Te Puke Intermediate Newsletter No 1

11 February 2026

TERM CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

18	School swimming sports at TPHS
19	Meet the Teacher evening 5-6pm
20	Super 11 Cricket
24	Samoa trip information evening
27	Japanese guests arrive at TPI

MARCH

2	TPI School Photos
6	Super 11 Surfing Champs
9	Noho Marae camps begin
10	Japanese guests depart
13	Super 11 Tennis Champs
20	Super 11 Swimming Champs
25	KIA KAHA Fun Run fundraiser
26	HPV Vaccinations
27	Super 11 Touch Tournament
30	Year 6 visit

APRIL

1	Term 1 Disco
2	Latimer assembly
3	Good Friday / End of Term 1

Te Puke Intermediate
Free Call Number

0800 131 033

Welcome

A very warm welcome to all students and whānau of Te Puke Intermediate School, we hope your time with us will be successful, challenging and rewarding. Newsletters are sent out approximately every month to keep parents up to date and are numbered for your convenience. Newsletters are posted on **HERO** and are also posted on our website so you can go back and see previous information.
Our website address is - www.tepukeint.co.nz

Hero Management System

All parents and caregivers need to download HERO as this is the only platform we use for all communications and reporting. This will be explained at the Meet the Teacher evening.

(Play store/HERO app/download/enter the email address you gave us/it will email you to set your password/you're in!)

School Photos

Monday 2nd March is photos day at TPI. Every student will have an individual photo taken for our data system as well as the class photo. Information will be sent out via HERO and sibling photos can also be taken.
Teeth brushed, hair done, correct school uniform, everyone here please.

Learning Centre and Class Placements

Students have all selected their Learning Centre following a significant process and we have arranged and staffed the school accordingly. While there is a process for changing a Learning Centre this will not be considered lightly, nor changed flippantly. Students have made their choice with good reason and this should be fully explored for a period of a couple of weeks before changing would be considered. Not having your best friend in your class is not a good reason to shift.

This process reflects 'life' and is a situation they will come across again in the future. Part of our role and yours as parents is to help them develop the resilience to cope with this for the future.

Meet The Teacher Evening

All parents, caregivers and whānau are invited along on Thursday the 19th February at 5pm to meet your teachers and start forming a partnership. A separate notice will come out on HERO from your Learning Centre Team and will be on our Facebook page. Join our Facebook page and your Centre Facebook page. Get yourself on HERO asap whānau. 😊

Te Puke Intermediate Newsletter No 1

11 February 2026

Staffing 2026

I would like to welcome all our staff back to school this year with a special welcome to all our new people.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal	Jill Weldon
Deputy Principal	Stephen Knightly
Deputy Principal	Kellie Jepsen

EXPRESSIVE

1 *Becky Gardiner – Leader*
2 Anna Parkin

EXPLORE

3 *Jonelle Crone – Leader*
4 Todd Herbert
5 Hilary Puke-Petero
6 Crystal Steyn

ENERGISE

7 *Aaron Sutherland – Leader*
8 Wiremu Jepsen
9 Simone Te Kani
10 Briana Morrison

EDVENTURE

11 Amy Taylor
12 *Chad Jacob – Leader*
13 Tyron Steyn
14 Rebecca Odyssey

ECO

15 *Drew Silby – Leader*

ENRICH

16 *Lisa Stowell – Leader*

EXCEL

17 *Rebecca Taepa – Leader*

TE KOROWAI MATAURANGA

18 *Whāea Marcia Waikato – Leader*
Matua Tamarangi Tamihana

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

ICT	Darren Harvey
Workshop	Peter Ronalds
Foods	Anna Bryant
Art	Sarah Coates

DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Cam Black

LEARNING SUPPORT

Amanda Arthur

SENCO

Anna Tamani

ESOL SPECIALIST

Maxine Morris

SOCIAL WORKERS

Rebecca Staples
Alex Annandale

SUPPORT STAFF

Receptionist	Donna Garrett
Executive Officer	Delwyn Koce
Librarian	Leigh Park
Staff Resources	Rachael Sexton
Teacher Aides	Michael Collins
	Kat Fox
	Lauren Green
	Shanel Penno
	Georgia Broughton
	Rachael Sexton
	Pixie Davidson
	Trey Tamarapa
	Jorja Mouat
	Mia Shepard
	Rajwinder Kaur
CARETAKER	Chris Larsen

Contacting Staff

All staff can be contacted by email. The address is firstname.lastname@tepukeint.school.nz e.g., Jill.weldon@tepukeint.school.nz

Te Puke Intermediate Newsletter No 1

11 February 2026

SunSmart

The BOT and staff at Te Puke Intermediate are committed to ensuring your child's health and safety through the SunSmart policy. All staff and students are required to wear a school hat while outside during Term 1 and Term 4. This includes interval, lunchtime, sport, class PE and team practises during the first term. I have no doubt that you will support this and ensure that your child is equipped with a school hat so they can participate in all the activities that we offer. Please name your hat clearly.

Students without hats will be expected to remain in the shade during the breaks until they have a hat. The wearing of sunblock will not be sufficient by itself but is thoroughly recommended to be worn with the hat.

During Term 1 we alter our timetable to accommodate the extreme heat conditions. House Comp and P.E lessons will not be taken after lunch in the hottest part of the day.

Uniform 2026

As you know our uniform is sold from 'ReeStyle' in town, except for the PE shirts, which are sold from here at school. You can choose to direct credit the money into our account and we can supply your child from the office.

PE shirts are $35.
Use your child's name and a reference with PE shirt.
If for some reason your child cannot be in correct uniform then a note signed by a parent must be sent, valid for the one day, to the classroom teacher. Your child is responsible for giving this to the teacher at roll call at 8.50am. If the non-uniform item is unacceptable to us, we will loan correct uniform to your child for the day.

