

# 20 Tapanui School Newsletter

Newsletter #11 - 13 May 2024

# 24



Kapahaka have been enjoying their first practice back for the term...they are sounding great as well. Preparations for Mauri Ora Matariki at the end of term are well underway.



Donna has been in to work with the children to make some special things for some special people...can't give too much away except to say the scents wafting up and down the corridor this week have been delightful!! All will be revealed in due course.



# Tapanui School

Newsletter #11 - 3 May 2024

**Kia ora whānau!**

What a fabulous first week back at school. You have seen some highlights on the front page of our passionate Kapahaka group getting back into the swing of rehearsals - the boys were certainly focusing hard to keep the swing of their rakau (sticks) going in the right direction. It is such a great way to practice perseverance, self discipline, body awareness, and confidence in performance.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 2

### WEEK 2

8 May - Sports Activator

### WEEK 3

16 May - Support Staff Day

19 May - Southland School Swimming Champs

### WEEK 4

21 May - Board Meeting

### WEEK 5

27 May - West Otago Cross Country

29 May - Sports Activator

### WEEK 6

3 June - King's Birthday SCHOOL CLOSED

6 June - Eastern Cross Country

### WEEK 7

14 June - Southland Cross Country

### WEEK 8

### WEEK 9

26 June - Sports Activator

28 June - Matariki SCHOOL CLOSED

### WEEK 10

5 July - Term 2 Ends

**This is what's scheduled so far...  
keep an eye on it as it's bound to get  
added to!!**

All of these skills are going to be needed for next term when we do our major School Musical Production! We are getting excited about this and making preparations and plans to ensure all of our children can be part of this fabulous experience. More details about this will come later in the term.

We have sadly farewelled 2 families at the end of last term and the beginning of this term as they venture off to new places and new adventures. We wish Leiana, Levi, Eliza and Carter and their families all the best for the future. We will miss you. We will be farewelling 3 other families in a few more weeks as dairy change over happens across the region and another family make the move home to Scotland. It's always sad saying goodbye especially after the time that has been spent building relationships and investing into young lives and families. But we hope that those soon to leave have an enjoyable and positive end to their time at Tapanui School and transition successfully into the next chapter for their families.

Not all is sad however, as we've also been able to welcome two new students, along with their family this week, Oniru and Binuka from Sri Lanka. We hope you enjoy your time at Tapanui School and don't find our winter too cold! There has been much excitement as the Piwakawaka class have been learning to count to 10 in Sri Lankan!

A very warm welcome to Whaea Hilary Illingworth who will be working as a Teacher Aide in the Tui Class offering learning support. She brings experience working in a physio role and also in rehab work with children and adults.



If you're involved in duck shooting open day we hope you have a safe and successful day!

Have a great weekend.

Jane

# STRATEGIC UPDATE

*We gathered some student voice at the end of last term particularly in the area of Literacy and Behaviour. I thought I would take the opportunity to share some of the findings and steps we are taking to continue working towards our literacy goals in particular.*

## LITERACY

Children have commented that they are really enjoying iDeaL (our Structured Literacy Approach) to help across the board in Literacy. They are enjoying seeing their progress and knowing what their next steps are to be able to reach the next level. They are noticing the positive impact iDeaL is having on their writing. They are excited about writing and want to write even more! Teachers are also excited about the progress they are seeing in handwriting as more is done as a whole class with specific instruction rather than as an independent task. Spelling is progressing well for many students and the effort that teachers are making to link our online Steps Web programme with their iDeaL learning is paying off.

This term

- we have three teachers heading away to hear about iDeaL being run in a different school in Dunedin who have been doing it for a number of years across the school.
- we are trying to secure some professional development in writing which will be for 2 days in the next holidays for all teaching staff to continue to build on our writing programme and practice. This is more accessible due to our involvement in our local Kahui Ako - community of schools.
- Teachers are taking time out to observe one another doing iDeaL and writing through the term to ensure that our practices are consistent and reflecting best practice across the school. Going into each others classes is a great way to learn from each other and hold each other accountable.



