



**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 Week 5 Term 1 2nd March 2022

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers and Whānau:

Open or closed - Day by Day Decision: With the speed with which Covid-Omicron is spreading across our communities, schools and kura are on a daily basis determining if they will have enough staff to ensure they can maintain safe adult to student ratios. We have a number of staff and students isolating at home.

At short notice families may be called and requested to pick their child or young adult up as their class may have to close. While we wait for the Ministry to determine the availability of RAT test kits for staff in schools and kuras, staff can only access Covid Testing stations when open. The cost of purchasing enough kits if available would be prohibitive for schools and kuras. We will do all we can to ensure where possible that we remain open but at this stage it is a real lottery.

Positive News:

In these challenging times it is good to have some positive news items. Our student roll numbers continue to rise. We now have 108 students enrolled, the highest total in our school's 56 years of being open. This number is set to increase gradually through the year.

Renovations to our two offsite facilities TC3 (Tauranga Community College Campus) at Chadwick Road in Greerton, and DRC (Devonport Road Campus) are underway. TC3 renovations will take approximately six weeks then the builders will move to DRC for the following eight weeks.

At our Base School additional shade sails are in the process of being erected over our small playground area, and we have beautified a feature wall in our swimming pool area with sea creature murals.

Ngā mihi Kind regards
Barrie Wickens
Principal



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.



Term Dates for 2022

Term 1 Wednesday 3rd February - Thursday 14th April

Term 2 Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

Term 3 Monday 25th July - Friday 30th September

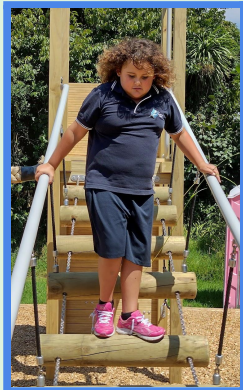
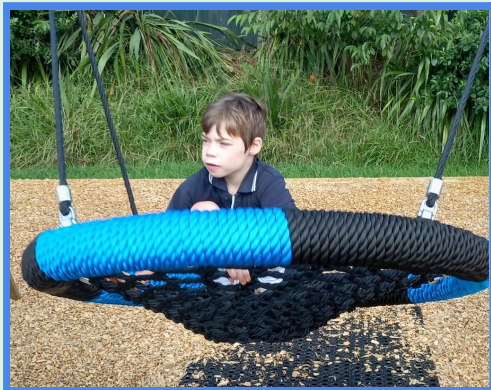
Term 4 Monday 17th October - Thursday 15 December

Teacher only day - Monday 4th April

Teacher only day - Thursday 23rd June

Labour Day - Monday 24th October

Brookfield



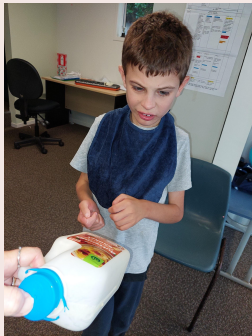
Being in the Brookfield satellite class means we have been able to try out the new playground that was built at Brookfield Primary School.



It has been fun taking turns on the circle swing, climbing up and down the steps and trying the climbing wall.

All of the teachers have noticed that the swings are the favourite part of the playground for the students.

DRC



**At DRC our junior and senior groups
have been getting to know each other.**

**We have been on walks and bike rides in the community, shared
sensory stories and enjoyed shared kai times.**

**We have also taken part in a weekly celebration of our achievements
as a part of our school value, Whakanuia.**



Storypark helps your child get the best start in life by personalising their learning. Relive important moments in a private online community that grows with them over time.

Designed to help you to record and share your child's milestones and activities. Share moments with the whole family or as a private message. Begin a record of your child's life you'll cherish forever.



Don't miss the little things

With Storypark, you can feel close when you're far away. Your child's educators can send you real-time updates, photos and videos throughout your day.

Private support and a safer digital future for your child

Parents control their child's digital footprint (Storypark does not own your data) and can decide who has access to their child's information.



**Family can comment and post,
creating a reciprocal learning community.**

Tauranga Special School is using Storypark as a sharing platform to update parents, family, whānau, and caregivers.