

# 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**

Week 3 of the school term is almost complete, and the term's events are beginning to build. Next week, we have our parent-teacher meetings (Hui ā Ako). These meetings mark a shift from the student-led conferences of the past to a more direct parent-teacher discussion, with the student also in attendance. This approach allows teachers to share where your child is currently at, where they need to be by the end of the year, and how the partnership between home and school can best support this progress.

Specialist and Technology teachers will also be available during this time, though only for the curriculum areas your child has attended during Term 1.

Our goal is for 90% of our whānau to attend these meetings, as they provide a valuable opportunity to connect with your child's teachers and gain insight into their learning. At the end of the term, you will receive your child's school report, which will outline their progress within the new reporting criteria for Reading, Writing, and Mathematics: These new criteria are as follows - Emerging, Developing, Consolidating, Proficient, and Exceeding.

We look forward to seeing you all next week. Please note that school will finish at 12 noon on Tuesday, 12th May, with conferences beginning at 1:00pm. Students who need to remain at school during the afternoon will be supervised by our Teacher Aide/Kaiawhina team in the school library. Finally, a huge thank you to our wonderful parent, James Wilcox, along with daughter Olivia, who - with the assistance of his metal detector - helped our Kaitiaki/Caretaker, Jeff, locate the 1996 time capsule buried for the school's 30th anniversary!



# IMPORTANT NOTES

## HUI Ā AKO (STUDENT CONFERENCES)

**Monday 11th - Tuesday 12th May**

A friendly reminder that our Hui ā Ako are taking place next week on Monday 11th May (3.30pm – 6pm) and Tuesday 12th May (1pm – 7pm). These 15-minute meetings are a wonderful chance for your child to share their learning journey and for us to discuss their next steps together.

*Please note: School will finish early at 12.00pm on Tuesday.*

If you haven't booked your time yet, [click here to do so now!](#)

Password is: **2d3x2**

We look forward to seeing you there!



## PINK SHIRT DAY

**Friday 15th May**

Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

Next Friday, TAI is joining the global movement to celebrate diversity and spread kindness. We encourage all students to come dressed in pink from head to toe to show their support, and we ask that everyone **bring a gold coin donation**, with all funds going directly toward the Pink Shirt Day cause.

Our Kaunihera (Student Council) will also be running a Pink Bake Sale at lunchtime, with delicious treats priced between \$1 and \$4. *Please note that all proceeds from the bake sale go specifically toward our 2026 leadership team t-shirts.*

There are plenty of prizes up for grabs throughout the day, including awards for the "Pinkest" student and teacher, the best class window display, and a special prize for the best original class chant that reflects the message of the day.

Let's stand together, TAI!

## COLOUR RUN FUNDRAISER

**Wednesday 27th May**

[Click here to set up your child's fundraising page & collect sponsorships!](#)

Get ready for the most colourful day of the year! We are holding our Colour Run to raise funds for the school's camp at Carey Park. Every dollar a student raises goes directly toward offsetting the \$330 cost of their camp, ensuring everyone can participate in this amazing EOTC experience.

*Please note: There is a \$5 participation fee payable via Kindo, which covers the cost of the colour powder.*

## ROAD SAFETY WEEK

This week has been Road Safety Week, and the theme was "Be a Road Safety Hero."

It's a great time to acknowledge those who keep our community safe, from our school crossing patrols to our walking school bus volunteers.

We encourage all our whānau to have a kōrero at home about safe cycling and walking habits to help everyone get to and from school safely.

## CREATIVE SUPPLIES NEEDED!

Whaea Stacey and Whaea Marie are on the lookout for a few items to help with upcoming projects. If you can help, please get your student to drop them at the relevant room. Art: Clean ice cream containers with lids.

Creative Media: Clean, stretchy soft plastics (bread bags, plastic wrap), plastic bottle tops, and sturdy leaves (Magnolia or Laurel Bay). - If you have a Magnolia tree nearby, let her know, Whaea Marie is happy to come and collect the leaves!

## MUSIC AT TAI

TAI is always proud to participate in the annual NZ Bandquest competition, and under the expert guidance and tutoring of TATMuze (John and Izak Kennedy), we consistently walk away with amazing results. Introducing our two competitive bands for 2026:



**"NO WAY OUT"**

Johann R3 (Drums), Chloe R3 (Guitar), Kelsie R3 (Guitar), Isla R12 (Bass), Ava R6 (Vocals), and Fred R2 (Keyboard).



