie Hatch-Wall
Kaiarahi Mātauranga

TE ATATŪ INTERMEDIATE IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH
TE KAWERAU Ā MAKI

*would like to invite all of our whānau
to join us for some kai and a kōrero
about the mana kura programme.*

NAU MAI

ROCK YOUR SOCKS FOR WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY!



FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

Mrs. Chung, Emma and Room 9 are raising awareness for World Down Syndrome Day by inviting students and staff to "Rock Your Socks!" Wear your craziest, most colourful, mismatched socks to show your support! This special day was inspired by the way socks resemble chromosomes - and people with Down Syndrome have an extra one! Please note: This is not a full non-uniform day - students still need to wear their school uniform. Gold coin donations to support children with Down Syndrome through the Auckland Down Syndrome Association are encouraged.

IMMUNISATION FORMS

A reminder that Immunisation forms went home to all students last week. Please get these back to school ASAP. All forms need to be completed and returned even if your child does not require it. **If you would like more information on this important immunisation programme, please click here.**

GO GREEN FOR MITEY WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH

TAI is proud to be a Mitey school, supporting the teaching of emotional wellbeing and mental health through everyday learning.

To support this important kaupapa, students are invited to wear something green and bring a gold coin donation.

Mitey helps equip young people with the skills to understand their feelings, build healthy relationships, and develop resilience. Funds raised will help extend this important work to more schools across Aotearoa. So jump on the waka and support our tamariki!

Click here to find out more about Mitey.



VOLUNTEER REMINDER

- **KidsCan Food Programme**
Volunteers are still needed to help prepare and serve breakfast and hot lunches starting next term. If you or a family member can help, **please get in touch with Kohe in the office.**

- **Garden to Table**
We're also looking for volunteers to help students in the school garden on Mon/Tues/Fri at lunch (1:00-1:45 pm). **Please contact Mrs Stoddard if you're interested.**

'LIKE' TAI ON FACEBOOK!

We recognise that social media is an easily accessible tool for most of our community, so as part of our ongoing commitment to implementing more robust communication systems, we have officially "refreshed" our school Facebook page to ensure our whānau are better informed than ever before. **Jump over to Facebook, give us a "Like," and follow along as we grow our digital community.**



STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY: PUNCTUALITY

Following our update in the last newsletter regarding our new attendance management plan, we want to dive a little deeper into a key part of that foundation: Punctuality.

At TAI, we believe that starting the day with a settled, positive routine is the foundation for a great day of learning. We view being on time not just as a school rule, but as a vital life skill that builds Responsibility, Reliability, and Self-Discipline. Setting a positive tone for the day starts with a strong morning routine. Students should be at school before the 8:45 am bell to set themselves up and be ready for learning.

To support our students in mastering their morning rhythms, we are implementing a few new steps to help everyone stay on track:

THE 3-STRIKE "REFRESH" RULE

If a student arrives late to school or class three times within a single week, they will be invited to a Lunchtime Reflection Time (RT) on the following Tuesday. This is a supportive, quiet space designed for students to reset, reflect on their morning routine, and plan for a more successful start the next week.

(Note: We understand that "life happens" – medical appointments, family emergencies, and unexpected hurdles are always taken into account. If a student misses their scheduled RT, they will be moved to the following week's list).

CELEBRATING PROGRESS

We love seeing our students grow! When a student shows consistent improvement in their punctuality, we want to acknowledge that effort. Students making positive changes will receive a school commendation and a token of appreciation.

CONNECTING WITH WHĀNAU

For students who reach 10 or more lates in a term, we will reach out with via email. This isn't a reprimand; it's an invitation to partner with you to identify any barriers and find a sustainable morning rhythm that works for your family.

By working together to build these habits now, we are supporting our students to develop the reliability they need for future success.

TAI IS HERE TO HELP

We can provide direct support for families who may be finding schooling costs or logistics a challenge, including:

- Stationery and Uniforms
- School Lunches
- Counselling Services

If you require extra support or are facing barriers that make regular attendance or getting to school on time difficult, please reach out to Kohle Rooney in the office.

We are committed to working together to find solutions that work for your whānau.

From the pavement of Tāmaki Drive to the pools and diamonds of Auckland, our athletes have been giving it their all this past fortnight.

The energy and mahi everyone is putting in is awesome to see. None of this would be possible without the amazing support system behind our teams. A huge thank you to all the parents who coach, provide transport, and support our kids on the sidelines, and to our dedicated teachers who go the extra mile to provide these incredible opportunities. If you have a passion for sports and would like to help out in the future, we would love to hear from you! [CLICK HERE - Volunteer Parent Coach Sign Up Form](#)



ORIENTEERING SPRINT SERIES

This coming Monday, 16th March, marks the final in the Orienteering sprint series. Over 100 TAI students have participated this year, many finding their groove and placing in the top 5 for their age groups!

Interested in more Orienteering? [Check out North West Orienteering Club](#)

WAKA WARS

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH

Get ready for one of the biggest highlights of Term 1!

On Thursday 26th March, we'll be holding our annual WAKA Wars.

This event falls under Level One of TAI's four-tier sports framework.

These activities are open to everyone, with a core focus on having a go, building school spirit, and staying active with friends.

It's an epic day of friendly competition and team-building designed to bring our school together and put our WAKA values into action!

