

Term 3 has been a calm and “steady as she goes” term. It has been busy, full of adventures and success stories. I thought I would share some of those magic moments of success with you.

**Level 2 Leavers NCEA Results -** We have had excellent results confirmed for our NCEA Leavers data 2017. We are now sitting at 76.4%. The national drive by Government is to have everyone sitting at 80%. We have seen some significant shifts. Maori student increase 26.6% (76.6%), Pacifica student increase 17.2% (76.0%), European student increase 32.3% (81.8%). Females overall (80.9%), Males (72.9%). This is an outstanding accomplishment and shows exactly the direction we are heading with our academic results. This is the result of all of us working together as a collective to do the very best for all!

**Winning the Spirit Award -** The “Asotasi Va’a Makisi” cup at Tu Tangata. What an accomplishment.

**Kapa Haka -** we have just employed a new tutor for the year.

Our new tutor is Amba Holly, who is an award winning musician who has excellent experience. We have had 70 students show interest and this group has now started.

**Film Stars -** Congratulations to Bre Lunn and Cortez Mariu who have been given parts in a movie being shot at Avalon Studios. Sam Kelly is the director, and is quickly becoming world famous for his work. This is a fabulous opportunity. – Watch this space.

team spirit and sportsmanship shown by the boys. At the end of the game, although Taita did not win, they invited the other team to join them and they said a karakia to wish them all the very best for their next game and the final. This was an example of how amazing our students are and how they are living whanaungatanga. We are very proud of them, and it is wonderful to see such strong sportsmanship and camaraderie.



We have a new **Junior Executive Leadership** group

Three students represented us at the **National Samoan Speech Competition**. All three students placed in the top 5 and we were awarded 3rd, 4th and 5th place. The three students were Lusua Siovaiaata, Nataliah Mamea, and Gloria Mamea. This is the first time we have ever placed. So it’s a huge achievement on the national stage.

**Under 65 Rugby team -** In their last game we had two different parents from St Pat’s email us to say how impressed they were not only with the game, but the



**Careers Day** - This was an excellent day where we gave all of our students the opportunity to experience what might be available for their future pathways. We also invited Tui Glen and Avalon Intermediate to join us, so that they could also start to see opportunities they might be interested in. Thanks to Maureen Turley for her excellent effort and to all the businesses who helped to make an excellent day.

**Blood Donation Day** - A huge congratulations to Joshua Boyd who led a very successful day. We had 59 students/staff give blood. This means that over 159 lives have either been saved or supported through the use of the blood donated which is outstanding. An excellent effort by everyone to make a difference for others.

**Outward Bound** - Congratulations to Skye Nathan and Seira Isaia who have just returned from being away for 3 weeks on an Outward Bound Course. Both students had an incredible time and felt it was a life changing experience. The programme develops leadership skills and capabilities for life. Both Skye and Seira were very fortunate and appreciative to have had this opportunity.



**Senior School Ball** - This was a wonderful event. We were the first ball to be held in the new Lower Hutt Event Centre which was a lovely venue. The ambience was wonderful, students looked incredible, and they were impeccably behaved all evening. A huge thanks to Mrs Peek and Mrs Pye for their great organisation.

**OPC** - 20 Yr 10 students went to Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre last week. They got to experience camping, tramping, the snow and caving. They had an incredible time and learnt some valuable life skills and leadership skills. Thanks to Ms Hawkins and Mr McGillicuddy for their support.

Thank you all for a wonderful term. It is great to be moving out of those long winter days into summer. Rest well and have a safe holiday time with friends and whanau.

Take care  
Karen Morgan  
Principal

## CULINARY TRIUMPH!



Congratulations to Latisha Robinson from Year 12, who recently won the National Cooking Competition! This was a three day competition held in Auckland. Latisha showed great resilience to make her own way to Auckland and then maintain her concentration and creativity under pressure to beat all the other contenders.

Congratulations also to the tutors at Weltec Hospitality School who are obviously doing a great job supporting our students in finding their successful career pathways.

