

Tauwhare School

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”Quality education for your child’s future in a caring rural environment.”

Welcome to Our School

Tauwhare School has been providing quality education for children in this community for over one hundred and twenty five years. We are very proud of our children and of our school.

The purpose of this booklet is to outline to parents/caregivers details of the School’s activities and to help you and your children feel at ease with us.

To achieve our aim of providing children with an excellent education, we believe that a close liaison between home and school is essential and welcome Parent/Caregiver participation in the life of the school.

Mission Statement

To ensure that every child receives a high quality, broad based education equipping them with the skills and attitudes to succeed in life.

About Our School

Tauwhare School is a rural state primary school nestled at the foot of the beautiful Scotsman Valley, just 10 – 15 minutes drive from Hamilton, Cambridge or Morrinsville. Although traditionally a farming area, a large number of newly developed rural subdivisions has changed the area and the mix of children at the school.

The mission of Tauwhare School is to provide a balanced yet challenging education for all students to develop their potential, while providing extra assistance to those who require extension or additional support, by having our own Reading Recovery Teacher, literacy extension Teacher and I.C.T. Specialist. We provide opportunities for after-school classes in The Arts and P.E. to extend and enrich our curriculum.

A pleasant student environment is engendered by having a policy of zero tolerance to bullying and swearing, and providing exciting school playgrounds to keep children active during school breaks. Great kiwi rural school traditions such as Calf Club are held every year, giving the students first hand experience with the care of animals, plants and nature.

The Community

The Tauwhare Community is actively involved with the school and regularly supports it through fundraising, sporting and cultural events. The school is grateful to have excellent support from local businesses in the area as well.

The Facilities

- Six Classrooms
- Multi Purpose Room – For assemblies, arts, music, culture and drama.
- Fully stocked Library
- Computer and Communications Technology Suite
- Interactive Smartboards and networked computers in every classroom
- Sound field surround sound systems in each classroom
- Soccer and Rugby Fields
- 2 Tennis/Netball Courts. Basketball Court
- Senior and Junior Swimming Pools
- Three Adventure Playgrounds
- Native Tree Areas. Classroom Gardens
- School bus servicing the wider area.
- Saturday sports teams – 2 Netball, 2 Rugby, 6 Soccer, 1 Hockey, 1 Softball and 1 Tee Ball.
- Out of school classes in Piano, Guitar, Drums, Drama, Swimming, Irish Dancing, Art and Tennis
- Annual speech contests.
- Bi-annual high quality musical production – no child is a tree!

Staff of Tauwhare School

Principal:	Mrs Fiona Artis
Deputy Principal:	Ms Sharon Quinn Yrs 5 & 6 Mr Philip Quenby Yr 4 & 5 Miss Debbie Wrigg Yr 4 & 3
Senior Teacher	Mrs Linda Cook Yrs. 3 & 2 Mrs Cherie Grant/Mrs Belinda Elias Yrs 2 & 1 Mrs Kirsty Gilroy Yrs 0 & 1 Ms Philippa Melton
Reading Recovery/ Extension/Enhancement Yr 5 & 6	
Secretary:	Mrs Paula Brown
Teacher Aides	Ms Julie Mitchell Mrs Maureen Vink Ms Katrina Mead
Cleaner:	Miss Heather Bargh
Caretaker:	Mr Graham Mayall

Board of Trustees

The School's Board of Trustee members are elected by the Parents/Caregivers of the pupils every three years. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.00p.m. in the School staff room.

The present members are:-

Chairperson:	Mr Marc Vink
Secretary:	Ms Fiona Rhodes
Treasurer:	Mr David Evans
Property:	Mr Marc Vink
Maori Representative:	Mr Tuku Wheki
E.E.O. Officer	Ms Fiona Rhodes
Policies	Mr Greg Morton
Principal:	Mrs Fiona Artis
Teacher Representative:	Mrs Linda Cook

Parent Teachers' Association

The P.T.A. committee members are elected annually by Parents/Caregivers and teachers.

