

4 February 2016

Dear Parents/Caregivers

I would like to welcome you to the school year. For those students and families who are new to our school I hope the start has been successful and positive. For those students who are with us again I look forward to seeing you continue your positive approach to your education here at TIS.

The newsletter that you are reading comes out fortnightly on Thursdays and is sent via the parent portal. If you need to have a paper copy please contact Coralee in the office ([coralee.grantham@tawaint.school.nz](mailto:coralee.grantham@tawaint.school.nz) - 2325201).

I would like to thank everyone who attended Monday's powhiri. We were overwhelmed with the amount of people which was fantastic. Seeing so many families is heartening and we appreciate your support of your children and our school.

Over the next few weeks your child is going to be given the opportunity to put their name forward for various programmes such as Choir, Kapa Haka, Art Academy etc. Some of these programmes are open to all-comers and some are limited because they are criteria based. We will be sharing the criteria with the students and endeavouring to make it as clear as possible how it works. Invariably there are disappointed students but hopefully they feel as though they understand the process.

Next Thursday 11 February we are having an evening picnic at school starting at 5.30 and going to 7pm. This is a great opportunity for you to informally meet your child's class teacher. Families are invited to attend and bring a picnic dinner. We hope to see you there. This is a school event for the students therefore we expect them to attend in uniform.

The school has experienced a pretty busy Christmas holiday period with our administration block re-build finishing, artificial turf being installed, fencing and lighting installed off our Duncan Street entrance, signage being added and a new phone system being installed. Most of these have gone smoothly but our apologies to those of you who have had difficulties with contacting our school because of our phone upgrade process.

I have added a little bit of a blurb from Andrew Fuller. Andrew is a noted psychologist who specialises in early adolescent and adolescent behaviour. He has many practical suggestions that I like to share. Today, he looks at "How to make friends"

Finally, your child's classroom teacher will be sending you weekly emails with information related to class and school activities. We endeavour to be as consistent as we can with this. Please take advantage of this and provide feedback and questions to them. If you want to get an urgent message to your child or teacher of the child please ring the office as emails to the teacher are not always read during the course of the school day.

Regards

BRENDON HENDERSON  
Principal

# How to make friends

## Andrew Fuller

One way to be happier is to increase the quality of our friendships. Whether you are a sociable person or a loner, friendships are important. One of the easiest ways to remain engaged and interested at school, at work or in life is to enjoy the company of the people that we are with.

Let's talk about how to build friendships (without turning into some sort of gushy, over the top, Ned Flanders type character).

### Look people in the eye

Gaining brief eye contact with people communicates interest and trust. One simple way to do this is to mentally remind yourself to notice the colour of other people's eyes as you say hello to them.

### Smile and say hello

While the minimalist "hi" accompanied by a shrug may seem cool, it can also come across as disinterested and uncaring. Smile genuinely when you meet people and let them know you are glad to see them.

### Call people by their name - a lot

Most people feel liked and reassured when someone calls them by their name. Try to use their name at least twice in a conversation, once when you meet them and once when you say goodbye.

### Be where you are

One of the easy ways to stand out as a good friend is to be with people when you are with them. This means rather than checking messages, or scrolling through social media or sending texts you actually stop, talk, look at and listen to the people you are with.

### Feel lucky to know them

One of the really simple ways to be a good friend to someone is to decide that you are lucky to know them.

### Ask people what they think

One way of getting past the awkward stage in conversations is to ask people just what they have been doing but also what they think about something. Seeking their ideas and thoughts shows that you value them.

### Get to know a lot of people

Not everyone you meet will be a close friend. The more people you get to know even a little bit, the more likely you will be able to find friends. It can also be good in life to know some people as good acquaintances as well as having close friends.

### Get to know people who are different

One of the ways to live an interesting life is to talk to people who are different than you. Getting to know people from different countries and backgrounds will enrich your life and stretch your ideas.

### What young people want in a friend.

I asked over 1,000 young people last year what looked for in a friend. They said:

humour	honesty
kindness and caring	trustworthy
non-judgemental	happiness

### Say hello to people you don't know

All of your friends were strangers once. Maybe it is time to start saying hello to some people you would like to be friends with but don't know yet.

*The best way to lose an enemy is to make them into a friend-* Abraham Lincoln

# SCHOOL NOTICES

## Reporting Absence

It is important that you let us know as early as possible when your child will be absent, and the reason. When we are not contacted, the absence is automatically coded as 'truant' until we are given a satisfactory reason. We are complied to do this by the Ministry of Education. Where there are a number of unjustified absences, we pass the case on to the Attendance Service to follow up.

You can report a child absent by phone to the office (telephone 2325201), or by emailing [absent@tawaint.school.nz](mailto:absent@tawaint.school.nz). Alternatively, you can let the class teacher know by email.

We have an 'early notification system' that automatically informs you by text if your child is absent without explanation. If you receive such a text, please reply to it, or ring our office. Be aware that the system occasionally breaks down, for example, when a child has missed the roll call and forgotten to sign in at the office as late.

We really appreciate your co-operation with this, as following up on unexplained absences in a school of this size is extremely time consuming.

