



Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu
koe me he maunga teitei

Aim high for what you truly
value, be persistent and don't let
obstacles stop you from reaching
your goal!

We had a very tough start to the year, but through the good and the sad, the hard work and fun, what remains a consistent for us all is the fact that your children are fantastic and deserve the very best. Term 1 has been incredibly busy and we are continually impressed at the wonderful level of manaakitanga and support shown for one another, not only here at school but in our community.

As many of you are aware, most of our communication now is online either via emails or through the parent portal. We would strongly encourage you to please check your emails so that you are up to date with the latest events and upcoming dates. There have been so many magic moments this term, and to help you to see what we get to experience here at Taita College we have been sending out fortnightly updates to showcase

some of those highlights.

We have a wonderful team, and a group of very dedicated staff who do all that they can to ensure your child's education is preparing them for success now and in the future. Thank you all for your effort throughout the term. May you have some well-deserved rest and relaxation in the term break and prepare for Term 2. We can't wait. When we work together, we achieve together!

Take care
Karen Morgan
Principal

TERM 1 HIGHLIGHTS

Results -

Over the last two years we have seen a significant increase in our NCEA results.

Level 1: Up 13%, Level 2: up 20%, and Level 3: up 13% - this is outstanding! Onwards and upwards for us as a college.

Literacy Results all on the rise:
L1 86.0%, L2 95.5%, L3 96.1%

Numeracy Results all on the rise:
L1 89.2%, L2 92.1%, and L3 93.4%

Some significant increases in results for European, Māori and

Pasifika students across the levels

Increased excellence
endorsements at level 1

Increased results for boys:
trajectory going up at all levels
which is excellent.

Powhiri -

We started the year with a wonderful powhiri to welcome our new year 9 students and their families, along with new staff.

New Staff-

We have a fabulous group of new staff who have joined the Taita College team. They bring not only their expertise, but their energy, commitment and experience.

Samoaan -

We now offer Samoan as a language and this is already extremely positive for all involved.

Reports -

Are all online and can be viewed via the parent portal, using your own personal log in. They are live and updated regularly so that as parents you are informed of your child's progress to date. Senior report grades will be NA (not achieved), A (achieved), M (merit), E (excellence). Junior report grades will be WT (working towards), A (achieved),

M (merit), E (excellence). Please expect a comment from every staff member once a term, which will indicate your child's strengths, and areas to work on in the future (as a feedforward statement). If you are unable to access any of this information please contact the school.

Community Meetings -

Helena has facilitated our community meetings and it has been excellent to have your support and attendance at these meetings. Our next meeting is scheduled for the 23rd of May.

Parent/Tutor teacher meetings -

It was lovely to see so many parents and to have those very important conversations about learning and success. Thank you to all of you who attended. There was a very positive feel to the evening, and it was great to be able to talk with students about their interim reports but also the focus with their studies. We have learning conversations coming up on the 10th and 11th May, so it will be important for you all to make time to attend these meetings early in Term 2. Please use the online booking system to help secure a time that works for you and your family.

Junior Curriculum Review -

We have had a number of parent meetings to not only build connections and relationships, but to hear from you about what you feel is important to consider in our curriculum as part of our internal evaluation.

Parent Meetings -

Parent meetings around wellbeing of your teenagers were also offered throughout the term, and information was emailed to all families.

Senior Executive -

We have an excellent senior executive leadership team, who are already working in a tuakana/teina role with the junior Yr 9 tutor groups.

The executive team are leading assemblies in the school. They are involved in community groups and are making a hugely positive impact in the school as leaders!

Demerits -

Demerit e-mails will be coming to you as parents if your child has an unexplained absence from the previous week. If your child is sick please call us so that the appropriate code can be entered. You can also check the parent portal to ensure that you are aware of your child's attendance. We have encouraged students to take responsibility for their attendance and to work alongside

such a need for school's to be working alongside businesses as a means to look for opportunities for our students. One company Uniplus, have offered us work opportunities for our students and sponsored our top female and male rugby team uniforms.