## SMALL-BORE TARGET SHOOTING

### WELLINGTON SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS



Small-bore Target Shooting: Taita triumphed in this year's college's annual shoot off for best in Wellington. It was an intense ending to a very close competition. Taita won by a heart stopping, last shooter, head to head finale. The difference was .3 (point 3) points. Achieved by three shots being a millimeter or two closer to the centre than those shot by

Wellington College but many more shots ahead of Upper Hutt, Queen Margaret's, St. Patricks, Newlands, Naenae, Scots and Onslow.

Each team shot a potential of 800.120 points. The margins are ridiculous sometimes, large and small. The competition was held at the Keene Range in Petone and then a fortnight later, the Royal Tiger Range in Newtown.

#### Team Results:

<b>Mia Welsh Duffin</b>	192.07
<b>David Wright</b>	188.04
<b>Joshua Boyd</b>	186.04
<b>Alex Harris Hart</b>	182.03
<b>Eloise Old</b>	179.04
<b>Liam Wenger</b>	173.02
<b>Total:</b>	752.18

Only the top four shooters are counted towards the team's total.

All of the shooters were selected for the Hutt Valley team. Mia and Liam could not compete because they were away on competition day heading to Outdoor Pursuits near Tongariro. Although the Hutt Valley was beaten into 3rd place by Wellington and Manawatu. Josh Boyd was top tournament shooter. Out of the 36 competitors he scored 196.10 out of a possible 200.20.

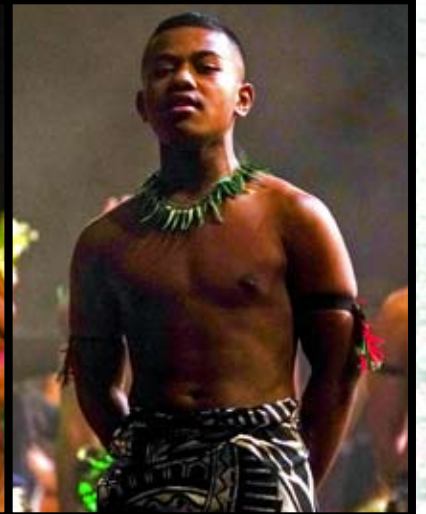
A huge thanks to our mentors and coaches Mr Ross Mason and Mr David Strawbridge.

Josh Boyd (team captain)

# THE POLY GROUP AT TU TANGATA



Taita's Poly Group won the prestigious Asotasi Va'a Makisi Tu Tangata Spirit Award at this year's festival.



Knowledge learnt in Poly Group was shared with our visitors from Osaka, Japan.



For his Year 9 speech assessment, Jerome Tafili argued that all Pasifika students should be involved in the Poly group. The following are excerpts from his presentation:

The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people. All pasifika students should be involved in poly for the following 3 reasons:

#### **Supporting Pasifika Students**

Pasifika communities are all different. Understanding this difference is another step in attracting pasifika students and their communities. We are creating a more effective learning environment for all pasifika students. Strengthening the self-esteem of students who may need more support and understanding to learn.

Tu Tangata is a great event for the capital and for all the students who have taken part. It helps to strengthen Pasifika language, culture and identity through performance and to encourage leadership roles for Pasifika students. It includes a wide variety of cultural experiences from Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Tahiti, Tokelau, Kiribati and New Zealand Maori.

#### **Make Connections/Develop an understanding of the different cultures**

We all have different personalities and ethnicity, but that doesn't stop

us from making connections with each other. It helps us build on what we already know, and share the knowledge that you have learnt. Making positive connections, showing empathy and generosity to others. I know for a fact that you could really dislike someone, then 3 days later you could be best friends. I know for fact that you could have some similarities with each other. What I am trying to say is that making connections is just another way to describe learning how things are related to each other and how the world works.

#### **Memorable Experience**

I remember the first time I stepped on that stage. I was feeling nervous but I had the biggest smile on my face and I held my head high. I was looking forward to performing the best I could.

Over 1000 people had come to watch the following schools: Wellington East Girls, St Bernard's College, Wellington College, St Marys, Wellington Girls College, St Patricks College, Wellington College, St Catherine's College, Rongotai College and of course Taita College. Applauding each performance. It was a moment to remember. Emotions running through my mind not knowing what to think, feeling extraordinary. All that hard work learning different songs and doing laps around the court had paid off. I remember

when we had our first practice, we hadn't learnt any songs we had to get to know each other and share our ethnicity and where we come from. As we started practicing and practicing we knew we had got this down pat. Each and everyone performed their heart out and left everything on the stage.

