

Tapora Times

Vision

To empower our children to discover their passion and fulfil their potential.

Mission Statement

Tapora School will work closely with the community to encourage students to be generous of spirit and kind of heart, and to live their lives with respect and integrity, for themselves, others, and their environment.

By providing opportunities to accept responsibility, take risks, direct their own learning, and explore a variety of interests, students will be engaged in learning, enjoy success, and develop a sense of confidence, self worth and self belief.

Our students will celebrate their successes and learn from their mistakes, accepting that mistakes are how we learn.

Tapora School Vision

Hi everyone,

The Board of Trustees have been working diligently behind the scenes conducting a thorough self-review of the schools processes, procedures, and operations. I am happy to say we are making wonderful progress in all respects. You will remember the community consultation that went home to parents and community late last year, well we have taken on board what was said and have established a new Vision and Mission Statement for Tapora School, as above, that we feel nicely encapsulates everything we believe in and hold dear. In the not too distant future the Board will be feeding back to the school community in regards to the schools performance and position in terms of Teaching & Learning, Health & Safety, Human Resources, Property, and Finance. This will also provide an opportunity for the community to ask questions of the Board. We believe this will be a very valuable exercise and will provide more details as they come to hand. In the meantime, we would welcome feedback on the Vision and Mission Statement

Have a wonderful fortnight

Brendon

Dates to Remember

28 February	Cluster Swimming Sports, Rodney College
6 March	Year 8 Girls imunisations
7 March	Community Bird Day, Tapora School
9 April	Cluster Schools Athletics, Centennial Park
11 April	Athletics Save Day
17 April	End of Term 1
18 April	Good Friday



Wide brimmed hats are compulsory in Terms 1 & 4!

Check your child's
homework book for
updates!

Room 1 Homework

If Room 1 students have their fingers crossed in the hope that there is no homework, uncross them now 'cause homework is on its way to you soon!

Mr. Fiebig and I respect your differing views on homework. We also know that some students are very busy after school and homework is difficult for parents to schedule in to family life, while for others homework is a must-do. So this year we are making homework voluntary. Let's be clear on this though, although it's voluntary we are not saying that homework is not valuable. Homework reinforces your child's learning and allows them to practice and strengthen the foundation skills needed for more complex tasks. It also provides

an opportunity for students to share with their parents and whānau the skills they are learning.

So how does this voluntary system work? All students will be provided with spelling, times tables, a reading log and other miscellaneous activities or research to suit their level or topic. But, if your child does not do the homework set we will not be waiting with angry faces. Instead, we will acknowledge the students who are willing to commit to this extra learning by rewarding them with effort stamps through our C.A.R.E programme.

Over the coming week we will set up the homework books with information and tips, starting with

the areas of spelling, reading and times tables, as the instructions for these will remain the same for the year. Later on we will provide additional one off activities or research. Homework books will come home on Monday's and need to be handed in on Friday mornings. No regular homework will be set over the weekends – it's your time to play hard!



BYOD!

(Bring Your Own Device)

We are now in the position to offer students the opportunity to bring their own device to school in order to wirelessly access the internet for school based research. The terms and conditions of BYOD devices are the same as the Internet Usage policy that everyone has already signed.

Additional points of note are that the devices are only to be used during class time, for purposes stipulated by the teacher, and under strict supervision. At all other times the devices will be locked away securely in the school's safe.

The devices will therefore need to be handed into the teacher and locked away in the morning and brought out as and when needed during the day. The devices will be handed back to the student at the end of the day.

At this stage laptops, tablets or iPads only will be acceptable as devices, not phones, but this will remain subject to review.



Show me the Money!

Money is not normally something I like to talk about in respect to education – I'd much rather just spend it! However, the reality is that money is a big driver in a lot of the decisions we make at this school. Whilst it is widely accepted that there is no such thing as free education, Tapora School does its best to minimise the cost by not charging fees or asking for donations, whilst also trying to maintain a diverse and exciting curriculum programme. One of those options last year was music lessons every Monday. However, it appears due to unpaid accounts Martin Worthington may not continue to offer this service. We ask then that parents please settle their outstanding accounts with Martin so we may entice him out here again to continue the music lessons. We are also committed to providing further support to those students that need it through funding teacher aides through the school's own funds. A job made more difficult through Novopay issues! In fact, one of the only areas of discretion we have left in our annual budget is Teaching Resources. It is for this reason we appreciate very much the parent and community helpers we have volunteering in school. I am also very pleased to say that we now have a fund raising committee up and running and already working on our next fundraising extravaganza! Called FOTS, Friends of Tapora School, they will be regular contributors to the newsletter to keep you up to speed as to what is happening. PLEASE SUPPORT THEIR INITIATIVES!

2014 YELLOW PAGES DELIVERY – IMPORTANT NOTICE

Yes it is coming up to that time of the year again. The good news is for those parents who have done deliveries – it is only ONE BOOK!! Because of this, there will not be a packing day. Instead we will have a BBQ at the end of the delivery period to thank everyone for their help. Delivery starts on Saturday 15 March and concludes on Thursday 27 March (mark it on your calendar). Each family is expected to do at least one delivery area maximum 250 books (we have over 5,100 books to deliver). This is an important fundraising avenue for the school which contributes a substantial amount to resources for our children. If any parents wish to have a different delivery area, can they please contact me on 423 8965 after 6pm to discuss. I will be in contact with the new families to explain the process to you.

Sue Harnett

Library Books

Can we please have all school library books returned to the office by this Friday, 21st February so a stock take can be actioned.

Many thanks



School Charter and Annual Plan is open for viewing

Should you wish to view the full school Charter and Annual Strategic Plan, a copy is available from the office.

Friday Lunch Menu & Prices



Mince Pie	\$2.50
Steak & Cheese Pie	\$2.50
Chicken Pie	\$2.50
Sausage Rolls	\$2.00
Hawaiian Pizza	\$2.50
Butter Chicken Wraps	\$3.00
Apple Pie	\$1.50
Cookies	\$1.50
Juice Box	\$1.50

Lunch orders now available **Fridays**. Send orders with money in a named envelope to the office on Friday Morning.

Community Notices

Contact the
TRANSPORT TEAM

LIVESTOCK
PH 09 423 8823

FREIGHT & CONTAINERS
PH 09 423 9300

or Auckland Direct Line 09 377 3620

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Every week you save, you could win your share of \$10,000.

We want to help teach kids the value of saving each week. Every week that they deposit from as little as \$1 into their ASB Headstart account they'll go in the draw to win a \$20, \$50 or \$100 cash prize. This is sure to fast track their savings and get them closer to their goals. Whatever they may be.

The competition runs from 27 January to 14 April, then again from 5 May to 25 June. Deposits can be made through ASB's school savings programme, internet banking (or other electronic method) or at your local ASB branch.

To find out more, contact your school office.

Terms and conditions apply. See asb.co.nz/schoolbanking for details

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