**"VOLUME 11"**

Arvin R15 (Bass), Joel R14 (Keyboard), Mila R2 (Drums), Jack R13 (Guitar), Hugo R3 (Guitar), and Naomi R10 (Vocals)

You can catch both rock bands, along with our beginner and advanced bands, violin ensembles, and many more of our talented budding musicians, at our upcoming showcase!

\*Gold coin donation at the door



# MATHS AFTER SCHOOL Support

Looking for extra support in maths? These small-group sessions provide a calm, focused space for students to revisit key ideas, ask questions, and grow in confidence.

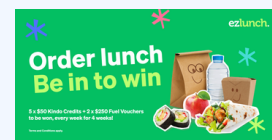
<b>STARTING</b> Next Wednesday	<b>TIME</b> 3:15pm - 4:15pm	<b>MEET</b> School Hall (then move to a classroom)
<b>WHAT TO EXPECT</b>	<b>END OF SESSION</b>	<b>INTERESTED?</b>
<b>SMALL GROUP SUPPORT</b> Focused help in a supportive setting.	<b>SMALL GROUP SUPPORT</b> Students will return to the hall at 4:15pm and make their way home from there.	Please get in touch to register your child or to share any areas they are finding challenging.
<b>FLEXIBLE SESSIONS</b> Sessions shaped around the needs of the students attending.	<b>A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT</b> A safe space to ask questions and build confidence.	<a href="mailto:nicola.h@teatatu.school.nz">nicola.h@teatatu.school.nz</a> Ms. Harrington

## P.A.C.E TERM 2

Our Term 2 P.A.C.E. programme is officially up and running and it's been fantastic to see students diving into some of our new additions. From Badminton, Keyboard Skills, and Carpentry to Fun Physics, Doodle Club, Español, Mahi ā Toi, Pasifika, and Garden Crafts, there is a wonderful variety of learning happening across the school.

These electives run every Friday afternoon for the remainder of the term. Because many of our groups are spread across the school or learning off-site, students can be a little difficult to locate quickly.

If you need to collect your child early on a Friday, please check in with them beforehand to see which elective they are attending, and allow a bit of extra time for us to find them for you.



## EZLUNCH VIA KINDO

Ordering Ezlunch through Kindo is quick, easy, and one less thing to think about in the morning. You order from home (or on the go), and your child's lunch is delivered to school, ready to eat.

Here's how:

1. Log in to the Kindo app (or set up an account at [shop.kindo.co.nz](http://shop.kindo.co.nz))
2. Pick from the menu on your school's available days
3. Your child collects their lunch at school

WELCOME BACK TO WHAT IS OFFICIALLY OUR BUSIEST TERM ON THE SPORTING CALENDAR.



Term 2 is set to be exceptionally busy, featuring eight Zone Days, the commencement of our night leagues, the annual Battle of the Bridges, our "North v South" tournament against Rangeview, and our premier event of the year - Sports Camp.

With such a high volume of activity, I would like to remind all student-athletes of the following expectations to ensure the term runs smoothly:

- **Responsibility:** Students are expected to take responsibility for their schedules by checking the daily student notices and staying in frequent contact with their coaches. With multiple events overlapping, staying informed is the only way to ensure attendance and participation.
- **Communication:** If a student is unable to attend a scheduled training session or game, they must communicate with their coach directly as early as possible.
- **Wellbeing:** The physical demands of this term are significant. We urge students to prioritise their health, manage existing injuries through the proper channels, and ensure they are recovering effectively between events.

We are looking forward to a term filled with competition, growth, and school spirit. - Kōkā Amorangi



## ROUND 1 RESULTS: NETBALL WAITĀKERE WEDNESDAY NIGHT

What a fantastic start to the season! Our teams took to the courts this past Wednesday, May 6, for the opening round of the Netball Waitākere intermediate competition. There was plenty of energy, some nail-biting finishes, and great sportsmanship on display. Here are the official scores from the night:

### YEAR 7 RESULTS

- Waitematā (7A) vs. Te Atatū Pulse
  - Result: 24 – 14 (Win to Waitematā)
- Te Atatū Onyx vs. GEIS 7E
  - Result: 15 – 4 (Win to Onyx)
- Te Atatū Toa vs. GEIS 7F
  - Result: 9 – 9 (Draw)