Learning outside the classroom -

Students have had a number of incredible opportunities. Students have been to Tongariro, worked with Ignite sports, been to the outdoor pursuits centre, and most importantly been able to learn in a different context and environment. These are memories that will be lifelong!



their teachers if there are any concerns. Unexplained absences must have a valid reason if they are to be cleared. Please note: All demerits can be amended and deleted if an error has been made, or if legitimate reasons are given. In the first instance if you have any concerns, please e-mail your child's tutor teacher.

Business Breakfast -

We invited surrounding businesses and industries to come and share breakfast with us as a way to form positive partnerships for the future. Education is changing and now more than ever there is

Hackathon -

Recently some of our students attended the TEC and Wellington ICT Graduate School hackathon for students. The hackathon introduced them to opportunities in ICT through a highly engaging experience. Our students received \$1000 for the school, and were all awarded prizes on the day.

Volleyball -

Our Senior Girls' team placed 4th at the regional competition. Our Senior Boys' team placed 8th overall.



ATHLETICS DAY 2018



A WAKA ODYSSEY



On the beautiful Friday evening of February the 23rd, Taita College students took part in a 1000 strong performance of a new haka named Kupe Hautoa as part of the New Zealand Festival 2018. They Welcomed a majestic fleet of waka hourua (double-hulled voyaging waka) as it sailed into Te Whanganui-A-Tara, Wellington Harbour. Other performers included a 250-strong choir, and a musical score composed by musician Warren Maxwell of Trinity Roots and Little Bushman fame. More info on the event can be found at: <https://www.festival.co.nz/2018/events/a-waka-odyssey/>



BARBERSHOP SINGING



On 28th February, a group of 32 students attended the Barbershop Hutt Valley workshop held at Sacred Heart College. This workshop provided the opportunity for our students to learn techniques specific to barbershop acapella singing. In the process they learned

an arrangement of 'Coney Island Baby', as well as 'Orange Coloured Sky'. They were learning alongside students from other schools around the Hutt Valley region. This was a highly successful event in terms of exposing our students to the craft of acapella singing, and also a good

way to kick-start our Barbershop Acapella programme here at Taita College. We are hoping to build on this momentum and work towards taking part in the Wellington regional competition held in Term 2.

MUSIC EXPERIENCE DAY

On Wednesday 7th March our Level 2 and 3 Music class had the privilege of attending the Student Experience Day at Massey University, with a specific focus on the Creative Arts. During this day our students spoke with key programme coordinators/tutors and explored the modern facilities, learning about the different performance, sound recording and industry courses running relevant to Commercial Music. In typical TC fashion, the day ended with a quick stop to the golden arches!





Tumeke Taita is a community event held at the Walter Nash Centre every year. This event is filled with lots of stalls, children's activities and rides, as well as live entertainment.

Taita College had a large presence at the event. Our students opened proceedings early with a powhiri. Many selflessly volunteered as ushers and guides throughout the long day. Their efforts were recognized in our school assembly where the Tumeke organisers awarded certificates to a long list of the students involved.

The senior Food and Nutrition class were also on site promoting healthy living through reduced sugar intake. They were offering iced tea as an alternative to fizzy drink. As well as better informing the community their efforts went towards gaining NCEA credits.

On the stage situated at the back of the Walter Nash Centre, we had three musical acts from Taita College perform some soulful favourites, - Mia Welsh Duffin (solo voice/guitar), a band of Year 11 Music students, as well as a mixed band of Year 12/13 students. They were all highly praised for their efforts.



Sugar

Sugar is a highly addictive substance with no nutritional information. There are many different types of sugar including monosaccharides such as glucose, fructose, sucrose and galactose.

