

39 18th Avenue Tauranga 3112

Telephone: (07) 5784424

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

Facebook: facebook.com/TGASpecialSchool

WEEK 6 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

6 June 2024

Kia ora koutou,

Staff Only Day Tuesday 4 June:

Thank you to our whole school community for your support while all our staff participated in a Staff Only Day on Tuesday. The government has allowed all schools two days this year to address the wide ranging changes to the New Zealand Curriculum. We held a range of very informative and practical workshops for our staff across the day.

On a far less than happy note, **Budget 2024 outcomes for Education** were extremely disappointing. As a principal each year I watch what the budget delivers to all sectors of our country, but more so for the education sector. This government's first Budget was a clear opportunity to show it was serious about creating a well-resourced public education system and addressing the issues that affect us as educators in particular learning support, in other words support for the many thousands of students in our schools with special needs. Instead they have committed \$153 million for charter schools, enough to pay for 700 teacher aides or more than 300 learning support specialists. These schools are not even required to have principals who are trained and registered teachers to lead their operations.

Ngā mihi Kind regards Barrie Wickens Principal

Important dates:

Monday 17th June- Poi making workshop- 6pm-8pm- Base School Friday 28 June - Matariki (School closed)

Wednesday 3rd July- Whole School Matariki event- 11-1pm- Base School

Room 3

Our Morning Routine



Room 3 has been learning a new routine each morning. They are learning to follow a visual sequence when they arrive at school, this includes emptying their bags, a sensory circuit, making breakfast, zones of regulation check in and choosing from their toolbox.

The foot spa and massage chair have been the clear toolbox favourites so far! We can't wait to see what other tools the Room 3 tamariki enjoy.

Pāpāmoa College - Andrew's Class













At Pāpāmoa College we have been getting out and about. Here you can see Jasper, Bobby and Tameta enjoying walking on the logs at the Pāpāmoa Hills which we have been visiting every week to make a real world connection to the story of Ngā Maunga Tohorā. This story is special for the Ngā Pōtiki iwi and tells the story of the whales who get lost and end up becoming the Hills. We also enjoyed practising our soccer skills, Rosie got some awesome kicks in, and we are learning more about playing a game together, as you can see Madison and Bobby enjoying here. Lastly we have continued working on fine motor skills and water play to help with sensory regulation. It has been an enjoyable term so far with lots of variety.

Pāpāmoa College - Jenn's Class

























Physio and P.E.

We have been keeping healthy and active this term. We have been learning to look after ourselves by taking good care of ourselves physically. Every day we take a long fitness walk before we start our mahi. This helps keep us regulated, and is such a great way to begin our day. The weather has been so nice, and the walk around our community is stunning. We are also practising safe crossing, and staying together as a group. Some days we are so lucky to have Bella visit us, and the students learn to take turns walking her.

We have been training for the Special Olympics that unfortunately were cancelled last Wednesday, but will be rescheduled for Term 4. We still enjoyed training, and playing against each other and the teachers. We are lucky to have goals on the field behind the College.

Every Thursday we enjoy the gym, and practise our basketball skills. We are getting really good at dribbling, shooting, passing, and so much more.

Fitness and sports will be ongoing for the rest of the year. It has been a real hit, and we are all really enjoying it. We really love being out in our community, and are proud to be a part of Pāpāmoa College. Keep up the great mahi team!





Pāpāmoa College - Dave's Class

Senior Curriculum FoodTech:







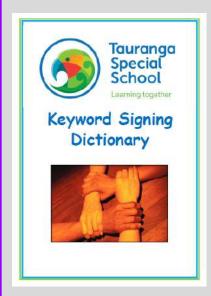






In the Senior class at Papamoa College we have been doing FoodTech every week on a Thursday. Students will follow a visual shopping list on Mondays at Countdown supermarket to shop for items in FoodTech such as Pizzas, Toasted Sandwiches, Bacon Rolls and this week Macaroni Cheese and Bacon, yum, yum!! We follow our visual sequence while cooking, learn about cutting food, grating cheese, find out about hot and cold as well as set the table for formal eating. When Katelyn was asked, "What's the best part about cooking", she said, "Having food!!"

Speech-language Therapy



Key Word Signing Dictionary

Our updated Key Word Signing Dictionary is ready to share with our whānau and class teams.

What is Key Word Sign?

Key Word Sign is a simplified form of manual signing. We sign the "key" words as we talk.

Key Word Signing can help focus our student's attention, maximise their opportunity to understand and helps to develop expressive language.

Principles of Key Word Signing

- * Sign as you speak only sign the key words in your sentence eg. if I am asking 'do you want to play?' I would only sign with the word 'play' and maybe use a gesture for you if there were lots of children around.
- * Speak normally; the only change you are making is that you are supporting your speech with a visual cue.
- * Use natural gesture, facial expression, pointing and other verbal cues (laughing) and if your child has any other alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) system (coreboard, iPad) use that too.
- * If you don't know a sign don't panic, use what you think and look up the sign later.
- * When we teach signs we choose the ones that are most relevant and interactive we don't just sign the names of things but also show how we can add signs to comments, questions, requests, protests and sharing feelings and opinions.

We will share the Key Word Sign Dictionary on StoryPark. If you have any questions about using key word sign don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kathleen Jones - <u>kathleenj@taurangaspecialschool.nz</u>
Rebecca Scott - <u>rebeccas@taurangaspecialschool.nz</u>
Bridget Fox - <u>bridgetf@taurangaspecialschool.nz</u>
Billie Hampton Edwards - <u>billiehe@taurangaspecialschool.nz</u>
Or call the school - 07 578 4424 :-)

Construction of signalised crossing at Fraser Street - 17th/18th Avenue

Tauranga City Council is starting the construction of a signalised crossing on Fraser Street between 17th and 18th Avenue in the week beginning 4 June 2024. This crossing will provide a safe crossing point for your students and residents in the neighbourhood. It will take approximately eight weeks to complete, weather dependent.

Work will include:

- a signalised crossing between no 181 and 182 Fraser Street
- new cycle lane marking on both sides of Fraser Street between 17th and 18th Avenue
- new traffic signs and road markings.

Traffic management

- there will be a temporary pedestrian refuge island installed on the 17th Avenue side of the newly built crossing while construction is underway
- traffic management staff will be available to help students cross the road around school opening and closing hours
- a temporary reduced speed limit of 30k/h through the work site
- · use of narrowed lanes
- some footpaths and cycle lanes around the site will be closed and a safe detour will be provided
- construction work will stop to let pedestrians through the work site safely as required
- stop go traffic management and portable traffic lights will be implemented as required at off peak times
- · bus stops will stay in use for the duration of the project.

Please take extra time and care driving. We will make all efforts to limit traffic impacts where possible.