P.T.A. committee members are:-

Chairperson:	Mrs Amy Hine
Secretary:	Mrs Katrina Evans
Treasurer:	Mrs Jane Kay

School Documents

The School Charter (which is the legal agreement between the Board of Trustees and the Minister of Education) including yearly targets and approved policy documents are available for viewing by Parents/Caregivers from the office and on the website: www.tauwhare.school.nz.

Enrolments

Tauwhare School enrolls children from Year 0 (N.E.) to Year 6/7 (Std. 4). Children may be enrolled once they are five years of age and must be enrolled from the age of 6 yrs. We are required by the Ministry of Education to take a copy of your child's birth certificate and to copy or view immunisation records. All students from overseas must show evidence of N.Z. residency or citizenship.

Classification of Five Year Olds Entering School

Children who enter into school during January and February will be classified as Year 1 children. Children who enter into school during March and April will be classified as either Year 0/1 depending on social and academic ability. This will be in consultation with parents. This decision needs to be made prior to the child entering into Year 3.

Children who start school from May onwards will automatically be classified as a year 0 child for the remainder of that year. The following year they will enter into Year 1.

Pre-School Transition to School

Tauwhare School is well set up for a seamless transition from home to school. The Tauwhare Playgroup runs during term time every Thursday from 9.30am to 12.00pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Parents come with their babies and pre-schoolers, and this is a great way to get to know each other.

The Pukeko Pre-School is situated on our school grounds. While this runs separately from the school, we are delighted to have a close working relationship with the pre-school so that the transition to school is very smooth. Please contact the Pukeko Pre-School for more details.

Ph 07 8240 860 email: pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz

Each term we invite children aged 4yrs – 5yrs to come along with their parents to join in with a typical morning session in the new entrant (Yr0/1) classroom. The classroom teacher explains routines and teaching practices to parents while the children experience a real classroom. We call this programme **Step In.** Details of the Step In dates can be found in newsletters and on our website.

School Hours

The school day is divided into the following periods:-

Begin 8.55a.m. to 12 .30pm with an interval from 10.30a.m. to 10.55a.m.

The lunch period is from 12.30pm to 1.20p.m.

The afternoon session begins at 1.20p.m. and ends at 2.50p.m.

Pupils should not enter the school grounds prior to 8.20a.m. and should be collected as soon as possible after 3.00p.m. unless they are attending after school classes in which case they are under the supervision of the after school facilitators.

Teachers will not be on duty outside of these hours as they need this time to prepare for class. It is not school policy to detain children at 3.00p.m. School does not finish early on wet days.

OUR 3 RS : RESPECT RESILIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Our rural school culture is based around a very robust system of values and virtues which we encourage, teach and reward at every opportunity through the school day. We cannot expect that every child understands these values or the words we use to name them so teachers explicitly teach them using various methods such as role play.

This term we are reinforcing 'Responsibility'. Responsibility for our actions, for our belongings, for our behaviour, completing task assigned to us etc.

Behaviour

Tauwhare School has always been proud of the way our students conduct themselves and show concern and caring towards each other. We place a high priority on providing a safe, ordered, learning environment where children have an understanding of basic school rules. Children are expected to play fairly and safely; respect others; respect other's property; be in the right place at the right time. Rewards are given out in the form of House Points and class points.

We expect high standards of behaviour at all times. **If teachers are concerned, parents will be contacted.** It is essential that school and home work together to show active co-operation between teachers, parents and community.

If parents are concerned, please contact your child's teacher.

To encourage appropriate behaviour we have a very clear system of rewards and consequences.

Complaints / Concerns

Many *concerns* can be addressed if we know about them. In the first instance, if you have a concern about the progress or behaviour of your child, please take the time to speak to your child's teacher. You may wish then to make an appointment to express your concern to the Principal.

A *complaint* is deemed to be of a serious nature and the parent/caregiver must put their complaint in writing. Any concerns or complaints will be dealt with as soon as possible, with all parties notified of any outcomes or decisions.

Reporting to Parents/Caregivers

The school carries out regular evaluation of pupils' progress.

In March/April a Parent/Caregiver/Teacher oral interview is held to discuss expectations for the coming year. In Term 2 Parent/Caregiver/Teacher interviews are held, and in December a written report is issued.

