

BOARD ON TOP

Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

25th May 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Your Board met on Tuesday for the first meeting of Term Two. Below are some of the key items which we discussed.

Curriculum Review - Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Learning outside the classroom has long been a strategy used by teachers to support and enhance student learning and understanding. EOTC is essentially “curriculum-based teaching and learning that extends the four walls of the classroom” (*MOE EOTC Guidelines 2009*).

Examples of EOTC Events

- Athletics Sports, Swimming Sports and Cross Country
- School Production (The Arts)
- Dunedin Camp including Beach Education and visits to Penguin Colony/Taiaroa Heads
- Quest - Working at the Blokes Shed / Invited guests to assist with Quest e.g. Cake decorators
- Matai Hub trips to the Memorial Gates, Kidzway, the Park (Science, Social Science and Key Competencies), Library (Literacy)
- Matai Clean Up around the Town (Social Sciences/Key Competencies)
- Year 6 Leadership Day – National Young Leaders (Key Competencies)
- Visits to Ribbonwood (Health and PE/Community Involvement)
- E Pro 8 competition - Eastern Southland and Southland/ Technology Challenge
- Whole School - Working Waters Trust visit to neighbouring pond, Marae visit

EOTC is not a stand-alone subject area but rather a vehicle by which teachers endeavour to enhance the existing learning experiences of our students. It is an area of the curriculum teachers continue to develop and learn about. Teachers continue to look for professional learning opportunities and follow best practice around risk management, accountability and health and safety.

Tapanui School will continue to offer lots of opportunities for our students to participate in EOTC. The majority of EOTC activities come at significant cost and if these are deemed to be ‘part of the curriculum’ then the school is obliged to cover the cost. Only when an event is optional can the cost be passed onto parents/caregivers. Financial planning needs to take into account the nature of EOTC for any given year and include the cost in the budget for that year.

If you wish to read the report in full it is available from our Principal, Antony Criglington

Hui - Consultation with Whanau

The school held a Hui with whānau on 11th April. The number of attendees was disappointing and we encourage all interested parties to have their voice heard and engage with the school to further drive tikanga Māori at Tapanui School.

Pomahaka Kāhui Ako - Community of Learning (CoL)

Two Across School Teaching roles have been advertised within the Kāhui Ako. These two roles are directly linked with our Kāhui Ako Strategic Plan. It is hoped that both teacher roles will start in Term 3 for a period of two-years.

Property

The Innovative Learning Environments (ILE) Project for the Matai Hub has not progressed past the planner. This is not for the want of trying; the next stage will be the project going out to tender.

PTA Donation

A huge thanks to the members of the PTA who recently made a \$5,000 donation from their various fundraising efforts. The donation is hugely appreciated by the Board as it enables us to enrich learning and contributes to several other areas within the school budget.

Filipino Visit

The visit facilitated through Sister School's NZ went very well. We hosted 7 young boys over 5 days and took them to a variety of places during their stay. The visit could not have occurred without the following host families welcoming the children into their homes; Brensell's, Craw's, King's, Heiss and Bray. Thank you!

Also thank you to Mrs. Thorton, Mr & Mrs. Roberts, Mr & Mrs. Hill, Mr. Hancox & Mrs. Downie, Mr & Mrs. Kane for allowing the children to see some of what life has to offer in West Otago.

The feed back form the Philippines is the children had a wonderful experience and their school is looking forward to working with Tapanui School again with similar group(s) in the future.

General

I hope the Year 6 children attending the Young Leaders Day in Dunedin on Monday come away inspired and motivated by their experience.

Good luck to all the students participating in the Cross Country next Friday. Thank you to the Body family for continuing to allow the school to use your farm for a "true" cross country experience. Fingers crossed the weather will make it an enjoyable experience!

On the 12th June all the children are going to Matura to visit the marae. This visit is part of our curriculum and is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the history and culture of our nation.

Your Board will meet again on July 3rd 2018 in the Blue Room at 5.30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

Kind regards
Zita Young
Board Chairperson