

TE ATATŪ INTERMEDIATE

Tū Tāngata

Equipping our students to stand tall: To be the best people they can be and, by becoming life-long learners, reaching their best potential.



MESSAGE FROM MR EVANS - TUMUAKI

Tēnā koutou katoa o Te Atatū Intermediate whānau

It has been lovely to have had settled, fine weather this week, which has enabled our Tag, Tennis, and Orienteering Zone Days to go ahead. As we head towards the last two weeks of the term, we hope this fine pattern continues.

Next Tuesday, 1st of April, as part of our safety protocol and response to external situations, we will be holding a lockdown exercise drill, led by Harrison Tew, a leading safety and response company. This exercise will involve the expert facilitator discussing with students and staff the reasons for going into a safety lockdown. These reasons could range from a dangerous event in the local community, such as a gas leak near the school, to a swarm of bees within the grounds. Students will be taught what to do in such situations, and it will give the management and administration team vital practice to ensure that systems and processes are in place to keep all students and staff safe on site. You will receive a notification via email when the exercise is underway and when it is complete. The notification will specify that it is an exercise and will also serve as a way to ensure that everyone who needs to receive communication from the school does so.

On Monday, 7th April, and Tuesday, 8th April, we will hold student-led conferences. A reminder that these conferences are a three-way discussion between students, whānau, and teachers, led by the student. The conferences will focus on the individual learning goals of each student, where they currently are in their learning journey, where they need to get to, and how they will get there. Please note that school will finish at the earlier time of 12:00 pm on Monday, 7th April, to allow enough time for conferences to occur. Conferences will begin at 1:00 pm on this day. Tuesday, 8th April, will be a normal school day, finishing at 3:00 pm, with conferences starting at 3:20 pm. Booking can be made through www.schoolinterviews.co.nz using the code 52ut3.

Have a great week!

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou



IMPORTANT NOTES



SET SAIL WITH MOANA JR.

AT TAI

We are excited to announce that our production for 2025 will be - Disney's Moana JR. The 60-minute musical adventure, designed for middle school-aged performers, is based on the 2016 Disney film Moana. The main cast includes twenty students led by Mrs. Lyn Northwood, Mrs. Bronwyn Chalmers & Whaea Tania Kingi.

See the line where the sky meets the sea? You'll love this thrilling and heartwarming stage adaptation of the coming-of-age tale of Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. She and the demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as she learns to harness the power that lies within. Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favorite songs by Tony®, GRAMMY, Emmy, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetia Foa'i, and Mark Mancina, such as "How Far I'll Go," "Shiny," and "You're Welcome." With its empowering message of bravery, Moana JR. is sure to awaken your inner hero! [Congratulations to the main cast, announced earlier this week! You can find by clicking here.](#) We can't wait to see your talent shine under the bright lights!

If any of our whānau have skills or time to contribute—whether in building, makeup, face painting, sewing, or other areas—please get in touch with Stacey Yates. Your support would be greatly appreciated!

IMMUNISATION FORMS

A reminder that Immunisation forms went home to all students last week. Please get these back to school ASAP. **All forms need to be completed and returned even if your child does not require the immunisation.** If you would like more information on this important immunisation programme, please go to [School Immunisations](#).

TAI RUNNERS CLUB PIZZA DAY FUNDRAISER

Thursday 10th April

TAI Runners Club has organised a Pizza Day to help fundraise for new uniforms for their weekly neighbourhood runs and future marathons and events. \$2.50 per slice with the choice of cheese or pepperoni pizza with gluten-free option also available) Pre-orders will be open until Tuesday 8th via KINDO. Orders will be delivered directly to classrooms by the speedy Club Runners on Thursday 10th April. Don't miss out on supporting the team and enjoying some delicious pizza! [Click here to preorder now!](#)



ATTENDANCE REMINDER

At TAI, we focus on students having regular attendance. Regular attendance is defined as a student being present for more than 90% of the school term. We are working towards the goal of achieving 90% regular attendance for 80% of our students each term.