**By Jerome Tafili.**



*William Bower drew on his pasifika roots to sing us some 'Fijian Opera' during the term 2 Talent Quest.*

# SCHOOL PRODUCTION



The end of Term 2 saw Taita College staging *The Lord of the Flies*. It is a story about a group of school children stranded on a deserted island after a plane crash. Their attempts at order fail as the darker aspects of human nature take hold.

Miraculously, the production team successfully transformed the Taita school hall during winter into a deserted tropical island, ripe for the eventual chaos.

This production marked the first time that two different casts played the main characters. Although this proved to be challenging, each group of students brought their own unique energy to the roles. As a result, the audience had a different experience depending on which of the four nights they attended.

## Cast 1 & 2

**Riley/Raph:** Ally Lindsay / Godwin Gonzales

**Piggy:** Joe Spence / Josh Teddy

**Jack:** Kerry Hart

**Simone:** Aimee Woodall / Lupe Fetui

**Regina:** Megan McCliskie

**Sam:** Jaxson Tautala-Hanita

**Erica:** Jade Harrop-Hemara

**Maurice:** William Judge

**Bella:** Ashley Morresey

**Percival:** Sarene Havler



Ms Wood, the drama students and the team around them put a tireless amount of time and energy into making this show the success that it was. Their commitment and creativity was clearly evident in the final production. Everybody who was involved with it can be justifiably proud of their efforts.

# GRADUATING STUDENTS

Recently, Victoria University offered their congratulations to our former pupils who graduated between June 2017 and May 2018. They wish to join with Taita College in acknowledging and celebrating the students' wonderful success.

**Fiona Aufaga Leatuavao** BT/BA - Conjoint BA/BTeach 2017

**Daniel Brownie** MCOM - Master of Commerce 2017

**Simon Copland** PHD - Doctor of Philosophy 2017

**Lichelle de Boer** BA - Bachelor of Arts 2017

**Oliver Greening** BSC - Bachelor of Science 2017

**Sarah McCord** MED - Master of Education 2017

**Ross McElwain** MBA - Master of Business Admin 2017

**Meridian Moemua** GDTCPR - GDip Teaching (Primary) 2017

**Adorabella Moemua Letimanu** PGCNS - PGCert in Nursing Science 2017

**Susan Paterson** BSC - Bachelor of Science 2017

**Daniel Smith** BCOM - Bachelor of Commerce 2017

**Tile Tagoai** BA - Bachelor of Arts 2017

**Mayofa Tihore** BA - Bachelor of Arts 2018



Victoria University and Taita College is very proud of the achievements of these students.

## COMBINED MUSIC SHOWCASE

On Thursday 23 August, our music department collaborated with Naenae College in a combined music showcase evening. This project was initiated earlier in the year when the two respective Heads of Music - Johnson Taeao (Taita College) and Megan McCarthy (Naenae College) sat down to discuss ways in which our neighbouring schools could network together and support each other's music programmes. We decided to run a senior showcase evening where our students could utilise the stage for their solo and group performance assessments (at all levels). We also offered the choice to our Year 10 students to perform and be assessed.



The showcase proved a massive success for both schools. We had a highly engaged crowd of parents, families and the wider community gather into the Naenae College school hall in support of our students. The programme consisted of a variety of Gospel, R&B, Soul, Rock and Barbershop Acapella acts, and included eleven Year 10 students performing solos/group performances, as well as a mix of juniors and seniors in the school barbershop chorus.

Looking forward to bigger and better things in 2019.



# THE SENIOR BALL



Taita College had the very first school ball ever to held at the new Hutt Events Centre. Thanks to Vanessa for choreographing and organising the Year 13 Dance. Thanks also to Lepeti and Emily for creating and printing the invitations. Thanks to the ball committee for organising and setting up the venue especially Quaylee-Ann and Bre. Thanks to our emcees Jaleel and Godwin. The students looked amazing and represented their families and Taita College with pride.