### YEAR 8 RESULTS

- Swanson 8's vs. Te Atatū Opals
  - Result: 17 – 20 (Win to Opals)
- Waikōwhai Red vs. Te Atatū Rivals
  - Result: 18 – 16 (Win to Waikōwhai)
- Marina View Firebirds vs. Te Atatū Toki
  - Result: 8 – 22 (Win to Toki)
- Te Atatū Marvels vs. Te Atatū Vipers
  - Result: 22 – 4 (Win to Marvels)

A huge shout-out to Te Atatū Toa and GEIS 7F for providing the drama of the night with a hard-fought 9–9 draw! We also saw a thriller in the Year 8 grade, with Waikōwhai Red edging out the Rivals by just two goals. Good luck to all teams for Round 2!

## TRAINING SCHEDULES

### MONDAY

- 7.30am: Running Club – Everyone welcome
- Lunchtime: Kī-o-rahi final training (both teams)
- 4.00pm – 5.00pm: Waterpolo training (at West Wave)

### TUESDAY

- 7.45am: Sports Camp training
- Lunchtime: Year 7 Boys Football

### WEDNESDAY

- 7.45am: Hockey (Boys and Girls)
- 7.45am: Girls Football
- 12.15pm – 1.30pm: North vs South
- 3.15pm – 4.30pm: Basketball Zone Day training

### THURSDAY

- 7.45am: Girls Football
- Lunchtime: Boys Football (both years)

### FRIDAY

- 7.30am: Running Club – Everyone welcome

## TOP OF THE TABLE FOR TAI THUNDER!

Our TAI Thunder basketball team is on an absolute roll, currently sitting at the top of the B Grade standings at the YMCA as we approach the halfway point of the season! The term kicked off with a dominant 37–11 victory over Liston Navy.

This was followed by a thrilling top-of-the-table clash against Liston Maroon. Despite Liston taking an early lead, our players showed incredible grit; after a quick timeout, they fought back to secure a 27–20 win.

It was a massive physical effort from the whole team, especially as they played the entire game with only one substitute.

The momentum continued last night with a 33–10 win against ACG. This was another stellar effort, with the team playing with no substitutes at all due to illness and injury. We are so proud of the determination and sportsmanship this group is showing—keep it up, TAI Thunder!

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

### MTB NORTH ISLAND CHAMPS

A belated congratulations to Ezra R13, for his incredible performance at the North Island School MTB Championships held in Wellington from March 26–29. Ezra showed remarkable skill and consistency across a grueling four days of racing. Resulting in 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Downhill and also Enduro!

It is a massive feat to podium in two very different disciplines, especially against such a high level of competition. Fantastic work, Ezra, we are all very proud of your effort and results!

### ANZMRL U13 KŌTIRO CHAMP

A huge congratulations to Awhina-Lee (R10), whose team, Kotahitanga, was recently crowned the 2026 Aotearoa New Zealand Māori Rugby League (ANZMRL) U13 Kōtiro Champions! Held in Hāwera last month, the tournament showcased incredible talent from across Aotearoa.

We are very proud of your achievement, Awhina-Lee—Tū Tāngata!

# 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.*

## FREE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR WHĀNAU

These supports are available at no cost to families and are here to help remove barriers to attendance, learning, and wellbeing.

## KIDSCAN SUPPORT VIA KINDO

Through our partnership with KidsCan, whānau can access free essential items via KINDO, including:

- School sneakers and black socks (one pair per student)
- Health essentials such as nit treatments and combs
- Sanitary products, including pads and U by Kotex sample packs (with reusable pouch and information)

## IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT

If your child is experiencing challenges with attendance, wellbeing, health, or access to basic needs, we are here to help. Support may include:

- Breakfast and lunch programmes
- School Uniform
- Stationery
- Public Health Nurse services
- Attendance and wellbeing support

## SCHOOL COUNSELLING

Our School Counsellors are available Tuesdays and Thursdays for students who would like someone to talk to. Support is confidential and student-led.

