



**Tauranga
Special
School**
Learning together

39 18th Avenue
Tauranga 3112
Telephone: (07) 5784424
Fax: (07) 5710813

Email: office@taurangaspecialschool.nz
Website www.taurangaspecialschool.nz

Newsletter Term 2 Week 3 16 May 2019

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

Strike Day Wednesday 29 May:

We greatly appreciate the community support that we have already received following the recent decision by teachers and principals to strike on Wednesday 29 May. (Our school will be closed on this day).

The decision to take further strike action was not taken lightly by any of us. For the first time, both primary and secondary teachers are striking together because the crisis in education hits us all very hard and we need the Government to understand how serious it is.

Schools are grappling with the fallout from a 40% nosedive in the number of people training to be teachers between 2010 and 2016, even while the population grew by 400,000. While the situation improved a little last year, and the Government has announced an urgent \$95 million package to recruit teachers, this is not sufficient to address the current crisis. Schools struggle daily to find enough teachers to meet their relief teacher needs, our school is no exception here. The situation will worsen as winter approaches. There is also a desperate need for more support for children with additional learning needs.

The fact is that teaching is no longer considered an attractive profession, due to long-term under funding of the education sector. A significant pay jolt is part of the solution, alongside major improvements required to address our heavy workloads. Otherwise our schools will end up with larger class sizes and more teachers leaving.

On Wednesday 29 May, we hope you will join us at our Tauranga regional public event. We would love to see you and your children/young adults standing with us - together we are a community and we can make a difference. We will advise you of further details when they are confirmed.

Regards

Barrie Wickens
Principal

Term dates

Special Olympics - Football skills and games - Otumoetai College

10.00am 22 May 2019

Queens Birthday weekend - holiday Monday 3 June

Farewell to Sally Holbrook BOT Chairperson -

Board of Trustee Elections -

End of term 2 - Friday 5 July

A huge thank you to . . . Burger Fuel

who so generously donated over 20 vouchers to our school.

Some of the vouchers went towards a raffle to raise funds for the sun shades for our playground.

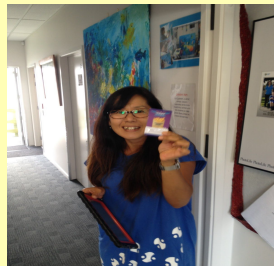
The rest went to our support staff. We wanted to give the support staff a bit of encouragement for all the work that they do and acknowledge that some days can be very difficult.

We put every support staff name in a hat and drew out 10 lucky people.

Here are some of them!!



Marnie



Hiromi



Annalitta

Tauranga Intermediate Satellite Class

Term 2's integrated topic has a Social Studies focus on significant places in our community. The Intermediate students are enjoying visiting places around Tauranga.



Te Puna Quarry Park



So far we have visited The Domain, The Elms, The Mount and Te Puna Quarry, and look forward to exploring many more places as the term progresses.

As you can see from the photos, the students especially enjoyed exploring all that Te Puna Quarry has to offer!



TC3 Topic

Relationships with the land

TC3 have traveled near and far to take photos of themselves in various locations that are important to them. It has been great fun.



The Elms



View of Tauranga Harbour



Kiwifruit orchard



Port of Tauranga



Tauranga Airport



Pilot Bay & Mauao



Gate Pā



Memorial Park - Jungle Gym



Historic Village



Speedway - Baypark



Fishing boat



Tauranga Harbour Bridge