## TŪMANAKO ART EXHIBITION



Taita College was invited to participate in the Tūmanako art exhibition held at the Petone Library in August. Tūmanako is broadly translated as an expectation of hope. This year's exhibition was to commemorate the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. The Year 9 art class produced prints constructed from string that interpreted their own peace symbolism and portrayed the spirit of hope. Students Jacinta Po-Ching and Tahleah Kiri spoke briefly at the opening about what peace means to them and Chaquita King-Fuimaono joined them to collect their certificates from the acting mayor David Bassett.



*Artwork by Ben Tangaroa, Adayah Kepa-Toaga, Marrison Kelemete, and ^Tanisha Hohipa*



## DVC AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

On September 13, a group of Year 10 Design and Visual Communication (DVC) students travelled to the Victoria University School of Design to see an exhibition called Design Generation. This showcased work by students of the School of Design and the work of Peter Haythornthwaite who is widely regarded as one of New Zealand's most influential industrial designers. Whilst there the students also took advantage of the chance to tour the building to see current students at work on projects as diverse as architectural design, landscape design, industrial & product design, interior design and software design. They got to see the workshops, 3D printers and robots they use to create 3D prototypes and were able to ask questions of their host, Lionel, who is a lecturer and an alumni of Taita College.



*Taita College Students with Lionel after their visit to the Victoria University School of Design.*

## GIVING BLOOD

Joshua Boyd recognised a need in the community when he identified the difficulty NZ Blood have in finding enough donors to meet the constant demand.

After formulating the idea to use Taita College as a Blood Bank venue, he showed exceptional initiative by talking with Annabelle Fawcett at NZ Blood. He then needed to collect information, liaise with staff, meet health and safety concerns, clear schedules and ensure Taita could offer a big enough venue to meet all of the particulars needed, including access to kitchen facilities and administration needs. Clearly this was a more involved process than many realise. Josh also had to promote the event and raise awareness amongst students and staff about what was required. He produced flyers and presented a video in assembly to increase enthusiasm. All this hard work paid off when 67 candidates came forward on the day, of which 53 were cleared to give donations. Of that number 50 were first time donors. Each donation is split into three parts so Taita's contribution can potentially help/save up to 159 patients in need.

It's difficult to think of a more worthwhile cause. Joshua's efforts have truly made Taita College and our wider community proud and NZ Blood were so impressed that they want to return again next year.



## SENIOR TOURISM TRIP

This year's Tourism trip to the Gold Coast in Australia happened to be an all female affair. Sixteen girls accompanied Mrs Peek and Mrs Pye for five days of experience as a tourist. The group had booked the trip in class, including rented accommodation in what got nick-named 'The Mansion'.

At dinners, the group was split into two for an MKR style contest to see who could deliver the best all round dining.

For some this trip was their first time on a plane. Surely nothing beats tourism experience like being a tourist.



It wasn't all lounging in the pool and spa though. There were important amusement parks to investigate where the students got to see many of the overlooked jobs that make-up the tourism industry like roller coaster attendants, mascots and even dolphin trainers. For a few there was also time to briefly visit family.





Wow! Term 3 flew by so fast in the HUB! With another awesome prize up for grabs in our very popular read and review competition bringing in a huge increase in readers in our HUB. Our collaboration with Hutt City Libraries saw Jay, the Teens and Young Adult Librarian from Walter Nash Library, join us for some great mentoring and learning opportunities and also the launch of EPIC DISCOVERY! Which is available to all our students at [epic.org.nz/schools](http://epic.org.nz/schools). Our user name is taitacol and password 57taitacol. Having access to EPIC DISCOVERY means that all our students can search multiple databases, including EBSCO, GALE, Britannica School, Te ARA, Digital