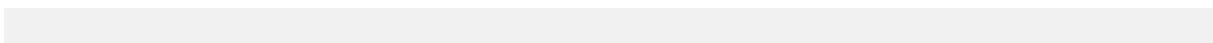
If your child is leaving school early, they need to sign out at the office.

## Naming Clothing

We appeal to you to name **all** items of your child's uniform, including PE gear. When there are 500 students all wearing the same clothes, it is very difficult to track down owners, and not all students of this age are proactive in checking for items at the lost property.

## If your child is unwell at school

Children who feel unwell are sent to the medical room and parents will be contacted by the office staff when it is necessary to pick up their child. In cases where serious injury is suspected, parents are notified and children are taken to Kenepuru Hospital. If your child ever texts you to tell you they are not feeling well, please direct them to go straight to the school office and we will let you know if we think they are too unwell to stay at school.



# What's Happening

8 February	Waitangi Day Observance – <b>school closed</b>
11 February	School Community Picnic
8 March	Athletics Day
11 March	School Photos
21 March	Inter-Intermediate Athletics
22 March	Parent Teacher Interviews
25 March	Good Friday
28 March	Easter Monday
29 March	Easter School holiday – <b>school closed</b>
11 April	Inter-Intermediate Boys Football
12 April	Inter-Intermediate Girls Football
15 April	Term 1 ends
2 May	Term 2 begins

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Supporting success in your school.

For new ASB home loans over \$150,000 drawn down before 31 December 2015, ASB will donate:

**\$500** cash to participating schools.

To take up this offer you must be a parent, staff or member of the participating school. ASB's lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. 20% equity is required in the security property. Other terms apply. Fees may apply. For Ts & Cs and to download the voucher visit [asb.co.nz/schoolbanking](http://asb.co.nz/schoolbanking). Offer ends 31 December 2015.

ASB Bank Limited PPU49035

**ASB**



*Don't just play the games, come learn to write your own! Code Club is a nationwide network of free volunteer-led after-school coding clubs for kiwi kids. Come along and join in the fun on Tuesday nights at Greenacres primary, 6-7pm, Room 4. Our first club night for 2016 will be on 16th Feb. Year 5,6,7 and 8 students welcome. No experience necessary to come in and join in the Fun. To register interest or find out more contact Merridy 027-270-1663 or [merridy.marshall@assurity.co.nz](mailto:merridy.marshall@assurity.co.nz)*



Our internationally acclaimed Life Skills programme for children (5-17yrs) enhances *Confidence and Creativity, Communication, Presentation Skills, Public speaking, Performance skills*

Ph (04) 3889710 [www.helenogrady.co.nz](http://www.helenogrady.co.nz)

**CLASSES IN:** *Khandallah, Lower Hutt, Whitby, Hataitai, Tawa*



### **Springboard & Platform Diving at Kilbirnie Pool**

Wellington Diving Club has a range of diving classes for kids aged 5 years and up. Why not try something new this year? Visit our website and come along for a free trial! We have many after-school sessions on most days and cater for kids of any level from beginners to competitive. We are also running our fun casual sessions on Sundays. For more information, please visit our website [www.wellingtondiving.org.nz](http://www.wellingtondiving.org.nz) or call/text Maria on 021-173-6866.



## Western Suburbs Football Club

### 2016 Registration Days

#### Mighty Midgets, Juniors and Seniors (all grades):

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00pm – 8.00pm	at Endeavour Park Clubrooms, Whitby
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00pm - 8.00pm	at Endeavour Park Clubrooms, Whitby
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00pm – 8.00pm	at Whitby Co-op Kitchen and Bar, Discovery Drive, Whitby

For further information about our Club, please visit our website at

[www.westernsuburbs.co.nz](http://www.westernsuburbs.co.nz)

Forms for online registration will be available on our website just prior to the above dates.

Fees are yet to be confirmed.

*Please note that fees must be paid at the time of registration.*

*Junior grades 9 to 14 need to have registered and paid by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February in order to take part in trials.*



## Mana Squash 2016 Registrations Junior Program

Register at Mana Squash Club on  
Thursday Feb 11 between 7pm and  
8:30pm or via email below.

### Term 1 starting Mon Feb 15th

Coaching will run for 8 weeks during each school  
term

### Fees:

#### Membership

- \$25 per term or \$85 per annum.

#### Coaching per term (grouped by ability)

Professional instruction by Mita squash

- \$65 Beginner
- \$80 Intermediate and Proficient

#### Coaching Times (grouped by ability)

##### Monday

Tawa Club Between 3:40—5:00pm

Mana Club Between 5:15—7:30

##### Tuesday

Mana Club between 3:45—6:00pm

##### Friday

Junior Club Night at Mana between 6:00 and 8:15

Gold coin donation

Bring a friend.

\*\*\*Sundays— Elective Matches as per fixtures.

**6c Pasco Ave Ngatitoo Domain Mana**  
**Contact [barry.ryan0109@gmail.com](mailto:barry.ryan0109@gmail.com) 027 36 00 299**



**OPEN DAY**  
Waitangi Day  
6th February  
**10am - 4pm**

**140 Alexandra Road  
Newtown Gold Coin Entry**

Animals . Fun Activities . Dog Agility  
Food . Stalls . Surgery In Action & More

***A fun day out for the  
whole family!***

[wellingtonspca.org.nz](http://wellingtonspca.org.nz)