Impact of sugar on your body

Insulin helps control the blood glucose levels in the body, it signals the liver to release sugar into the bloodstream as a source of energy. Consuming sugar slows down the body's immune system/protection against viruses. The overconsumption of sugar can result in the development of health issues, including Diabetes or Metabolic Syndrome.

Water

Water helps regulate temperature, maintain bodily functions and transport nutrients through the bloodstream. The human body is 60% water. We are recommended to consume over 2 litres (8 glasses) of water daily.

There are a variety of benefits of consuming water including but not limited to:

- Increased energy
- Flushes out toxins
- Improves skin complexion
- Boosts Immune system
- Natural Headache remedy



How can you make a change?

We all know that water is an essential beverage in a healthy diet, with no calories. However, plain water is very boring.

There are a variety of things you can do to make water an interesting beverage, rich in nutrients and benefits.

If your water is too bland, add a twist of lime or a splash of sugar-free natural fruit juice for a sensational fruity flavor.

However, if fruit doesn't hit your taste buds try adding freshly sliced ginger, bruised mint leaves, or make fresh homemade iced tea with the recipe provided.

What if you still aren't getting your recommended daily intake of water? You can try by having a glass or two of water with your meals. This will eventually accumulate.



D.V.C Zoo TRIP

Sounds strange- a drawing group going to the Zoo. But they have to do two types of design - Spacial and Product.

We have looked at zoo's from the 1950's right through to the present day and tracked the change from exhibiting animals until they died of boredom right through to conservation and ensuring the animals are happy. We have looked at appropriate legislation and ACOPs and visited Wellington Zoo to look at enclosure design, habitat enrichment, happy animal thinking, keeping visitors safe and how to maintain enclosures (keeper access etc).

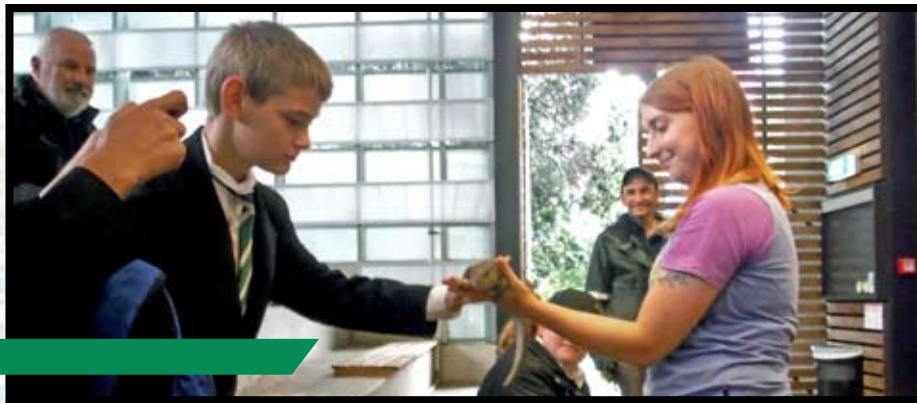
Their project now is to work through the design process and using the drawing, rendering and texturing techniques they have been taught, research a chosen animal and design an enclosure for it.

The Zoo took this on board and provided us with an educator who took us through the current thinking and then



showed us around the Zoo. After, the group had an hour to select their own animal and collect information on it.

Unfortunately it rained all day. There were three schools at the Zoo that day. Two were hiding in the cafe but the Taita kids are tougher than that and went out there, got wet and did us proud. The group were all fantastic ambassadors for the school.



CIVIL DEFENCE TRAINING

In the event of an emergency, civil defence aims to save the greatest number of lives in the shortest possible time. Minimizing further injury to people and damage to property. Civil defence offers us an amazing opportunity to be ready in emergencies like earthquakes. We can now search in dangerous environments, carry people correctly, lift and strap them into stretchers and correctly tie the knots. With what we have been taught we can now help the community in different disasters and working as a team. Civil defence has taught all of us the importance of team work and communication, as well as being diligent. Those who are involved with civil defence this term include co-captains, Josh Teddy and Jade Harrop-Hemara. As well as Ellarose Lamberton, Ben Lamberton, Deborah Yu, William Judge, Monique Taylor, Mia Welsh-Duffin, Ashley Morrissey, and the two reserves, Paris Harrop-Hemara, and Connor Jensen.