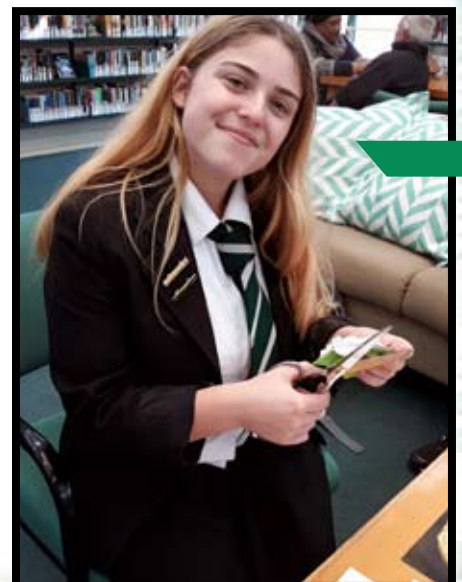
New Zealand and many more, to find reliable sources of information for their studies, all in one search engine! At anytime, anywhere they have access to the internet!

This term we were celebrating 125 years since women got the vote in New Zealand. There were many women in our country who fought for Women's Suffrage and one of the most famous for her dedication to the cause was Kate Sheppard. Most of you probably see pictures of Kate Sheppard on a very regular basis, as her image graces New Zealand's ten dollar note. Kate fought long and hard her whole life for Women's rights in New Zealand and the efforts of her and her suffragettes and supporters saw that on the 19th September 1863, New Zealand became the first county in the world to grant women the right to vote. In celebration of this momentous, world leading event, we made paper camellia flowers to signify the very small margin that the vote was won by. Supporters of Women's suffrage wore white camellias on their lapel to show their allegiance to the cause. In the HUB we made 20 white camellias and 18 red camellias to signify the votes for and against Women's Suffrage

in Parliament. It was close! New Zealand women won the right to vote with only a two vote margin! We were also invited by the National Library of New Zealand to display photos of our work on the National Library's website!

Also this term saw us celebrating the wonderful cultural diversity of our school, with Cook Islands, Tongan and Maori Language weeks all in Term 3, the HUB was abuzz with displays, activities and prizes relating to the various Language Weeks. It was awesome to see our students sharing their culture in our HUB and throughout the school.

Keep an eye on the daily notices and assemblies to find out what is happening next term in the HUB!





*Narraway House being well represented in the Te Reo Quiz as part of Te wiki o te reo Maori, which also included an inter-house spelling bee. The Knowledge Hub also joined in offering te reo scrabble, a translation quiz, colouring-in competition, string games and ti rakau.*

## UP-COMING EVENTS 2018

CSW Basketball Boys & Girls A Tournament	Monday 1 - Thursday October 4
Term 4 Starts	Monday 15 October
Senior Exec Applications Due	Wednesday 17 October
Fia Fia Evening	Wednesday 17 October
Labour Day	Monday 22 October
CSW Rugby Sevens Condor Qualifying	Monday 22 October, 8:30am – 4:00pm
Sports Prize Giving	Wednesday 24 October, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Senior Leadership Challenge	Friday 26 October, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
CSW Rugby Sevens Under 15 Tournament	Saturday 27 October, 8:30am – 4:00pm
Gateway Prize Giving	Tuesday 30 October, 6:00pm – 8:30pm
CSW Swimming AWD Finals	Friday 2 November, 8:30am – 4:00pm
CSW Rugby League SKC and JCL Finals	Saturday 3 November, 8:30am – 4:30pm
Last Day for Seniors	Monday 5 November
CSW Junior Volleyball Tournament ASB	Friday 9 November, 8:00am – 4:00pm
CSW Golf Junior Champs	Wednesday 14 November, 8:30am – 4:30pm
CSW Touch Junior Tournament - Fraser Park	Thursday 15 November, 8:30am – 4:00pm
Umu Hangi Project Day	Friday 16 November, 8:30am – 7:00pm
Teacher Only Day	Monday 19 November
CSW Ki-o-Rahi Junior Champs	Wednesday 21 November, 8:30am – 4:00pm
CSW Softball Junior Tournament	Tuesday 27 November, 8:30am – 3:30pm
CSW Bowls Junior Tournament	Tuesday 27 November, 9:00am – 3:30pm
Netball Rarotonga Trip	29 November – 6 December
Activity Day	Monday 10 December
House Day	Tuesday 11 December
Junior Prize Giving	Wednesday 12 December
Learning Conferences Junior	Thursday 13 - Friday 14 December
Last Day term 4	Friday 14 December

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

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