Te Puke School Buses

All bus pupils have had a meeting to sort students into their bus groups.

Bus transport is provided by the Government as an assistance for parents. Students must live 4.8kms from their closest school to be eligible for buses. If your child is not attending their closest school and are coming to TPI instead, then they may not be eligible and can only ride the bus if there is space. They are not a taxi service and cannot be used by non-eligible students to get home quicker or for parents' convenience. There are strict guidelines about who can catch a bus.

The person in charge of buses at TPI is Deputy Principal – Stephen Knightly and all enquiries about buses should be directed to him at stephen.knightly@tepuekint.school.nz

Bus transport is a privilege and not as of right – this has been explained to students and in the interest of safety, misbehaviour on the buses is not tolerated. Any student misbehaving on the bus or showing disregard for the bus rules, will be put off the bus.

School Swimming Sports

Wednesday 18th February is our school swimming sports held at Te Puke High School. Students have been invited to sign up for either Competitive or Participation events.

Any queries regarding swimming contact Cam Black on cam.black@tepukeint.school.nz

Noho Marae Trips

Every student has the opportunity to go on an overnight stay with their class at Ngati Moko Marae this year. This is part of our local curriculum but also a neat opportunity to get to know each other even better by spending time together. There will be more details to come about Noho however dates have been set for between 9th - 17th March. We will be looking for parent/adult support with these events so have a think about coming along for the night with your child's class. It's an incredible experience if you have never stayed on a Marae before.

Tamadai Junior High School - Japan

We have a group of Japanese students visiting TPI and Te Puke for a couple of weeks this term and they are being hosted by some of our whanau.

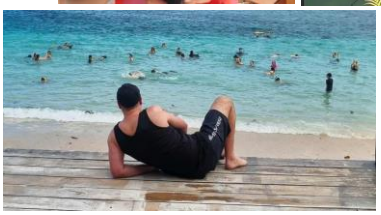
Later in the year there is another group coming so have a think about whether you might also like to be involved.

Te Puke Intermediate Newsletter No 1

11 February 2026

Samoa Trip 2026

Each year we offer an overseas trip and we will be revisiting Samoa in September. We are holding an information evening on Tuesday 24th February in the PAC at 6pm. Come along if you are interested in hearing about this awesome experience, it's a fantastic opportunity.



Kia Kaha Funrun

This is our major fundraiser for the year where all our people collect sponsors and participate in a great event on the 25th of March. Start giving all your whānau and friends a heads up that you will soon be looking for sponsorship or donations to support your child in their fun run.

There are massive prizes for our students who commit fully to this event and raise money for our kura. This year the funds raised will go towards air conditioning in the PAC. If you were at the Pohiri you will understand why.

Te Puke Intermediate Newsletter No 1

11 February 2026

School Fees

We are delighted to NOT be charging school fees again in 2026. TPI is in the school donations scheme from the Government and all school fees have been paid.

Class curriculum trips/experiences will also be paid from this scheme.

Trips that involve an overnight stay are different and will likely have a cost or we may ask for donations of food items. Year 8 camps are also separate from this and incur full costs.

Finances

Throughout the year there are numerous voluntary activities that your child will be involved in that requires payment of money. This can be quite stressful on families to find the extra money.

Many of our school families have set up a regular direct credit of $5-$10 per week which is credited to your child's school account. This remains in the account for use when needed. I strongly recommend this option for anyone who has a child who likes to be fully involved in activities or as a way to pay off fees owing.

Our bank account details are:
Te Puke Intermediate School 12-3217-0017704-00
Office is open Mon-Fri 8am-4pm during term time if you prefer to pay via cash or Eftpos. (No credit card or payWave available)

Mobile Phone Policy for Students

No mobile phones are permitted to be at school or on school grounds. Students may not use these at any time of the day while at school. This includes before and after school while on school grounds in school uniform. Please help your child to work with this by leaving their phone at home, we really do not want to be in the position of having to take phones off students.

Jewellery

Please refer to the prospectus on our website about what our uniform jewellery is acceptable here at TPI.
No facial studs are allowed.
Two sets of stud earrings are allowed.
No hoops or dangly earrings are to be worn.
Taonga/cultural necklaces are allowed - but no fashion, beach or holiday type jewellery is acceptable.
Watches are allowed, no rings or bracelets are allowed.
No anklets are allowed.

Makeup

Again, please check the prospectus about the rules here. No makeup is allowed at TPI for students. This includes fake eyelashes, mascara, lip gloss, hair straighteners (you'd be surprised), nail polish and most other unnecessary items for people our age at school.

Please work with your child to understand the rules here; that you agreed to when you enrolled your child. If they get a clear message from you at home then we have no debates here at school. Thank you for your support.

Property

We take pride in our school, school property and resources. We provide our students with the very best learning environment we can and have high expectations of student behaviour and respect for property.
Absolutely no graffiti or vandalism will be tolerated – all costs arising from wilful damage at school are passed on to parents/caregivers for payment.

Fix The Small Things

From time to time you may have a concern, or see something that you think I should know about. Please make contact with us– phone or email and let me know. It is much easier to fix the small things than wait until it becomes a biggie. Our school is your school and I want you to be as proud of it as I am, so let's work together to ensure that we all have a highly successful experience.

Likewise - if you have a question or need clarity on anything TPI related, please call the office or myself if during the week or PM us on Facebook if the weekend. Our admin is pretty quick at responding to these queries.
This is preferable to a public Facebook post that invites comment and critique from people not even connected to our school, our context or our people. These are not ideal and more often than not are not positive experiences.
We would much prefer personal contact with us.

Thank you.