

NEWSLETTER

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



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PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE

Kia ora koutou,

Last week of the term, hours away from the term break, and many great things to celebrate! As always in a school, a school that never seems to stand still, there is always something to make us smile, something or somebody that has a fabulous story or success to share and always something to be proud of. Love to make a list of all of that 'stuff' but there's just not enough paper to allow for that! So, racking my wee unthatched brain for inspiration, it was obvious to me that we spend so much time celebrating our learners that we sometimes can't see the wood for the trees!

I have always said that any school's greatest resource are its teachers, and at TPS this is certainly the case. Let's just put aside all of that political rhetoric that will be floating around at the moment with pay negotiations - the whining that teachers get heaps of holidays and so on. No place for that in our world! The truth is that teaching as a profession is a hard job, requiring many hours and much planning. It requires skill, dedication, understanding and a heck of a lot of time. There will always be those that work less hard than others in any profession, but I have never ever come across a teacher who hasn't wanted to do their very best for each and every learner in their class. Not one! At TPS? At TPS we have just finished a week's worth of appraisals, through a system where we are able to sit and watch each teacher in action working with specifically targeted groups. As a team, the Senior Leaders were extremely proud of what we saw. And why? Because what we saw so consistently across the school were outstanding examples of what we call Deliberate Acts of Teaching (DAT's). While many of these were quite obviously chosen deliberately to suit the group and the situation, there were also so many examples of times when these just naturally occurred as part of that teachers teaching 'toolbox'. Some of these things can be taught, some can be learned but many are also inherent within the teacher. From my perspective, those that use these skills so naturally are the 'expert' teachers. Teachers with the 'X' factor.....the wow teachers. The teachers that make a difference without even realising it. For them it just comes naturally!

And, we noticed that TPS is full of those teachers. Without putting too fine a point on it, there wouldn't be too many schools around the world where the Principal would be more than happy to have his or her children taught by any of the school's teachers.....see where I am going with this? So, this Prattle is dedicated to my colleagues at TPS, the colleagues who go the extra mile, who care, who motivate, are motivated and who are too busy teaching to care about receiving kudos such as this. It is a real pleasure teaching with and alongside you because you make a difference! So, once again, to my colleagues I say this, thanks for all that you do. Thanks for the efforts, the energies, the empathies and the education. You deserve a break!

Marty Hantz

The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him which he finds it hard to answer"

Alice Wellington Rollins

50% OFF TPS POLAR FLEECE JACKETS

The Warehouse will be having a sale on our polar fleece jackets starting Monday. This is due to a change in manufacturer. It is the floor stock only. Replacement stock from the new manufacturer will not be included in the sale. **Get in quick!**

SELF-MANAGEMENT MATRIX – RISK TAKING

This is a really interesting aspect of our Self-Management Matrix, as this is an area that is suggestive of 'jumping off cliffs'. However, nothing could be further from the truth. This is a concept where we would like the learners to assess where they are at and try new ideas, innovations or solutions to get an answer or to finish a product. For some this leap of faith is a little bit at a time, whereas for really confident learners it can be quite a jump. Most will have really thought through what they'd like to do and have really assessed the risks, but the one thing in common is that they all have the confidence to try new ideas and strategies, knowing that it is okay to take risks and that an occasional failure leads to better learning.

Questions you could ask of your intrepid little learning explorer?

- What did you do differently at school today than you would have done normally?
- What's another way that you could show that you know that?

TALL POPPIES – Congratulations to

- Riley Peach for being selected to play A grade in the U12's FTC Football Reps - Great Achievement!
- Lisa D who received the Nicholas Shield for best year round swimming performance and the Jennings Family cup for most Improved Junior Breastroker. All of these are Greendale Club trophies.
- Taradale Primary School children who attended the Meeting of the Minds at the National Aquarium. They submitted projects for the Jock McKenzie Award and congratulations to Sistina B, Emily L and Georgia R for winning the Year 5/6 Creativity and Originality award. Brilliant! All of the projects are now on display, looking fabulous in the East Coast LAB. If you get a chance, pop in over the holidays and take a look.
- Fourteen year 6 students who went to a Ki-o-Rahi Tournament. The students that went to represent our school were Finn A, Isaac A, Ethan S, Henry J, Lockey S, Riley P, Sophie A, Georgia R, Aimee H, Graecyn P, Mille A, Georgia C and Iloara F.

