



TAUPŌ SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER - TERM 1, 2022

February 2022

We welcome students and families to Taupō Syndicate in 2022!

Organisation:

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The Great Race 2022

Each student will take part in an inquiry designing a kart and being part of a team that races it in next term's 'The Great Race 2022.'

In term one:

- Students using the design process to design their kart.
- Students will learn about designing a logo.
- Students will acquire sponsors for their kart.
- Students will learn about letter writing and writing a proposal.
- Students will need to show strong teamwork skills in designing their kart.



We will be sending information home regarding this project in the coming weeks.

Hoodies

This year we would like as many children as possible to purchase a Taupō Hoodie. These are a great way of letting people know that we are the seniors at Plimmerton School and are also somewhere to sew on all the badges they will be earning.

Taupō Hoodies can be purchased through the office and will cost \$50. A google form will be sent home early in term 1. We have to order the hoodies in bulk so the more orders we get the faster the children will receive them.





Credits/ badges.

Throughout the year students have opportunities to earn Academic, Cultural, Sporting and Service credits. When they have earned 10 credits they are awarded an achievement badge and 15 credits earns them an excellence badge. Last year we also added badges for 20 and 30+ credits as we had so many children excelling in each of the four areas.

At the end of the year the top Year 8 student from each area is presented with a trophy at the leavers assembly.

Sport

Our syndicate sports programme happens throughout the week. Students are encouraged to wear clothing suitable for physical activities. Students will do sport with their own class while we are at RED level.

Students will also participate in a 20 minute sport time two or three times a week in the mornings. This involves a highly engaging active game. We have found Year 7/8 students work more effectively back in class after participating in a competitive game.

All students are expected to fully participate in the sports programme that Taupō Syndicate provides. If your student is not able to take part please email their teacher and let them know. We will contact parents if students repeatedly choose to opt out of sport time.

Brain Break:

During the day students may have an opportunity to have a short snack and water break. We would like to remind parents that food during this time must be healthy and could include - fruit, vegetables or nuts. Other snacks should be kept for intervals and lunch times.

Arts Rotations

This year classes are going to be taking part in an art rotation each week. Each teacher will be teaching an area they are interested in and classes will rotate every 6 weeks. Some of the possible areas may include visual arts, drama, dance and music. This will start in Week 5.

Chromebooks:

Students need to ensure that their chromebook is fully charged prior to coming to school as they are unable to recharge them during school time. Chromebooks will be issued early in the term to students who do not have their own.

Phones:

Students are expected to turn phones off and put them away in their bags as soon as they arrive at school in the morning. This includes smart watches. They can get them out at 3pm to organise meeting up with parents or other family members.

If you need to contact your child during school hours please ring the school office.

They will put you through to the classroom.

If phones/smart watches are seen or heard during school hours they will be sent to the office where they can be collected by the student at the end of the day.

If incidents involving phones occur three or more times we will be contacting parents and it

may mean that the child involved will be unable to bring a phone to school for the rest of the year.

Communicating with Parents/ Seesaw :

It means a great deal to us and your child when you sign up to Seesaw as this is a good way for you to see your child's learning and what's going on in class and syndicate wide. Please make sure you sign up when your child's teacher sends an email with the instructions. We want you to be kept well informed about what is happening in your child's class and the syndicate. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher at any stage.

Red Level

At school classrooms will be ventilated throughout the day and students will need to consider a warmer top if the weather is cooler that day.

Nga mihi,
Taupō Team