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE SERVICE

Public Health Nurses support tamariki aged 4–18 and their whānau across school, home, and community settings. They can assist with a wide range of health and wellbeing needs, including:

- Attendance concerns (health-related)
- Asthma, allergies, eczema, and other health needs
- Hearing, vision, dental, and growth concerns
- Skin infections, sore throats, head lice
- Access to health and social services
- Youth health and wellbeing

*If you would like any further information on any of these supports, please contact Kohle in the school office.*

## PAY IT FORWARD / COMMUNITY SUPPORT

These initiatives rely on optional community contributions and help us extend support to students beyond core services.

## 'EVERY HELP COUNTS' – KINDO DONATIONS

If you are in a position to give back, you can make a small donation (from \$5) via KINDO. These contributions directly support students with sports, music, camps, and other learning opportunities.

## TE ATATŪ FOOD FOR SCHOOLS

Through the generosity of Te Atatū Food for Schools and our local community, we are able to provide daily lunches—including sandwiches, muesli bars, and fruit—to students who need them.

TAI has been a grateful recipient of this support for some time, alongside other schools across the Peninsula. This initiative plays an important role in ensuring our tamariki are nourished and ready to learn each day.

If you are in a position to contribute, donations are warmly welcomed and help sustain this vital support for our students and wider community.

### VOLUNTEER TO SHOP

Get in touch via the “Te Atatū Food for Schools” Facebook page to join the shopping roster.

### DROP-OFF DONATIONS

They gratefully accept spreads, muesli bars, crackers, or chip packets which can be dropped off at:  
The Fire Station ELC, Waipani Road.

### CASH DONATIONS

Account Name: TE ATATU FOOD FOR SCHOOLS  
ANZ Bank: 01-0495-0447102-00

## BLANKET DRIVE (ATTENDANCE WEST)

Attendance West is currently running a blanket drive to support local tamariki this winter. We welcome donations of new or gently used blankets only (no duvets or sheets please).

Please drop donations to the school office.



# STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY: TAI ATTENDANCE

At TAI, we know that regular attendance is the greatest predictor of student success.

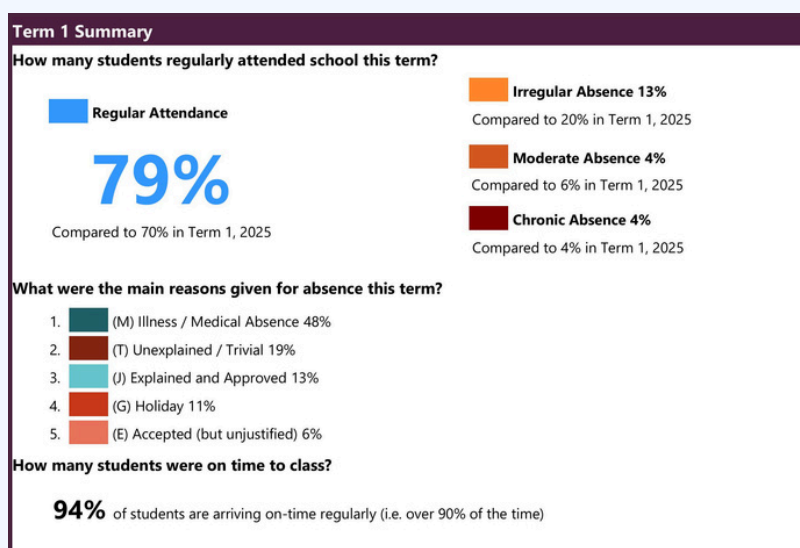
By attending consistently, our tamariki are more likely to reach their full potential, leading to better long-term health, wellbeing, and future stability. The Government has set a national goal for 80% of students to attend school regularly (more than 90% of the time) by the year 2030, and we are committed to working steadily toward this target.

## HOW DID WE DO IN TERM 1?

Our Term 1 data shows a fantastic trend compared to last year. Currently, 79% of our students are hitting that "Regular Attendance" mark, which is a significant increase from 70% in Term 1, 2025.

While we are trending well above the national averages, we still have a small group of students sitting in the "Moderate" and "Chronic" absence categories (missing 10 or more days per term).

Our goal for Term 2 is to move those students back into the blue. When a student's attendance becomes a concern, we will email work with whānau to create an Individual Attendance Plan. This is a supportive tool designed to identify any barriers - whether at school or home - and agree on specific actions to help them get back to class.



## A FOCUS ON PUNCTUALITY

Starting the day with a settled, positive routine is the foundation for great learning.