YR12 LEADERSHIP CAMP

On Sunday the 18th March ten year 12 boys left for the Hillary Outdoor Leadership School in Tongariro along with their Dean Mr. Newborn. For the next 5 nights and 6 days they would be up at 6am to prepare breakfast, get their own sandwiches ready for lunch and then be outside as a team climbing, caving, kayaking and tramping through the bush.

First thing on Monday the group met up with their instructor Seb, and spent the morning doing team building exercises. After lunch in the open, and refilling water bottles from a crystal clear and pure stream, the afternoon was spent climbing – a tree at first but all roped together so it was necessary to help each other and work as a



team and later on in the high ropes area.

Tuesday was spent at the Whakapapa ski village, rock climbing and then preparing for the overnight tramp.

Wednesday and Thursday were

spent away from the centre, sleeping under canvas and kayaking, caving and tramping for about 18 kilometres through the bush.

On Friday we said our farewells to Seb and drove back to Taita arriving back at about 5pm.

All the boys earned 3 level 2 NCEA credits for planning and leading their part of the overnight excursion and everyone agreed it had been a unique and rich learning experience.

The school and those who went would like to thank the Pelorus Trust kindly who sponsored this excellent opportunity.



YR12 GEO / PRS FEILD TRIP

At the end of March we took thirty one students to Tongariro National Park for a combined geography, practical research science field trip. The students had a great time collecting research data around the park and experiencing the different climates and environments. They completed a walk to the Taranaki Falls and Tama Lakes and enjoyed relaxing their muscles afterwards at the Tokaanu natural hot-pools. Special thanks to Willie Isaiah for helping out.



SENIOR EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP WEEK



The year 13 student executive team began the year with a week of leadership activities. They spent two days mentoring the new year 9 students during orientation. They then spent two days with Ignite sports which included a day out sailing in Wellington Harbour, and a day at Walter Nash. They finished the week with the principal Ms Morgan, Mrs Pye and the year 13 dean Mrs Peek.

Daniel Olive, the youth development coordinator of Ignite Sport Trust was really impressed with our executive group.

“Really enjoyed the two days with your Executive Team. Real mix of personalities and leadership skills, which gives this group a good balance. Unity amongst each other was evident. Respect for staff and peers was displayed throughout.”

HUTT CITY SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

The Hutt City Council Scholastic Awards recognise outstanding academic achievement in Lower Hutt.

The two students from Taita College who received the 2017 award were Cullum Barker and Anna Trethewey.

The award evening takes place in early December and features a guest speaker and Mayor Ray Wallace presenting the awards in the mayoral chambers.



GRADUATING STUDENTS



Jallalieh and Rose at the graduation ceremony.

Ms Rose Tuita'alili Moreli and assistant principal Mrs Linda Pye were extremely proud to attend the graduation of ex-students Jallalieh Tofaeono and Maegan Matagi.

After three years of hard study at Whitireia, both young women have earned their degrees, graduating with a Bachelor of Nursing (Pacific).



INTERNATIONAL WOMAN'S DAY

Head Girl Jasmine Setefano and Deputy Head Girl Lepeti Melesala along with Mrs Pye, attended a Women's Day Breakfast hosted by the Australian High Commissioner at his residence in Khandallah. This was a real honour as this was the first time that the event had occurred. Jasmine and Lepeti were able to participate in a discussion around Equality for Women in every arena. The panel was led by the Australian Defence Force's NZ representative and was extremely interesting and thought provoking.

THE KNOWLEDGE HUB

What an amazing start to the year! The Knowledge Hub has been a busy, bustling metropolis full of laughter, learning, connections, support and friendships.

