

WEEK 5 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

7 November 2023

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you to our school community for your support with our school being closed Monday 6th November to allow all our staff to attend a professional development day. The theme for the day was 'Understanding Behaviour and the Brain' facilitated by Karina Schreurs who specialises in Trauma Responsive Education Aotearoa. We believe providing as much information and training as we can to our staff to better understand and respond effectively to the complexities of our students is essential.



We used the Pāpāmoa Surf club for our training day.

Ngā mihi Kind regards
Barrie Wickens
Principal

Important dates and info

End of year showcase 13 December

Last day of term 15 December 12 noon

TIS Cathryn's Class

We have been reading a story called "Mixed- A colourful story" and have enjoyed mixing colours in different ways to see what we could create.



We made our own dot characters and wrote about what we made.



TIS Sara's Class

Each week this year, we have looked forward to swimming in our awesome heated school pool. We love being in the water and have really improved our swimming skills. We like to dive to the bottom and pick up toys, swim through a hoop, kick on our front and back using a floatation device, make a whirlpool and have fun races.



This term our class really enjoyed participating alongside our Manuka house buddies in the Ultimate Relay event at Tauranga Intermediate. We ran around the course with them and had heaps of fun.



TC3

With only weeks to go until the end of the year, here at TC3 our senior students and staff are beginning to think about summer holidays and 2024.

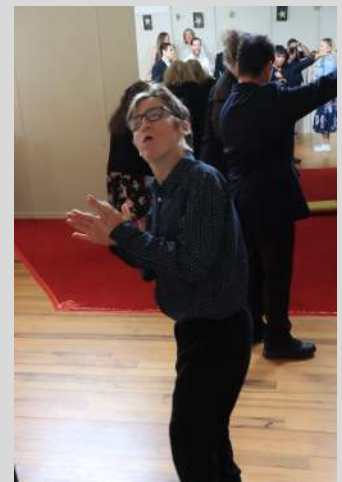


These cool students are reminding us to put on a hat, some sunglasses and sunblock when we go out in the sun.

At TC3 everyone has been learning about vegetable gardening. Earlier in the year we visited Bunnings and along with Tui Gardening Products we got started. We make our own compost from our vegetable and fruit scraps, and the neighbours lawn clippings. A few weeks ago we planted potatoes and they look really healthy. We are looking forward to new potatoes with butter and mint (also grown in our garden). We have grown vegetables from seeds, including these sunflower plants and cucumbers. In addition, we have lettuce, tomatoes, spinach, garlic, herbs and other goodies in our gardening boxes. Sadly, three of the students in these photos won't be with us next year to enjoy all our harvest as the time has come for them to finish school at the end of the year. Thankfully they have learnt heaps and can now grow their own vegetables at home.



It's that time of year where we put on the top hat and ball gowns and hit the Prom floor. TC3 organised a fabulous Prom including our friends from other classes and schools...and what a Prom!!!! Dancing, singing, laughing, and so much fun.





ON YOUR MARKS - GET SETGO!!!!

This year, while the weather was not our friend, the cross country was a wonderful success. Everyone got in and gave it their best. We are so proud of all our runners and walkers - they exemplified determination and fun.



Mana Kaha

-being the best we can be-

Our kura is exploring Sir Mason Durie's holistic model of hauora *Te Whare Tapa Whā*. This model of wellbeing was developed in 1984 and is currently used by many organisations and kura across Aotearoa New Zealand.

This year as a staff, we have considered ways that we already endeavour to nurture hauora, where we might continue to focus, and where our next steps in our Hauora journey may be.

There are four taha of Te Whare Tapa Whā:

- ❖ Taha Whānau - family and social wellbeing
- ❖ Taha Tinana - physical wellbeing
- ❖ Taha Hinengaro - mental and emotional wellbeing
- ❖ Taha Wairua - spiritual well being

Below are some of our reflections based on one of the four, Taha Whānau:

Exploring Taha Whānau using the 4 locatives

What are we already doing to nurture and embed te taha whānau in our kura?

Runga on/above/up	Raro under/beneath	Roto in/inside/into	Waho outside
What is projected out to our school community; linking the culture of home and school. (our relationship with the community)	Stories, history, whakapapa, where we have come from and where we are heading. (our stories, history and direction)	What happens inside the classroom. (inside the teaching space)	What happens on our school grounds and school environment. (our physical environment and spaces)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff uniforms and vests • Morning and afternoon teas • Whole school events: kayak day, Motariki, Pasifika festival, concert/showcase, other celebrations • EOTC / events • Using community amenities • Storypark - updates • Edge • Skool Loop • School Facebook page • Kōhui Ako + networks and hui • Kapa Haka underway • School newsletter • Home-School notebooks/diaries • Texts/messages home • Work experiences • Whānau Hui begun <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen connections with agencies and other kura 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic plan • Annual plan • Team charters • National Trust • Local legends • EOTC - sites of significance • Pepeha / family trees • Te Reo Tuatahi - course for all staff • Local stories - Pukehinahina • TSS Tikanga <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School history - where we started etc • Tikanga doc - review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whānau morning teas • Coreboards-placement/ use • Displays in classrooms for pepeha, family trees, work to connect with • Classroom culture/vibe - charters • Class/school values - teaching and supporting these • Small group work • Pepeha • Karakia • Buddy classes • Student voice • Tikanga • Focus on relationships <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review class rules/group charters at beginning of year/term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coreboards in playgrounds - bilingual • Bi-lingual signs - playgrounds • Signage - consultation with community • Sensory areas - class visits • Buddy classes • Mihi whakataua • Playground - targeted equipment + Part of wider school whānau - satellites use of it + • Integration - access to spaces/equipment, alongside/with mainstream peers <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grounds audit - creating sense of belonging / social wellbeing in kura foyer/other areas

This is not an exhaustive list- we'll add to it as our Hauora journey continues. We'd also really appreciate any feedback our whānau and wider kura community would like to offer, so if you'd like to contribute your ideas, please send us an email to manakaha@taurangaspecialschool.nz.