ROCK YOUR SOCKS!

Thanks to everyone who took part last Friday by wearing their craziest, most colourful, mismatched socks in support of Down Syndrome Day! Emma R9 wore her favourite colours, pink and yellow, as odd socks. She loved seeing so many people get involved and show their support. She also enjoyed going around collecting donations—nearly \$300 was raised to support children like Emma through the Auckland Down Syndrome Association. Ka pai, TAI whānau!



STAFF NEWS

Mr. Vale is heading to Papua New Guinea to compete in the 2025 Oceania Football Confederation Men's Champions League! Jordan has been a key player for Auckland City FC since 2018. Their first match is this Sunday against A.S Pirae. You can watch the games live [here](#). Best of luck, Jordan!

Kōkā Amorangi will be competing this weekend at the 2025 NZAFF Club Flag Football Nationals. Let's Go Kōkā & Metro Lions!



AUCKLAND CITY TRIP

Riley, Violet, Johnny & Nathan R14

Two weeks ago, Room 14 went to Aotea Square to watch a matinee performance of the Lula Washington Dance Show. The show featured a mix of modern, contemporary, and commercial dance, telling different stories through movement. For many in the class, it was their first time experiencing a live dance performance, making it a unique and exciting experience. The show had a fun and energetic atmosphere, with three male and four female dancers. It was especially cool for the boys in the class to see male dancers on stage, showing that dance could be an option for them too.

After the show, we toured the Auckland Art Gallery, where some rooms had interactive activities to help us explore the artwork. A class favourite was a giant crochet octopus made from recycled materials, surrounded by lots of baby octopuses. It was a great reminder of the importance of recycling and reusing materials. We're grateful for the opportunity to experience both the dance show and the art gallery. A huge thank you to Ms McKeown for organising this awesome trip!



STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES



BOOK NOW

In week 10 of this term we will be holding our Student Led Conferences. The conferences will run on Monday 7 April 1pm-7pm and Tuesday 8 April 3.20pm-6pm

These conferences are an important way in which we can support learning. They help our students to understand where they are at in their learning, where they need to go next, and how they will get there.

At Te Atatū Intermediate school:

Up to three conferences occur at once within a 30 minute period and the format of the conference is as follows:

- Introduction and welcome from the teacher.
- Students and parents are set up at a station within the classroom where the student shares their learning with their parents.
- The teacher will, over the course of the half hour, sit with each group to discuss the student's learning and answer any questions that you may have.
- Once students have completed their conference with the parent(s) and the teacher the conference concludes.
- There will be a 10 minute period of time before the next conference begins. This can be used if there is anything that you wish to discuss privately with the teacher, alternatively a meeting can be organised for another time.

To book a Student Led Conference, please follow the process below:

1. Login to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz
2. Click on 'Make a booking'.
3. Enter the event code 52ut3
4. Step 1: Enter your details
5. Step 2: Choose up to 3 teachers that you would like to see (class teacher, technology and specialist teachers).
6. Step 3: Choose the times that suit you best. Please note that if you plan to see more than one teacher you will need to select consecutive times.
7. Click 'finish' when done- an email confirming your bookings will be sent to you.

If there are any issues with booking conferences, such as unavailability of a device, please send a note to your child's class teacher detailing the teachers you would like to see and your preferred times. They will make a booking for you.

Room 1- Matua Mike Leijh
Room 2- Whaea Nicola Harrington
Room 3- Mr Matthew Johnson
Room 4- Whaea Sabine
Room 5- Mr Chris Goold
Room 6- Mrs Lyn Northwood
Room 7- Ms Claire Defire
Room 8- Whaea Amanda Lake
Room 9- Mrs Shel Chung
Room 10- Whaea Ngaire Smith

Room 11- Kōkā Amorangi Ngata-Atkins
Room 12- Mrs Pamela Stoddard
Room 13- Miss Bianca Ness
Room 14- Mrs Cheryl McKeown
Room 15- Mr Arjun Raveendran