With a team of 17 Student Knowledge Hub Facilitators on board dedicated to supporting the learning of our community, we have processed over 250 new items for our library catalogue this term alone and held useful information literacy sessions with many of our classes. We have had a number of donations from the Lamberton Family, Sally Kean Books and Paper Plus Lower Hutt. We are very grateful for their donations and their continued support of our Hub.

With a focus this term on reading and writing for fun, we have added heaps of new titles to our graphic novel collection including Naruto, Tokyo Ghoul, Justice League and DC Universe. We have a very popular Read and Review Competition running in the Hub, where students and staff who issue a book from our catalogue can fill in a quick Read and Review form that will earn them house points and the opportunity to go into the end of term draw for an awesome prize hamper! We will be running our Read and Review Competition all through the year with a prize draw at the end of each term.

We have two creative writing competitions on the go as well! Re-Draft 17 offers our writers the opportunity to have their work published in next year's Re-Draft 18 anthology. And Smart Alex in conjunction with the Alexander Turnbull Library offers a prize pool of over \$2000 to be shared between the winners and runners up of the competitions two categories. For more details, visit the Knowledge Hub.

New Zealand Book Awards has teamed up again this year with Hell Pizza, offering our year 9 and 10 students the opportunity to earn



FREE pizza for reading. The Hell pizza reading challenge is available throughout the year and students can earn as many FREE pizza as they like between 1st March and the 3rd December. All they have to do is come into the Knowledge Hub and tell the Facilitator about the books they are reading. For each book they read the facilitator will clip a slice of pizza off their Pizza wheel, once they have read 7 books they can take their pizza wheel to Hell Pizza to swap it for a FREE 333 size pizza!

Look out for all the new and exciting stuff happening throughout the year in our Knowledge Hub! The coolest little HUB on Campus!

TEENAGERS WHO WRITE – RE-DRAFT IS LOOKING FOR YOU.

Enter this year's national competition to have your work published. *Molten Mouth*, the 17th edition, contains the rules, guidelines and the 2018 entry form.

Judges: Tessa Duder & James Norcliffe

DEADLINE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2018

Entries received from 1st April 2018
Entry is free

We accept all kinds of creative writing, including poetry, fiction, flash fiction, short playscripts and creative non-fiction. Cartoons and graphic fiction must be presented in black ink and conform to the text area of *Molten Mouth*.

Publication is the prize!

Skill and daring will carry you a long way, but you'll find it helpful to read previous Re-Draft books to find out what you're trying to get into, and who you're competing with.

Note these new contact details for 2018
Email: glennstange@stra.co.nz or clerestony@stra.co.nz
The Re-Draft series is published by Clerestony Press
P.O. Box 21126, Christchurch 8143
www.clerestonypress.co.nz



TUG OF WAR

This term saw the reintroduction of the Tug-of-War as an inter-house competition. Teams were made-up of a boy and girl from each year level, with the assistance of one staff member. After fierce battle, the final results were:

- 1st Charles
- 2nd Jameison
- 3rd Narraway
- 4th Bear

KIWI KIDS TRIATHLON

On Thursday 15th of March, fifty year 13 students helped to run the Weetbix kids triathlon at the Hutt Rec. Most of them had to make their own way there by 7.30am and they worked really hard to help 1600 primary school children from our community to complete the swimming, cycling and running event. As Mrs Peek walked around the event she was so proud of our young leaders encouraging and motivating the children. Tia and Ally were taking care of children who had fallen off their bikes. Misi, Fai, Jasmine and Godwin were high fiving the runners as they neared the finish. Lepeti was running alongside children who were struggling. Josh, Connor, Angel and the crew were in charge of road safety. Sarene stopped a car that threatened to drive onto the course.

All across the event our students made us proud. Hutt City council were very grateful for the help and have kindly donated \$1300 towards our school ball.