However, it is school policy to encourage parents/caregivers to visit the school to discuss matters concerning their children. The school will also contact parents/caregivers should matters of concern arise. The school also keeps individual records to record pupils' progress. These records may be viewed by Parents/Caregivers upon request.

Pupils' Health

The school works in close liaison with the Public Health Nurse. She visits school at regular intervals. Should you wish to contact the nurse please phone 838 3565 Ext. 2138.

The school keeps a list of pupils who suffer from allergies or who require medication at school. Please contact the school if there is a change in your child/rens long term health condition. If a child requires medication at school, the teacher must be informed. All medication, even temporary, must be kept in the staff room. If parents need medication to be administered to their child/ren they will need to complete a permission form.

Pupils at the school attend the mobile dental caravan which comes to the school for approximately two weeks each year. Permission slips will be sent out before any treatment is done. If treatment is required between visits please contact the school and we will give you the contact number for emergency treatment.

Absences

If your child is absent through sickness or any other reason please ring the office (8240864) or text (027 5240864) the school by 9.30a.m. and send a note to the class teacher when your child returns. If we have not heard from caregivers we will ring to see where they are as part of our care and safety procedures. As we have no sick bay facilities in the school, if children fall ill during the day, parents/caregivers are contacted and requested to collect their children.

Newsletters

Once a week a newsletter is sent home (more often when necessary). You can always find a copy on the website and many parents request that it be emailed as well. A copy is also placed on the noticeboard in the foyer as well. These newsletters will keep you up-to-date with what is happening at or around the school.

School Donation

A school donation of \$80 for one child and \$160.00 for two or more children is requested from parents/caregivers to meet school needs not provided for from government funds. Donations are paid to the B.O.T. (Board of Trustees). Arrangements can be made through the school to pay these in 4 instalments (one each term).

School donations are not compulsory. Our Board of Trustees is committed to maintaining lower staff-pupil ratios by providing classroom teachers with extra help in the form of teacher aides or support teachers. The extra staff are funded from the operational grant. Thanks to the Board's careful management, we are a very well-resourced school.

However, school donations are invaluable and allow us to provide extras for our students. Our school donation level of \$80 per year or \$20 per term is low compared to many schools.

Donation money is used to provide for extras in P.E and in Art, and for visiting speakers, subsidising bus trips etc.

We use the donation money to ensure tutors keep fees for the after school drama, art and piano to a minimum by giving free use of the Multi-Purpose Room.

Travelling To School

Buses

The school bus service is run by Cambridge Travel Lines on contract for the Ministry of Education. The company has clear rules for the safety and comfort of all, and all bus users are required to follow these rules. Any child not complying with these rules will lose the right to travel on the bus for a period specified by the bus company; parents will be notified.

The company requests that children be prompt for collection. The school bus controller checks pupils on to the bus each night. If children are not travelling on the bus please inform the school.

The bus arrives at school at 8.40a.m. and leaves at 3.05p.m. We share the bus with children from the Marae who attend Ngati Haua School.

The bus route takes in Scotsmans Valley Rd, Pukemoremore Road, Victoria Road, Ringers Road, Tauwhare Rd, Platt Rd, Morrinsville Rd to Eureka Hall, Hunter Rd, back Tauwhare Rd.

Cycling to School

The policy of the school is to **strongly advise** that children biking to and from school be accompanied by an adult.

Pedestrians and cyclists are expected to know and follow the "Rules of the Road".

School Library Books

The school has its own library. If your child borrows a book from the school please ensure that it is looked after and returned to school by the due date. We ask that children have a library bag (a plastic supermarket type bag is adequate) in which to carry their library books to and from school.

Swimming

Swimming is a very important part of our Physical Education programme and we expect every child to swim every day. Please check that your child/ren have their togs and towels at school even on cloudy days – the teachers will make the decision during the day whether to swim or not.

Any child unable to swim for medical reasons will require a note.

Swimming Pools

The school pools are available for community use outside school hours. The Board of Trustees charge \$50 (\$10 refund on return of key) per season for a pool key to people who have children attending Tauwhare School.