SENCO- Kelly Clarke (year 7)
SENCO - Britannia Siō (year 8)

Visual Art- Whaea Stacey Yates
Science- Mrs Amber Aratema
Health and PE- Matua Tony Nemaia
Music- Mrs Bronwyn Chalmers
Dance and Drama- Whaea Tania Kingi
Hard Tech - Mr. Cameron Dempsey
Materials Tech - Whaea Mariee Guinibert
Creative Media- Whaea Deb Foote
Food Tech - Dr Katy Perry

APRIL IS CITIZEN SCIENCE MONTH!

April is citizen science month (Citizen scientists are volunteers who contribute to scientific projects, usually by collecting or analysing data.) It offers a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved and contribute to scientific projects.

To celebrate, Mrs. Aratema will be running citizen science activities at lunchtime from next week until the end of the term. There will also be a number of online activities available to students, offering even more ways to get involved.

In addition, Te Atatū Intermediate has been invited to showcase the citizen science monitoring work we've been doing since 2018 on our local mudflats at Orangihina/Harbour View Beach Reserve. This will be part of an EcoFest Guided Walk organised by the RiverCare Group – Te Wai o Pareira on Saturday 29th March.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY WITH DR PERRY

Students get to prepare food in every lesson of Food Technology. The Theme for terms 1 & 2 is food featured in the Harry Potter novels. Terms 3 & 4 will be preparing World Wide Kai. This week we were making cupcakes like Harry Potter's pet owl - Hedwig, and Syltherin Calzone.

Skills learned include rolling out pastry, making pizza, mixing cupcakes and biscuits. This year, students also learn about the purpose of various kitchen utensils as well as the reason why we use certain ingredients and their substitutes.

MUSIC WITH MRS. CHALMERS

In music this term our focus has been on NZ music. We always start each lesson with a kahoot which is fun and holds a lot of learning in it. Of course everyone is always keen to see who is on the leaderboard, competition is fierce. Sometimes we work on percussion skills, mostly timing and learning some challenging rhythms. We use real percussion instruments, boomwhackers, stamping tubes and bucket drums. With our listening we are learning how to identify different genres or styles of music.

On the ukulele we have been focusing on learning a simple reggae strum and on the keyboard we have learnt how to make chords, find and play them. Sometimes we throw in a bit of singing, always a good way to learn a melody before playing it. "Blue Eyed Maori" has been our focus song this term.





SAILING AT PONSONBY CRUISING CLUB – ROOMS 2, 6 & 8

In Week 6, Rooms 2, 6, and 8 had the amazing opportunity to go sailing at Ponsonby Cruising Club. Last year in Term 4, these classes learned about harnessing wind as part of their STEM studies, and this year, the Year 8s were able to expand on their knowledge and pass it on to their Year 7 classmates.

Each class attended on a different day. When they arrived, they were split into two groups—one group went sailing first, while the other took part in land-based sailing activities. These included making tin foil boats, working with pulleys, tying knots, and calculating the area and perimeter of a sail.

It was an awesome hands-on experience, and we're grateful to have been able to take part. A big thank you to Ponsonby Cruising Club for the opportunity, and to the parent helpers who assisted with transportation and supervision. It wouldn't have been possible without you!

LIFE ON THE WAVES

Written by Rachel R6

The icy cold wind whipped at my hair sending a shiver up my spine. My new togs scratched me on my bare skin. The sun provided little warmth. We walked down the wooden pontoon and grabbed one of the sodden life jackets and tightened them until they were corsets. Huddled, like penguins we gathered together trying to conserve heat. The concept of listening to our instructor was impossible over the chatter of excited kids, feet drumming on the pontoon and the roaring of the waves.

