

NEWSLETTER

TO ENABLE OUR LEARNERS TO BE LIFELONG
ACHIEVERS WHO CAN THINK CREATIVELY
AND CRITICALLY AS PART OF A CARING
GLOBAL COMMUNITY.



TARADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE

Kia ora koutou,

Well a change in plans! I was going to write at length about the maths curriculum and the ways that we teach this and what this now looks like. Important? Very, because the concept has changed quite markedly since we all, as parents, were last in primary school. But that'll keep for next week!

The thrust of this week's Prattle comes via a kids book that I should have read a long time ago but have only just gotten around to reading. This book, 'Wonder' by R.J Palacio, is about to be made into a movie and is tremendously moving in so many ways. But what I liked about it so so much is the message it gives in regards to kindness. The book is littered with references to this and is strong on the impact that kindness has on others.

Why do I like this? Principally because it encapsulates a lot of the values and attitudes that I see at TPS and within our Taradale community. That selfless act of giving, of thinking about others and acting upon what they might need and the great way our wider community has of saying the right things to each other. Our community is in general a very kind, caring and empathetic place to live. A place where there are many kind thoughts, words and deeds. A place where the value of a smile is often paramount. And we see this in so many of our learners - this high level of kindness. And not because we make them 'be kind', it's because it is part of their everyday lives. Wonderful!

A quote from the book also states, "Be kinder than necessary" which is a quote I really love. It suggests that we should be kind to others anyway, and then some. In this day and age, when we too often hear of selfish behaviour from people, it's nice to think that we live in a community which tends to be a lot more selfless than selfish! How refreshing and, even better, how much that makes so many others want to also add their collective weight.

Perhaps it's also a great time to think about one of those cool questions to ask your kids each day after school.... "What did you do that was kind today?"

MARTY HANTZ

*"Kind words do not cost much, yet
they accomplish much"*

Blaise Pascal

MUFTI DAY!!!

When? Monday 25th September

What for? To raise a few extra coins to help pay for our fabulous new Kapahaka outfits.

What to wear? Mufti - whatever you want!

How much? Gold coin donation would be amazing!



Election voting this year will not be held at the school (due to the hall being used as classrooms).

It will be just down the road at the All Saints church!

GETTING TO SCHOOL EARLY? WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Actually a lot. While it's nice to think that some of our learners want to be at school early, the truth is that they are not our responsibility until 8.15 each day. And while our learners are not exactly behavioural issues, if you have to drop your children at school early through work commitments then, please reconsider this and use the before-school Afcare facilities.

We love to greet our learners each day but if they are arriving early, and in some cases before their teachers, then they are more likely to be in the way as the teachers prepare for the day. So please work with us and ensure that your children arrive at school after 8am each day.

SCHOOL HATS – BUCKETS AND BRIMS

After many years of the school and PTA providing the school hats, we have decided that it is easier, more hygienic and more appropriate that families of our learners purchase these themselves. As the cost of these will include the naming of the hat with the owner's name, it will also save our staff a great deal of time tracing owners!

This is not compulsory yet for our existing pupils however all new pupils and those who want to purchase these may do so. With the choice of either the existing bucket hat or a wider brimmed hat, there's a safe sun hat for all. An order form will come home shortly for those wishing to take up this opportunity.

LOST PROPERTY!

At the 'court entrance' to the office we have the lost property stand. We would dearly love to find the owners of the huge amount of polar fleece jackets we have there.... please pop in at some stage if you are missing any jackets.

ENTRY/EXIT TO SCHOOL

A reminder to all, the entrances to the school are either via Ngarimu Crescent, by R10 or the alleyway by the hall. The hall and office are not to be used as a thoroughfare. Thanks for your co-operation with this.

2018 ENROLMENTS

If you have a child starting school anytime in 2018, we would appreciate it if you would pop into the office to complete a pre-enrolment form. This is a big help with future forecasting.

DATES FOR 2017 / 2018

Last day of the year for Taradale Primary is Thursday 14th at 1pm. School will start up again 29th January 2018. Teachers have Professional Development the week prior to this.

TOUCH RUGBY

In term 4 Taradale Rugby Club are running junior touch rugby modules for primary aged players. There is one competition for year 3 and 4 players and another for year 5 and 6 players. This will run for 7 weeks on Friday evenings starting at 5pm. The first round is Friday 3rd November. Some students and whanau will organise their own teams through their clubs or friends. It is not a school representative competition, however if your child would like to play and has not organised a team, please contact Taryn Bickers (taryn.bickers@gmail.com). Taryn has kindly volunteered to help facilitate teams. There are registration forms available from the office.

KEEP NZ BEAUTIFUL!

Last week was Keep New Zealand Beautiful Clean Week. The School Green Caps Environmental group walked to Dolbel Reserve and collected all the rubbish they could find.

We picked up lots of cardboard on the slopes but were pleased to find the reserve was very clean. A huge thanks to the parents/grandparents who joined in to help with the clean up.



CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

Holly W (1st) and Ava C (2nd) who sold the most boxes of chocolates for the PTA fundraiser!

Congrats to Cody M, Chloe K, Sienna S, Ruby G, Kenzie F, Hardiya P, Amelie S, Finn M, Chloe L, Ethan B, Zara D, Mabel L, Ashley V and Abby S who won spot prizes.

CREATIVE WRITING

If I could choose anywhere in the world to go I would choose to go to... amazing England because I was born there. When my Mum and Dad decided that we would could go to England my heart was smashing and beating fast. I love that place. I would also go to England because I could watch my favourite soccer team Arsenal play dah dah dah wonderful Liverpool. I would also go there because I could see the fantastic Queen.

Tane R17

If I could choose anywhere in the world to go I would choose to go to the amazing bush! Me and Pop are going hunting and going to sleep on the ground. We have not got any blankets. We go with really warm blankets. The next morning we are going to kill a deer and pigs I hope. "I killed a deer" I said, and we go fishing. We are going to get a snapper and get a Kawai. I'm taking my fishing rod and going to try my Pop's sniper and kill a deer with a gun. We will go back to the hut. We will light the fire. We will light half of the deer or pig. We will take the horns home. My Pop has a four wheeler. We will put the pig and deer on the back. I love my Pop because if I kill a deer or a pig he will give me \$20.

Javier R17

I like this little cat because he is cute. I want him to come to the dairy with me.

Gabriella R5

A stick insect lives in trees and plants. They eat leaves. A stick insect has three body parts. They have a head, thorax and abdomen. Stick insects have six legs. Stick insects can camouflage from birds, wasps and possums. Camouflage makes them invisible.

Sophie R3

Stick insects can camouflage from birds, wasps and possums so they can't eat them. Stick insects live in trees and on plants. They eat leaves. Stick insects have three body parts. The head, thorax and abdomen. They are six legs.

Stella R3

Simon's cat went wild when he found out that he might never get the cone off his head. And then Kaboom! The pug got the cone off Simon's cats head.

Eva R5

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