It's all about representing our Rākau with pride!

Students should dress in their rākau colours:



Kauri: Green

Kōwhai: Yellow

Pōhutukawa: Red

Tōtara: Blue



Our Rākau and Kaunihera Kaiārahi have planned a day full of fun, active challenges focusing on our WAKA Values:

WHANAUNGATANGA

Building connections and ensuring everyone feels they belong.

ATAWHAI

Showing kindness and looking out for one another.

KAITIAKITANGA

Taking responsibility for our gear, our environment, and each other.

AKO

Learning from each other in a supportive way.

WHAT TO BRING

The day includes water-based activities, so please ensure your child dresses appropriately for water play. They will need:

Hat, Sunblock, Water Bottle

A full change of dry clothes & Towel

Important Note: Please NO PAINT and no jeans.

We want to keep our courts and fields clean and make sure everyone can move freely and safely!



UPCOMING TRIAL SCHEDULE

Please note that sign-ups for these trials have already closed. If you haven't received a direct email reminder from Kōkō Amorangi, your child would have unfortunately missed out on the sign-up window.

HOCKEY (THE OPEN COURT, 7:45 AM)

Boys: Wed 18/03, Wed 25/03, Wed 01/04

Girls: Thu 19/03, Tue 24/03, Thu 02/04

NETBALL (THE COVERED COURT, 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM):

Students only have to attend one of the trial dates.

Year 8: Tue 17/03 & Wed 18/03

Year 7: Tue 24/03 & Wed 25/03

SPORTS CAMP (THE COVERED COURT, 7:45 - 9:45 AM)

Must attend both trial dates

Testing: Beep test, hand-eye coordination, Cooper's endurance run, speed, and agility drills.

Tue 17/03 & Tue 24/03

FLAG FOOTBALL (SCHOOL FIELD, LUNCH TIME)

Girls: Mon 16/03

Boys: Wed 18/03

Catch-Ups: Wed 18/03

HELPING YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR TRIALS

With trials kicking off as early as 7:45 am, a little preparation the night before goes a long way in helping your child feel confident and ready to perform their best. Please help your child check off the following:

- **Appropriate Footwear:** Please ensure they have clean sneakers for the covered courts or appropriate turf shoes/boots if required for their specific code.
- **Correct Gear:** PE uniform is a requirement. Please ensure they have any necessary personal gear, such as mouthguards/racquets/gloves etc where applicable.
- **Hydration:** Please pack a large, full water bottle. Trials are hard mahi, and staying hydrated is key.
- **Fueling Up:** If they are trialing at 7:45 am, please ensure they have had a nutritious breakfast or have a substantial snack packed to eat immediately after the trial.
- **Post-Trial Preparation:** For those early morning trials (Hockey and Sports Camp), please ensure they have their full school uniform to change into afterward, along with a small towel and deodorant.
- **Encouragement:** Trials can be a nerve-wracking experience. Please remind them that the goal is to show good sportsmanship, support their peers, and simply give it their best shot.

SWIMMING ZONES

Yesterday, our "small but mighty" team of six represented TAI at the Swimming Zoneday. Just qualifying was a mission! While other schools brought huge squads, we held our own.

Rosa R6, had an absolute blinder, placing 1st in her free, back, and breaststroke heats. In the finals, she claimed 1st in freestyle and backstroke, and 2nd in breaststroke!

SOFTBALL ZONES

It was an action-packed few days last week, on the diamond for our TAI softballers!

Our Year 8 boys had an epic tournament; after dropping only one game to Glen Eden all day, they met them again in the final and secured a decisive 3-0 victory to take home the title - and some well-earned bragging rights against their club mates from other schools. Meanwhile, our Year 7 boys showed heaps of heart throughout their matches, finishing an impressive 4th overall; just getting out there and giving it their all was an awesome experience for the group. Our girls' team also had a blast, and while most were still learning the ropes, they showed incredible growth throughout the day. Ciara R3, was an absolute standout as an amazing pitcher, especially considering she had never played before!

The girls finished their day on a real high, clinching a fantastic 7-run win against Glenavon Intermediate.

KIWI TAG ZONES

On Tuesday, our boys' and girls' teams headed to Moire Park. The boys finished 7th overall (2 wins, 2 losses) and the girls finished 8th (1 win, 3 losses). Even when the games got tough, no one gave up. We are super proud of the hard work and support everyone showed each other!

SOUTHERN CROSS ROUND THE BAYS

Last Sunday, a crew of 30 TAI students, five teachers, and parents joined 31,000 others for the 54th Round the Bays.

We are so proud of everyone who completed the 8.4km course!

Brayden R6, was on fire, finishing in 44:46 - placing him in the top 7% for U15 males and an incredible top 10% overall!

Zach R6 and Hugo R3, also put in huge efforts, placing in the top 9% of their group. Our girls killed it too, with Ciara R3, finishing in the top 6% for U15 girls and Zoe R2, in the top 9%!

This wouldn't have been possible without Nicola Harrington and her passion for getting our kids out there and involved. Bring on 2027!

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BASKETBALL: TAI THUNDER

Our TAI Thunder basketball team is on an absolute heater! Last week, they put on a dominant display in their 30-10 win against the Whenuapai Slammers.

They kept that momentum rolling last night, pulling off a gritty 20-16 victory against Waitakere Mana. What a start to the season!