We named him Bob - our Number 2, his sails flapping like a seagull caught in an almighty breeze. Slowly, we lowered ourselves down onto the rocking dingy, the rope firm in my hand, and kicked off into the war zone. Tacking with the wind, we smugly passed Brayden and Jones- we were waving and doing our own victory dance. Boy did we seem to fly across the water. This however was short lived and soon I got my payback. A shrill scream of "DUCK" exploded out of Olivia's mouth, I managed a "where" before the boom came down to hit me squarely on my forehead. You know in cartoons when people say they see stars? I literally did. Witnessing my trauma, the boys hooted like hyenas shooting past us as we did loop the loops.

The instructors rushed over to help us. Olivia, terrified about capsizing, was rescued into the speed boat. Abandoning me to fend for myself, but hey wasn't I the one with the injury? Tiller in one hand, the rigging in the other, I wobbled my way around the first buoy. Slowly, I started to get the hang of it, the wind picked up, the sails billowed and I felt like Captain John from my favourite book, Swallows and Amazons.



SAILING ADVENTURE

Written by Cape R6

I stand atop the ramp looking down towards the small optimist Yachts, giddy and excited to sail. I'm dazed by the boats around me, the water climbing and retreating down the edge of the pontoon but in a second I'm knocked back into game mode by a splash from the boat next to us hitting the water. Then we're moving, our boat strikes the surface causing the water to leap up and shower us in its salty spray and we climb in. The ropes tangle around us as we struggle into position and push off the pontoon on a steady glide.

The boat is a knife cutting through the water in dips and swirls and we lean and flow with it. When the wind flutters the sail like a hummingbird's wings we pull it tight speeding along with cold salty breeze. The sea is blissful and quiet rippling with every gust of wind and every drop of rain. The only things I can hear are the passings of nearby boats and the squawk of birds overhead.

I don't ever want to get off this boat but I have to because the cold is slowly turning my fingers numb and the tiller is now serving as a hand rest as well as the thing that's steering this boat. Then we're tacking, our boat swinging in a tight arch around the marker. The water leaps and spins like a dancer lost among the ocean's music. Then the wind picks up, sweeping us directly toward the next marker at an alarming pace.

I clench my fist around the tiller in complete control, trusting my partner to pull the sail in tight, taking us even faster. The rain is like needles on my skin pattering the boat at an inclining speed. If we don't tack now we will hit the marker so I spin the tiller to the side just to see the instructor calling us to the pontoon and just like that I'm soaked and the day has disappeared under the surface of the rippling water. As I sit in the backseat of the warm car my curiosity satiated I plan my next adventure!



It's been a massive fortnight of sport at TAI (when is it not?!)
Last week alone, we had three Zone Days for Tag, Swimming, and Tennis.

We've wrapped up a successful season of Wāhine Smash Cricket and another great Sprint Series, just in time for today's Zone Orienteering event, where 24 students are representing TAI. Good luck to all our participants!

Our Running Club continues to meet every Wednesday and Friday morning, and we're gearing up for a pizza fundraiser in Week 10 to help fund uniforms for our enthusiastic team.

Please remind your child to check the student notices—basketball trials for afterschool comps have started, water polo sign-ups are open, and netball training is underway. *We're still looking for netball coaches & managers please contact [Whaea Ngaire](#) if you are able to help!*

For the first time, we'll be holding a TAI Tennis Championship—ngā mihi to the Te Atatū Tennis Club for supporting this awesome initiative!

Next Monday, 20 selected students will get the opportunity to attend an NFL Flag Football experience alongside several other schools.



TAG ZONE DAY

Sharn R10 & Izabella R7

Last Tuesday, we left school before 8:30 am for Tag Zone Day at Moire Park. The cold and wet weather made the day even more fun!

The girls played in the B grade, winning all their games against Rangeview, Glen Eden, and Avondale Intermediate. They made it to the semi-finals, but the fields were too wet to continue. The team had great communication, and our wings—Nivaeya R10, Lisia R15, Breeze R11, and J'avaeh R11—were especially fast. The boys played in the A grade, starting strong with an early try against Blockhouse Bay. A highlight was when a teammate dropped the ball but later came back to score. Glen Eden was a tough opponent and dominated the game. Overall, we placed 4th. Our defence was solid, and teamwork was strong. While our tagging was inconsistent, it improved throughout the day. Next year, we'll focus on faster ball movement and making sure everyone gets a turn. It was awesome representing TAI, and we're grateful for the experience!