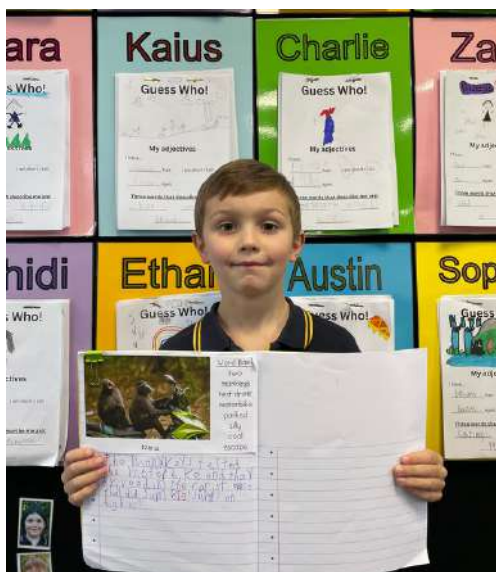
*Formal handwriting instruction*



*Small group focused writing workshops*



*Independent Steps Web follow up work*



*Celebrating and sharing writing*

*An example of a Year 2 piece of writing with a focus on correct use of fullstops and capital letters, starting sentences in different ways, and adding more information for the reader.*

***“Penguins can do tricks off the ice. Ice is penguins favourite thing to slide on. I love penguins because they are fluffy. Antarctica is one of the coldest places in the world. If I had a pet penguin I would call it Trouble. Penguins have to stay in the cold.***

***Penguins keep their babies warm.”***

***By Hugo***

# Parent Library



While our school library is out of action we have focused on developing a collection of books for our wonderful parents to upskill and be encouraged in your all important roles of Mum, Dad, and Caregiver. We are hoping to set up a small bookshelf in the office area for you to browse and borrow books for a couple of weeks at a time. These will be issued via Robyn so we can keep track of them. If you have any parenting books that you've finished with that you think might be of use to others and would like to donate them to our growing parent library, please drop them off to Robyn to add to our collection.

# HEAD LICE!

Please check your child's hair regularly and treat the whole family if you find them. If you find live lice, please do not send children to school until they have been treated.

A reminder that bedsheets and other things that the hair is in contact with needs to be treated also.



**Our pesky head lice are paying another visit!**

Check out the following websites if you need more information  
<https://www.kidshealth.org.nz/how-get-rid-head-lice>

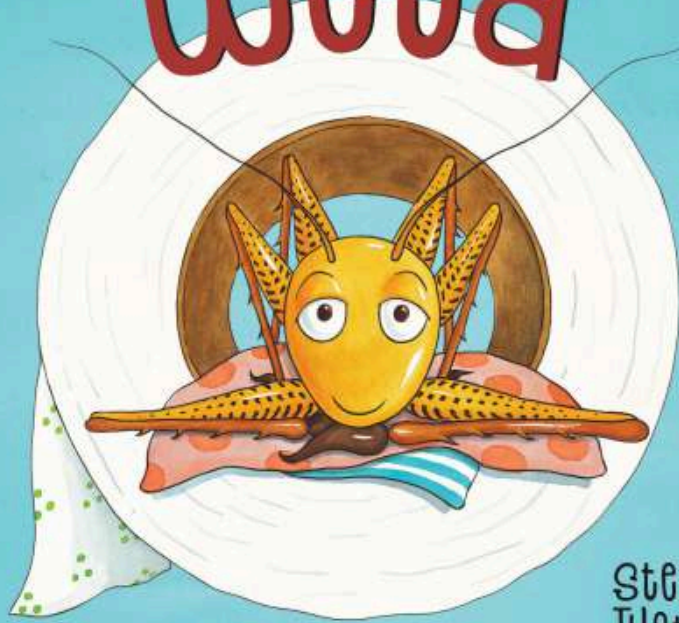
<https://info.health.nz/keeping-healthy/pests-and-insects/head-lice-nits/>



**Congratulations to this amazing group of students who were awarded 'Ready, Respectful, Safe' awards today at Sing and Celebrate.**

# StoryWalk®

## No Home for a Wētā



STEPHANIE  
THATCHER

SCHOLASTIC



The tree weta burrow is packed to the rafters, but it's much too crowded for one little weta ... she's going to find something bigger and better! Join Weta as she embarks on an mission to find a quiet new home. A letterbox, a kennel, a toilet roll in the outside toilet ... where will Weta relocate?

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

GORE DISTRICT  
**LIBRARIES**