School Lunches

On the last Friday of each month Friday the children have the opportunity to buy their lunch from school. The P.T.A prepare and serve lunches. All proceeds go towards the school. The menu is as follows:

Sausages in bread	\$1.50
Flavoured Milk	\$1.50

Clothing

There is not a uniform but we ask that sensible clothing be worn to suit the season.

All clothing should be named. Named clothing is usually returned directly to the children. Un-named clothing is collected and placed in a box outside Room 4 or in the lost-property shed. Lost property unclaimed is taken to the Salvation Army at the end of each school term.

For school trips and sporting fixtures, we prefer children representing the school to wear the school's t-shirt and/or sweatshirt and black shorts.

Tauwhare School Uniform Items for Sale

Poly/cotton T- Shirt	Gold with Black Logo	\$17.00 (Only while stock lasts)
Lacoste Polo Shirt	Gold with Black Logo	\$23.00
Poly/cotton Sweatshirt	Gold with Black Logo	\$23.00
Poly/cotton Trackpants	Black with Gold Print	\$29.00
Polo Fleece Sweatshirt	Gold with Black Logo	\$39.95
All items above available in sizes 6,8,10,12,14		
Sunhat	Gold S/M/L/XL	\$14.00
Beanie	Black with Gold rim	\$ 7.00
Wind Proof Jacket	Black/Gold	\$22.00
Sports Socks	Black/Gold	\$11.00

School Stationery

The school carries supplies of exercise books, which it sells to pupils. When your child requires his/her initial stationery order at the start of the year an account is sent home. Children may purchase replacement books etc during the year.

Photocopier

The school's photocopier is available for community use at a charge of 15c per sheet and 30c per sheet for colour. A levy of \$10 is charged to each pupil per year by the school's Board of Trustees which goes towards off-setting the cost of material used by the pupils in their lessons.

Sun Smart

Every child in the school will be issued with a school sunhat to wear in the school playground. These hats remain at school and are hung in the corridor for the child to use each day. Sunscreen is available in every classroom for the children to use.

Smokefree

Our school is a totally smoke free area – this includes the car park and fields.

ANNUAL EVENTS

During our school year we have certain events which are held annually and we also get together with the other schools in our cluster to participate or compete in various sporting and cultural activities. Our cluster includes the following schools: Tamahere School, Newstead School, Matangi School, and Seventh Day Adventist School.

On these occasions we encourage the children to wear their school uniforms and hats.

School Picnic

We traditionally start our school year with a picnic. We all meet at the **Morrinsville Pool, Cureton Street, Morrinsville** from 10.00a.m. until 2.00p.m. The children swim and race in their age group races and the parents and families mix and mingle and get to know everyone. We have the hotly contested Kevin Smith Steelworkers Cup for the winner of the Yr 5 & 6 race. We end with a parents vs children race which is always entertaining – so bring your togs!!! It is a lovely day and is always well supported, and an important part of our rural school culture.

This is a great time to meet teachers, and new families. If you are new to our school and not sure where to find these pools there will be a map available from the office.

Pupils who are being taken by other than their own parents/caregivers should be collected from and delivered back to their homes.

It really is a delightful day so grab your picnic, your blankets and drag along Nanas and Grandads, aunts and uncles!!

- This is a school day
- Parents arrange to have their child go with a friend's family if they cannot come. (We are happy to assist with this.)
- Parents must help to supervise their child at the pools
- Children must not be left unattended.
- All staff will be at the pools – no one will be at the school.
- Bring your own picnic, drinks etc
- This is an alcohol, smoke and drug free event.
- After School Care is available as per usual from 3pm.
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Junior Tabloid Sports

This is an event for Yr 0/1 – Yr 3 children only and is held at either Tamahere School or at Seventh Day Adventist School. We leave school at 9am and return by lunch time. The children are organised into teams mixed across schools. Parents are encouraged to come along with their pre-schoolers to offer support and to act as team managers to organise these young children as they move to and from the various activities. This is a fun day where participation is the main focus of the day.