Ki-o-Rahi is a Matariki game that involves two teams and is based on a Maori legend. It is becoming very popular in NZ schools. This was the first time Taradale Primary School went to this tournament and we came 2nd! It was an awesome achievement and a day full of fun and hard work.

Written by Aimee H and Georgia R.

MANY THANKS TO....

- Those who have been incredibly patient in regards to the Church Road footpath improvements. This has been a little bit disruptive (to put it mildly) but the truth is that its nearly all over and next term it will all be a dim dark memory. Thanks to those that have had the patience with parking (or the lack of it!).
- Those who help us out with the Road Patrol each and every day!
- All parents and caregivers who placed a Scholastic order this term. We placed the schools biggest order ever of **\$1773.50!!** It is so great to see so many book worms at TPS. Every order placed earns our school reward dollars and this term we gained a massive **\$960.92.**

Our librarian has been busy and thoroughly enjoying unpacking a huge box of new books for our children to enjoy in our school library. This term we have put a whopping **\$1014.90** worth of new books into our library, how fantastic is that! We look forward to putting more new books into our school library next term, so thank you from Stacey Lyford and Nikki Fenwick.

POOL FUNDRAISER – we'd love your support!

Ticket includes a complimentary drink, funny money and supper. There will also be an auction at the end of the night with fantastic prizes up for grabs. Tickets are \$45 and available through Eventfinda. Thanks to the Taradale Lions Club for your support!



CREATIVE WRITING FROM OUR LEARNERS

Unidragon

Unidragon is a dark dragon crossed with a unicorn. He is a humongous, purple and black dragon with a giant horn.

Unidragon was created when two meteors collided, this caused a unicorn and dragon to smash into each other and a new monster was born.

Once he jumped off Mount Everest and body slammed a Death Eater, who was trying to steal his horn. The Death Eater was immediately dead. The Unidragon ate everything apart from his guts.

Unidragon's nemesis is Cyclops. Cyclops wants to destroy Unidragon because when Unidragon was made the meteor smashed into Cyclops house. Unfortunately Cyclops's brother was inside and was killed. Cyclops was furious.

When Unidragon and Cyclops fight, they always end in a tie but the city they fought in is always destroyed.

The only way to kill Unidragon is to complete some hard tasks. One of these tasks is to get rocks from the meteor that created Unidragon. Another task is to get lava from Kilauea volcano. Number 3, the hardest task of all, is to chop Unidragon's horn off.

Unidragon knows that Cyclops is currently trying to complete these tasks.

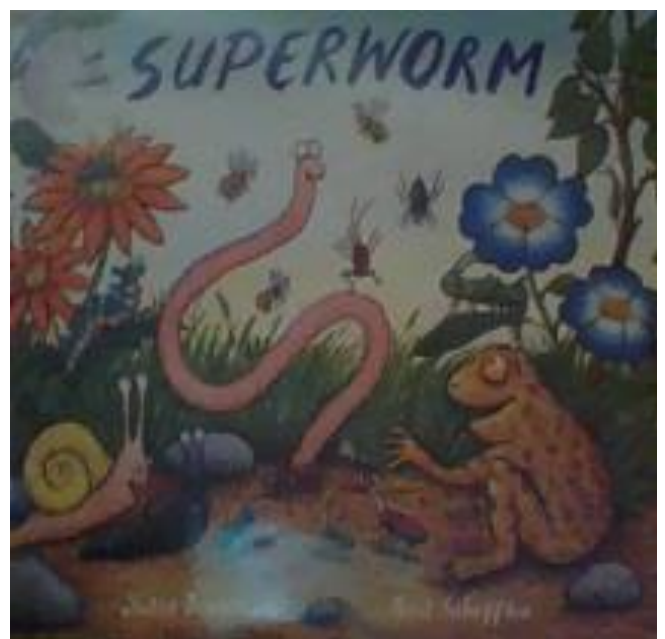
Marcus Year 5 Whare

SUPERWORM - book review by Aimee H

This book is about a superworm who saves the day or entertains when anyone is bored. Hipp hipp hurray for superworm.

My favourite part of the story is when his friends from everywhere rescue him. Being a good friend is always a good thing to do. I like this book because it's all about friendship and caring for others.

This book is good for little kids and for big people to read to small kids. The worm in this book saves the day everyday, until suddenly he gets trapped....



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07/17