We view being on time not just as a school rule, but as a vital life skill that builds responsibility and reliability. Students should be at school before the 8:45 am bell to set themselves up for the day.

To further enforce the importance of punctuality and help students master their morning rhythms, we are moving from a three-strike rule to a 2-Strike "Refresh" Rule this term.

Under this updated system, any student who arrives late to school or class twice within a single week will be invited to a Lunchtime Reflection Time the following Tuesday to reset and plan for a more successful week ahead.

We understand that life happens, so medical appointments and family emergencies are always taken into account when reviewing these lates.

For students who reach ten or more lates in a term, we will reach out via email to partner with you in identifying any barriers and finding a sustainable morning rhythm that works for your whānau.

We love celebrating progress, and students who show consistent improvement in their punctuality will continue to receive school commendations and tokens of appreciation.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping our students stand tall by being present and prepared every day.

# WEB WISE @ TAI: CYBERBULLYING, BANTER & THE GROUP CHAT

For many of our students, the school day doesn't end at 3:00 PM—it continues in group chats on WhatsApp, Messenger Kids, or Discord. While these are great for staying connected, they are also where most social drama and misunderstandings begin.

## IS IT "JUST A JOKE" OR SOMETHING MORE?

In the intermediate years, the line between friendly teasing and hurtful behavior can often get blurred. Students frequently use the phrase "it was just a joke" to minimise the impact of their words.

Ask your child, "If everyone in the chat isn't laughing, is it still a joke?"

- **Banter** is playful, two-way, and everyone involved is laughing.
- **Cyberbullying** is targeted, repetitive, and intended to upset or shame. Unlike face-to-face bullying, it follows a student home and can appear on their device at any hour.

## THE GROUP CHAT CHALLENGE

Group chats move fast and can become overwhelming or toxic very quickly. Common issues we see include:

- Chats blowing up with hundreds of notifications can make it hard for students to disconnect or sleep.
- Purposefully leaving one friend out of a group chat to make them feel rejected.
- Remind students that anything said in a "private" group can be screenshotted and shared with the whole school in seconds.

## TIPS FOR WHĀNAU

- Setting a firm time when devices are charged in a central area (like the kitchen), gives your child a socially acceptable excuse for not replying to late-night drama.
- Show your child how to "mute" a busy chat so they can check it on their own terms rather than being interrupted by every ping.
- Encourage your child that if they see a mean comment, they don't have to join the fight, but they should check in privately on the person being targeted.

The TAI Online Safety Hub has dedicated sections to help you navigate these specific challenges: [teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent-advice](https://teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent-advice) (Click the "Cyberbullying" tile).



## APP SPOTLIGHT: DISCORD

EXPERT RECOMMENDED AGE: 17+

### WHAT IS DISCORD?

Discord is a communications app that allows users to chat via text, voice, and video through different "servers." Originally built for gamers to talk while playing together, it has evolved into a massive social platform for various communities and interests.

### WHY IS IT RATED 17+?

The Online Safety Hub recommends an older age for Discord because:

- **Unfiltered Content:** Most servers are community-run and can contain adult language, graphic content, or mature themes that are not suitable for intermediate-aged students.
- **Live Broadcasting:** The "Go Live" feature allows users to stream their screens or cameras in real-time, which is difficult to monitor and carries high risk.
- **Privacy Risks:** By default, the platform allows for direct messaging and friend requests from people your child may not know in real life.

### KNOWN RISKS

- **Stranger Contact:** If privacy settings aren't strictly locked down, students can be contacted by adults or strangers within large public servers.
- **Data Privacy:** Discord collects a significant amount of user data, and once a message or image is shared, it can be very difficult to remove or control.
- **The "Rabbit Hole":** It is easy for students to jump from a safe, small friend server into a large, unmonitored public server without parents realising.

### TIPS FOR WHĀNAU

- Ensure your child has enabled the setting that automatically scans and deletes direct messages containing explicit content.
- Ask your child to show you which servers they have joined. If they are in a server with thousands of members they don't know, it's time to have a conversation about safety.
- Encourage your child to turn off "Direct Messaging" from server members so only their actual friends can message them privately.

Click here for the full expert review: [teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent/reviews/discord](https://teatatu.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent/reviews/discord)