Swimming Sports

There are three levels of swimming sports:

1. Tauwhare School swimming races usually held at the School Picnic and involves all of our children
2. Country Cluster Schools Swimming Sports which are held at Matangi School in March each year. This is for children aged 7yrs and above who can comfortably swim 3 lengths of our school pool without stopping in freestyle, backstroke or breaststroke. Each school is only able to enter 6 children in each event.
3. City and Country Swimming Sports which are held in March at the Hillcrest Normal Swimming pools. Each of the 9 schools involved send their top swimmers from 7 yrs and over as this is a very competitive competition. As with the Country Cluster competition the children compete in their age groups (boys and girls separately).



7 Aside

This event is for children in Yrs 4-6 although we do pop in some Yr 3 children if we need to make up teams. It is a full day and is always held at Tamahere School during June. Teams are made up of 7 per team and the children can choose to play either rugby, netball, soccer or hockey. All teams are supervised by an adult or team manager. Appropriate footwear and clothing is to be worn; light footwear and shin pads for hockey and barefeet for rugby and soccer.



Cross Country

We hold three cross country events each year towards the end of term 3.

Tauwhare School Cross Country: This is held at the Wilson's farm next to the Tauwhare Hall. Children run in their age levels (boys and girls separately). A programme of events will be in the newsletter giving approximate times for each race. Parents would be notified by 11.00am if the weather or ground conditions are unsuitable and a cancellation is necessary. Certificates and ribbons to those who came 1st, 2nd or 3rd in each event plus the presentation of the cross country cup are done at the end of the races. All children who run are presented with a certificate at assembly on Monday morning. Everybody is most welcome to come to see the children run and to cheer them on. Parking and toilets are available at the Tauwhare Hall which is right next to where we run.

Distances

The same course is used for each event. The distance being approximately 2000m. Most sections incorporate flat paddock area with some slight dips.

The wearing of footwear is mandatory.

Children aged from 7 yrs and above compete at the **Country Cluster Cross Country** held at Newstead School. Schools would be notified at 8.00am if the weather or ground conditions are unsuitable and a cancellation is necessary. The course incorporates the Newstead School playground perimeter and neighbouring farm properties of Mr Lynch and Dexcel. Footwear is compulsory.

The children go to Newstead by cars. They have time to walk the course before the welcome and instructions. There will be a timetable in the school newsletter. Races finish and Prize-giving is held on the tennis court at 1.30pm. after which we return to school.

3. Our top runners 7yrs and over compete in the **City & Country Schools Cross Country**. Schools take turns to organise this event so it is held at different locations. The format of the day is the same as the country Schools Cross Country.

Calf Club

For those who are new to our school community, this is one of our most treasured days in the school calendar. Children generally get their lambs, calves or kids in August and spend the next few months feeding, combing and training them. Our calf Club is usually held on the first Friday of term 4. The school organises demonstrations on how to care for your pet and there is a booklet available from the office also.

The children who have animals entered come to school with their parents/caregivers by 9.45a.m. so they are ready with their animals for judging which commences at 10.00a.m. Children without animals can come along with their family to enjoy the day together, or arrive as they normally do. The bus will be running as per usual. Although this is a school day, normal classes will not run on this day as staff and children will be outside to join in the fun.

Pre-schoolers are invited to bring along their calf, lamb or kid to parade in the lamb ring prior to the schools first judging event. They are also invited to participate in the flower display.

The day starts at 10.00a.m., with the pre-school parade in the lamb ring followed immediately by the first judging event for calves, lambs and kids.

Please arrive by 9.45a.m., so your child will be ready with their animals for judging to commence at 10.00a.m. A reminder that ALL calves must display a barcode TB Tag in their ear. This is a MAF regulation and may be policed by them on the day.

Please Note there is no postponement day, it is on rain or shine!

No PTA Lunches on Calf Club Day

There will not be any PTA Lunches provided on Calf Club day. Instead children can purchase lunch at the Lions Catering Caravan.

We are always in desperate need of some stewards to help with the rings. You do not need to be trained or experienced, just prepared to help the judges and the children by holding the animal when required, and making sure the children are there ready for their turn in the ring. Please let the office know if you can help.

Group Day



Group Day is held on the Wednesday after Calf Club. Each school in the cluster has turns hosting this day. Children from each school compete together in the rings and points are awarded to your school for every ribbon your child receives. The points are collated and the school with the most points win the coveted Group Day cup.