HUTT VALLEY ATHLETICS CHAMPS



Taita was well represented at this event on Thursday 8 March in at Newtown Park where we competed with a small but strong team against, Naenae College, HVHS, HIBS, St Bernards, Wainuiomata, Upper Hutt and Heretaunga College.

Some notable performances came from:

Lefoi Utulolo:	2nd Hutt Valley for Intermediate Boys Shot Put 3rd in Intermediate Boys Discus
Esera Andrews:	2nd in Senior Boys Triple Jump
Feake Tuuaso:	2nd in Junior Boys Javelin
Misinale Misa:	3rd in Senior Boys Javelin



And a huge congratulations to the following athletes for their OUTSTANDING performances that saw them compete in the Regional event on Thursday 15 March. They competed amongst the very BEST Athletes in Wellington.

Killarney Howsan:	1st in Hutt Valley for Junior Girls 100 metres (competed in 70m Hurdles at Regionals) 3rd in Junior Girls High Jump 1st in Junior Girls 300m Breaking the record by 5 seconds!
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Elijah Lakai:	1st Hutt Valley for Senior Boys 100 metres 1st in Senior Boys 200 metres
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Tevita Malaefoou:	1st in Hutt Valley for Senior Boys Shot Put
Stani Foley:	2nd in Hutt Valley Intermediate Girls Javelin 3rd in Intermediate Girls 100 metres

Lanna Melesala:	2nd in Hutt Valley for Intermediate Girls Discus
Tiana McKinnon:	2nd in Hutt Valley Junior Girls Triple Jump



These students achieved some outstanding results in this competition and proved that Taita College has strong representation in College Sport Wellington Athletics.

Killarney Howsan:	1st in Wellington for Junior Girls 300 metres 3rd in Junior Girls 70 metres Hurdles
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Tianna McKinnon:	2nd in Wellington for Junior Girls Triple Jump
Stani Foley:	3rd in Wellington Intermediate Girls Javelin



Miss McGuinness would like to extend a HUGE congratulations to all our Athletes that attended Hutt Valley and Regional athletics, you did yourselves and Taita College proud.

MANAIA CARVING



It may look like bone, but our junior art students have carved these sculptures out of soap! Inspired by the Manaia creature of Maori mythology, students first looked at existing examples before designing and crafting their own.

UP-COMING EVENTS 2018

ANZAC Day	Wed, 25 April
First Day Term 2	Mon, 30 April
Class & Individual Photos	Wed, 9 May
Learning Conferences	Thur, 10 May, 9am - 4pm
Learning Conferences	Fri, 11 May, 9am - 4pm
Mothers Day	Sun, 13 May
Civil Defence Training Day	Mon, 14 May
X Roads Walter Nash Yr11-13	Wed, 16 May, 12.30 - 3pm
Community Meeting	Wed, 23 May, 7pm
Barbershop Regional Contest	Thurs, 24 May, 9am - 3pm
CSW Cross Country Running Champs	Wed, 30 May, 9am - 3pm
Teacher Only Day	Fri, 1 June
Queen's Birthday Holiday	Mon, 4 June
Whanau Meeting	Wed, 6 June, 7pm - 8pm
Civil Defence Mayoral Reception	Mon, 11 June, 10am - 11am
Fono Meeting	Wed, 13 June, 7pm - 8pm
Open Day	Wed, 20 June, 9am - 12pm
Open Evening	Thur, 21 June, 7pm - 9pm
Production Week	Mon - Fri, 25-29 June
CSW Indoor Bowling Champs	Thur, 28 June, 9am - 3.30pm
Stratford Exchange	Mon - Tue, 2-3 July
CSW AWD Ten Pin Bowling Tournament	Wed, 14 July, 8.30am - 3.30pm
Last Day of Term 2	Fri, 6 July

Taita College appreciates the sponsorship of Konica Minolta, who kindly print this newsletter free of charge.

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Eastern Hutt Road
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 New Zealand

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