



**Tauranga
Special
School**
Learning together

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Newsletter **Week 4 25th May Term 2 2022**

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers and Whānau: Major Break Through:

After several years of battling with the Ministry of Education authorities for the Bay of Plenty Waiariki region, about our need to have more satellite class options, we have finally had a breakthrough at an official level. We are now entering into formal discussions with various Ministry officials to establish a framework that recognises our school's property entitlement and our region's need to establish new satellite classes. Addressing property issues for schools is always a very slow process but we are confident that we will succeed here. Our student numbers continue to grow and to best meet this demand we need more satellites.

Base School Staffroom Verandah Extension Completed: In 2016 we moved into our new Base School Administration block under a tight financial budget. Although we are not allowed to build any more permanent buildings on our restricted Base School site, we are allowed to add a verandah to our small staff room. The verandah was completed last week and has provided an outdoor space for our staff to relax during their much needed break times.



Before



After

Ngā mihi Kind regards
Barrie Wickens
Principal

Term Dates for 2022

Term 2 Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

Term 3 Monday 25th July - Friday 30th September

Term 4 Monday 17th October - Thursday 15 December

Queen's Birthday - Monday 6th June

Teacher only day - Thursday 23rd June

Matariki Holiday - Friday 24th June

Labour Day - Monday 24th October

Brookfield

We have been learning to talk about things we like and don't like to play with. We had great fun exploring different sensory materials. We made different types of slime and talked about how it felt to play with .



Some of the class liked playing with the sticky slime, some preferred shredded paper and some liked both.



DRC

DRC have already settled into our new settings at Greerton Brass Band Hall and the ' Studio' at Base. We are really looking forward to seeing the improvements at DRC on Devonport Road in a few weeks time....

Exciting times ahead!

Special thanks to Dave and Barrie for all their help moving resources to our new settings and to all whānau and staff for their on- going support.

Here are a few photos showing some of our activities on Day One.



How best do we encourage our children to eat?

Our Speech and Language Therapists have recently been discussing an interesting study which has given some of us 'food for thought' (pun intended!) when it comes to how best to help our students who aren't that keen on their food.

The study was done by Galloway et al in 2006 and it was called the "Finish Your Soup" study.

Children in childcare settings were separated into two groups.

One group sat at the table together to eat a new soup and once a minute they were told to "finish your soup please" (for a total of 4 times). The rest of the time was normal conversation.



The other group ate the soup but the adults did not mention the soup or ask them to finish it - they just spoke about other things.

They found that the children in the group where there was no mention of soup ate significantly more soup!

Often as adults we talk about the food we are eating and encourage our children to eat up, and that helps some children become interested in food and eat more, but with some children that has an opposite effect.

We think the "take home" message may be to work out what works best for each child and follow their lead!

If you would like to talk to a Speech Language Therapist regarding your child's eating, drinking and swallowing please don't hesitate to get in touch - we are here and happy to help!

Just a reminder to all our Whānau that there is a **Facebook page** set up just for you!



Just search: **Tauranga Special School Whānau Support Group** and ask to join.

This is a forum where you can share thoughts, ideas and knowledge, where you can ask for help and where you can get support when you need it. We would encourage you to join.

TC3 Golf at Otumoetai Golf Course



A group of 4 students from TC3 have been given the opportunity to learn and play the game of golf at Otumoetai Golf Club. With a gifting of some old clubs and balls and tees they have an hour every Monday on the course at no cost. This is a great opportunity to experience and learn new skills which they can carry on after they leave school.



It was great to hear Ihaka say ' I dreamed about this all last night' - followed by a brilliant shot up the fairway.

We are grateful to Otumoetai for supporting these students.