TAI NETBALL SEASON Year 8 Teams			
Longdon R9 Breeze R11 Ella R15 Lisia R15 Izabella R7 Oturu Kaunapanapa R10 Jackson R9 Peyton R8 Saige R11 Julious R11	Rhinessa R15 Ja'vaeh R11 Sophia R6 Sara R5 Tupou R11 Joseph Anthony R10 Geovannahmayani R15 MacKenzie R15 Salman R5 Amber R6 Nivaeya R10	Blake R11 Alice R1 Matilda R1 Ashley R5 Jahlen R10 Hannah R1 Aaliyah R15 Kiyona R9 Ben R10 Riva-Lee R11 Peski R14	Alexandria R14 Ava R5 Natasha R2 Ella R15 Zaara R12 Claire R6 Katarina R9 Emily R2 Ashley R2 Erika R4 Mary-Ann R15

TENNIS ZONE DAY

Davin R9 & Naomi R10

Last Friday, 16 students represented TAI at the Tennis Zone Day at Blockhouse Bay Tennis Club. It was a fantastic day, with some students playing competitively for the first time. To make the team, we had to trial—75 students trialed, but only 16 were selected. We competed in both singles and doubles matches, with our singles girls dominating, placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, while the boys' doubles team made it to the final.

Throughout the day, we saw huge improvements—serving got stronger, and endurance improved with every match. A huge thank you to the parents who came to support us and to Ms Harrington for organising the event.

We had an awesome time and are definitely keen to give it another go next year!

SWIMMING ZONE DAY

Matilda 1

Over 40 students trialed over two days at Peninsula Primary Pools for a spot on the TAI Swimming Team. The final team made up of 11 students, gave it their all at the Zone Day, held at West Wave. Many of the Year 7 students were swimming competitively for the first time

and they did a fantastic job! Students competed in breaststroke, freestyle, butterfly, backstroke, and relays, with TAI excelling particularly in freestyle. It was a fun experience with many schools attending, giving us the chance to connect with others. A huge congratulations to Brayden R6, Matilda R1, and Peyton R8, who will represent TAI at the Auckland Swimming Champs!

TAI NETBALL SEASON Year 7 Teams			
Maia Jay R12 Zarie R15 Kymarni Zane R10 Sharn R10 Katana R2 Bayleigh-Grace R10 Tasia R4 Daizey R5 Te Ao Marama R7	Rose R6 Erika R4 Chloe R5 Elana R15 Manasi R12 Carter-Rose R7 Soraya R11 Michael R11 Valentina R10 Ava R10	Aria R5 Coco R15 Lulu R12 Zosia R15 Ava R6 Alexis R12 Kaitiaki R11 Alice R6 Ada R14 Lee R10	Zoe R15 Addi R7 Olivia R6 Quinn R5 Hannah R2 Annalise R15 Taleecha R11 Livia R9 Kiri R1 Aria R11



Te Atatū Intermediate presents

Disney
MOANA
JR.

Moana - Lisia R15

Maui - Alexander R2

Chief Tui - Carlos R2

Sina - Matilda R1

Gramma Tale - Geovannahmaylani R15

Tamatoa - Ava R6

Tamatoa Claw 1 - India R9

Tamatoa Claw 2 - Anouk R6

Hei Hei - Emerson R14 & Joel R14

Pua - Jules R7 & Benny R4

Te Fiti / Te Ka - Rachel R6

Ancestor 1 - Oturu-Kaanapanapa R10

Ancestor 2 - Johann R3

Ancestor 3 - Carmine R11

Ancestor Ensemble - Mareikura R11, Chace R11, Nivaeya R10, Naomi R10

