



ROOM 14 NEWSLETTER



TEAM TAWA - "Step by Step, Day by Day"

Welcome to Room 14 and welcome to our classroom community!

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Students

I am incredibly excited to be your teacher this year and to embark on this learning journey with all of you.

My name is **Stefan Nieuwoudt**, and I am happy for the students to call me **Matua Stefan**. I am deeply passionate about working with young people and helping them realise their full potential. Teaching is a true calling for me, and it is a passion that started long before I entered the formal classroom. My journey as an educator began in the ocean, where I spent years as a kitesurfing, surfing, and PADI diving instructor. Those years taught me that with the right guidance and encouragement, anyone can master a difficult new skill - a philosophy I bring into Room 14 every day.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead. Please take note of these two very important dates:

The MI Night Market

Wednesday 11th February | 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm. The Night Market is one of our most anticipated events, but its success relies entirely on our amazing community. **Parent involvement is vital.** We are looking for help with food preparation and the contribution of ingredients. Whether you can provide supplies, help prep dishes, or assist on the night, your support makes all the difference. Please let me know if you can contribute ingredients or your time to help our stall shine!

Student Involved Conferences (SIC)

Tuesday 31st March. This is a key milestone in the term where our students take the lead. It is a wonderful opportunity for them to share their progress and for us to celebrate their hard work together.

In Room 14, I have a simple but firm expectation: I ask that every student **always tries their best** and maintains a **positive attitude**. If we approach our challenges with a 'can-do' spirit, there is nothing we cannot achieve. I look forward to meeting you all and working together to make this a successful and memorable year for our tamariki.

Warm regards

*Stefan Nieuwoudt**Matua Stefan***Term One Values:** Manaakitanga | Respect | Communication | Engagement & Teamwork**WELCOME TO TAWA**

It is great to have your tamaiti in our Tawa whānau! This year's mantra, 'step by step, day by day,' highlights the power of consistency. By mastering daily habits and showing up every day, we build the collective wins we celebrate as a whānau. Once Tawa, always Tawa!

Mr Ingham - Tawa Whānau Leader

**ATTENDANCE**

I expect 100% attendance! Your child must be at school every day. If your child is not coming to school make sure to contact me in the morning preferably before 8:30 am. I will be contacting you or visiting your home if your child is away without a valid reason. Your child can not progress if they miss school and instead will be playing catch up on their learning. We want and need your child at school every day!

Important Dates

Whānau - for important Term One dates please refer to the 2026 MI Whānau Calendar you received, and it is also in your child's MI Planner on page 6. If there are any special events unique to our class, I will let you know.

TAWA BIG THREE!**LATES**

School starts at 8:30 am but we encourage students to be here by 8:20 am. Students who are late twice in a week will be placed on lunch time Community Service. If your child is running late please come into the school with them or write a note to explain their lateness.

MI Survival

All of Tawa whānau will be staying overnight at school for MI Survival on Tuesday 24th February (Week 4). More information to come.

**UNIFORM**

Your child needs to be in 100% correct school uniform, this includes their whānau band. Refer to the MI Planner for more info. If there are any problems and your child does not have the correct uniform please provide them with a letter they can give to Mr. Peilua to receive a uniform pass.