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WEEK 10 TERM 2 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

28 June 2023

Kia ora koutou,

Farewell and a massive thankyou to teacher **Jo Crean**, Professional Learning Leader.

Jo began her teaching career in 1978 as a physical education teacher in Queensland, Australia. She then travelled to New Zealand to teach at Twizel Area School where she met and married a kiwi chap named Bryan. Jo took time out between 1986 and 1991 to raise a family. Jo has taught in a number of schools including three specialist schools, totalling 38 years service.



Jo joined our school in 2006 in a casual teaching role then became our Associate Principal in 2009 to the end of 2012. Jo returned to our school in 2014 in a senior role.

Jo's contribution to our school has been outstanding on many fronts, from massive fundraising success, extensive curriculum development and professional guidance for staff, to playground design and construction, internal and external sensory areas development and so much more.

We want to thank Jo for her very successful teaching career and incredible service to our school.

Our best wishes to Jo and Bryan for the next step in their life's journey.

Ngā mihi Kind regards
Barrie Wickens
Principal

Important dates and info

Matariki Celebration, Thursday 29 June, 11-1pm, whānau invited

Support Staff Week, 26-30 June

End of Term 2, Friday 30 June

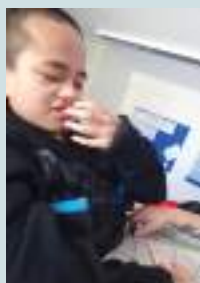
Start Term 3, Monday 17 July

Kāhui Ako Curriculum Day, Monday 18th September - school closed

Devonport Road Campus

Pukeko Class

We have been exploring different cultures through art activities. We made Scottish tartan patterns by using rollers, created Niuean Hiapo patterns with masking tape and paints, and made playdough to make Matariki stars. We have had a lot of fun by using a range of tools and materials.



Tui Class

We have been having so much fun making Matariki Art! We painted stars in bright shades of yellow and gold and added some glitter to make them sparkle. We used cookie cutters and chalk to create shooting stars. We also made Matariki Lanterns and hung them up with attached fairy lights. Our students were all enthusiastic about joining in, and it was heartwarming to see them shine like the stars above.



Te Kura o Manunui

This term the tamariki at our Te Kura o Manunui Satellite class have enjoyed exploring different ways they can look after their Taha Tīnana - physical wellbeing. Check out all the awesome things they have been up to.



Room 1



Room 1 has been enjoying developing Taha Tinana. We went out to Mt Drury to have morning tea outside, go for a swing and a walk. It was a beautiful day. All the students managed the change of environment for morning tea. Some of them really enjoyed the swing.



Mana Kaha

Mana Kaha is a term we use at Tauranga Special School, encompassing the meaning “being the best we can be”. Our Mana Kaha team would like to introduce ourselves so that if your child’s teacher contacts you and mentions our team, then you know who we are and how we work to support you and your tamariki!

Here are our current Mana Kaha team members:

				
Billie Hampton Edwards Kaiārahi Team Leader Kaiwhakatika i te Reo Kōrero Speech Language Therapist	Penny Gee Kaiārahi Hauora Leader of Wellbeing Pathways	Erin Connolly Whakaora Ngangahau Occupational Therapist	Naomi McDonald Mātanga Hinengaro Psychology Consultant	David Keightley-Phillipps Kaimātai Hinengaro o te Kura Psychologist

Our Mana Kaha team members support school-wide wellbeing initiatives and education best practice. We aim to provide cohesive staff, class team and individual student support. Examples of support include professional conversations and consultation, advice, creation and delivery of professional development, modelling of skills and strategies, delivery of programs as per therapy sessions, meeting support and more.

Schoolwide wellbeing initiatives & education best practice:

The Mana Kaha Team supports school wide initiatives and best practice, for example;

- Zones of Regulation
- TSS philosophy of Total Communication
- Universal Design for Learning - individualised, differentiated teaching and learning.

Our holistic support for ākonga is increasingly aligned with Te Whare Tapa Whā (Durie, 1982) as we journey towards embedding this wellbeing model into the ethos of our kura. The diversity of our Mana Kaha team skill set facilitates collaborations for our kura when planning for ongoing support and growth for our TSS community.

Staff & Class team support

Our collaborations with class teams aim to consider challenges or concerns from a solutions-based, proactive perspective. Support for class teams may include team meeting support or professional development sessions designed and delivered on an as-needs basis. Given that teams often seek support when the hauora, or wellbeing, of class teams or ākonga is under stress, our Mana Kaha team aims to work alongside and support - to highlight strengths and also identify strategies to build skills where needed.

Individual student support

Our TSS staff are highly skilled and knowledgeable, and ongoing training for staff supports the understanding that our students communicate their needs in a variety of ways. When individual students demonstrate that their needs may have changed, staff consider these situations carefully and accordingly make changes to support the student. If class teams need more targeted support for an individual student, they initiate a referral process. With whānau permission, the referral ensures that our consultant psychologist is able to provide input regarding the students’ needs and potential ways to support them. At this point, our Mana Kaha team is also engaged; offering consistent, intensive support for the student and class team. For example, using observation and consultation to then recommend, model and/or trial strategies to support the student. The Mana Kaha team is able to facilitate ongoing collaboration and support until such time that the support for the student, and the student’s skillset, appear to be aligned and their wellbeing is restored.

During the second half of 2023, our Mana Kaha team will be reviewing the format of the current Mana Kaha plans, so if any of our whānau or wider kura community have ideas you’d like to share with us regarding the Mana Kaha plans, please do email or phone us at school manakaha@taurangaspecialschool.nz .

Treatment of Minor Conditions from Community Pharmacy

A minor ailment service will be available at your local Bay of Plenty community pharmacy during the winter of 2023.

To be eligible for a FREE pharmacist consultation, advice, treatment or referral; patients must meet either of these criteria:

- Children under 14 years of age
- Māori or Pacific people
- Hold a valid community services card.
- A whanau member of an eligible patient with the same condition

Conditions to be treated include:

- Acute Diarrhoea or dehydration
- Minor skin infections
- Scabies
- Headlice
- Eye inflammation/infections
- Pain and fever
- Eczema/Dermatitis

A pharmacist at your local community pharmacy will be able to provide you with advice about your health condition, appropriate treatment options and advice on whether you should see your GP or healthcare provider. Appointments are not required.