The day runs exactly the same as Calf Club. We encourage every child who enters a pet in Calf Club to enter in Group Day also. There is no postponement date – it goes on rain or shine!

T-Ball Tournaments

We host and organise two T-Ball tournaments for children in Rooms 1 & 2. (Yr 4,5 &6). The first competition is with the Country Cluster schools and the second is with the City and Country Cluster of 9 schools. Both events follow the same organisation. Teams consist of Year 4, 5, & 6 children and are mixed boys & girls. Each team should have 12 players. Each team plays 5 twenty-five minute games. There are 9 diamonds with a home team on each. There are 5 games – 3 before lunch and 2 after lunch. The PTA sells sausages etc at the earlier time of 11.15am. Children not involved in the tournament have school as per usual.

Music Festival

The music festival is held every two years and is open to all children at the end of Term 3. We combine with Tamahere, Matangi and Newstead for this and it is held at the Tamahere School and Community Hall.

The children learn 10 massed items and each school sings 2 songs of their own.

The festival starts at 7pm and ends by 8.30pm. Parents transport their own children to and from the event (we welcome a large audience!) or arrange for them to go with someone else. It really is a wonderful night listening to hundreds of children all singing together. Entry is by gold coin donation.

E.R.O. Reviews

Tauwhare School has an exceptional record of E.R.O. reviews.

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on **Tauwhare School** dated 17 June 2010.

To the Parents and Community of Tauwhare School

Tauwhare School is located in rural surroundings close to Hamilton, Morrinsville and Cambridge and caters for students from Years 1 to 6. The school recently celebrated its 125th Jubilee. Since the last review the school roll has continued to grow and at the time of this review in April 2010 the roll was 117 students, 27 of whom identify as Maori.

The school continues to provide high quality educational opportunities for students. A significant number of students are achieving at or above national expectations in aspects of literacy and mathematics. The school's overall achievement information shows that all students are progressing in their learning.

Significant strengths include:

- effective educational direction provided by an experienced and well-informed principal, ably supported by senior leaders who continue to set high expectations and provide valuable guidance for trustees, staff and students;
- school staff working collaboratively as a team focused on providing quality education opportunities for students;
- learning environment and resources that offer a rich range of learning opportunities for students in relevant and meaningful contexts;
- positive and respectful relationships among students and teachers;
- teachers using a variety of learning strategies underpinned by current research and best practice to promote student learning and engagement;
- a strong reflective culture informed by student achievement information that has been thoroughly analysed and interpreted; and
- valuable partnerships developed with parents, whanau and community.

Trustees are well informed and focused on providing holistic educational opportunities for students. They have ensured that the school is well maintained and resourced to benefit students' learning.

Students continue to enjoy learning in an attractive, caring, rural environment where they are developing confidence and the necessary competencies to succeed in life.

Future Action

ERO is likely to carry out the next review in four to five years.

Review Coverage

This report provides an evaluation of how effectively the school's curriculum promotes student learning – engagement, progress and achievement. ERO's evaluation takes account of the previous reporting history and is based on:

- what is known about students achievement information, including the achievement of Maori and Pacific students;
- decisions made to improve student achievement using assessment and self-review information; and
- teaching strategies and programmes implemented to give effect to the school's curriculum.

ERO also gathers information during the review to contribute to its normal reports.

The national reports are published on ERO's website.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website, www.ero.govt.nz

Richard Thornton
National Manager Review Services
Northern Region

At the end of each year we have a special night to farewell our Year 6 students. The whole school community comes together at the Tauwhare Hall to celebrate their successes and to thank these senior students for performing so many responsible jobs throughout the year.

On this night we give out awards for the speech contest, the essay competition, the special Principal's award and the ultimate award at Tauwhare School – the Try Shield. This shield is awarded to a child who has consistently displayed the values we hold so dear: Respect, Resilience and Responsibility and has tried hard academically, socially, culturally and in sports.

The children entertain us with their songs and if Santa Claus is passing at just the right time he pops in for a visit!

We end this special night with a shared supper.