



We have had an incredibly fast-paced Term 1 in 2019. There have been so many EOTC trips and organized events to engage our students in their learning. It has been wonderful that our students have been busy involved in so many great opportunities and have experienced being able to learn in different holistic ways – this is fantastic. I thought I would share with you some of the key highlights of the term. I wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday break. Please ensure your children have their jerseys and blazers ready in preparation as the winter approaches in Term 2. We appreciate your ongoing support.

Take care
Karen Morgan

- L3 NCEA – We have achieved the best L3 NCEA results we have ever had since NCEA started – well above the National Average across the county!
- Outstanding Results – We have achieved outstanding results in our Product Design Technology (where students linked to “real life” community projects), Drama and Samoan Language.
- Meet the tutor teachers - thank you to all of you who attended these evenings. It is so important to build those strong relationships so that you feel you can call or come in and see us if you have any concerns or questions about your child’s learning.
- Congratulations to William Bower who has been elected to be the co-opted Board of Trustees student representative.

- Our Poly Club made us all so proud at the vigil at Hutt Rec. They were asked to assist in leading sections of the vigil, and performed at an amazing standard. We received numerous emails and phone calls from members of the public praising our students for the grace and empathy that they brought to the evening.
- Community volunteer work: Weetbix Challenge – we had outstanding feedback on how incredible our students were in organizing this event. Students supported others, they encouraged the young ones and were responsive to the needs of all at the event. A huge appreciation and thanks to being wonderful ambassadors.
- Tu Meke Taita – well done to our Poly Group ‘one heart, one beat’ who led the event with a brilliant performance. Thank

you for the effort and grace in your performance.

•Year 11 curriculum – we have had most of our Yr 11 students now complete the Adrenalin Forest challenge as part of their credits for NCEA. They have also been involved with the self-defense programme – learning in a holistic way with valuable life-skills.

•Yr 9 Curriculum – Resilience. All Yr 9 students trained into town, and experienced Te Papa, got to see landmarks at the top of Mt Victoria, and finished their learning day by having gelato at Oriental Parade. A superb day to learn outside of the classroom and connect with our local resources.

•International Women's Day. – we had several female students go to different events in the Hutt and in the



city. One of the highlights for one group was to hear the Prime Minister Jacinda Adern speak, along with other distinguished women which was inspirational.

•A huge congratulations to all of those who have represented us in their sporting arenas and achieved outstanding accomplishments – we are

really proud of you all.

•Gifted lunches – this will begin in Term 2. All of your children will have access to a healthy, nutritious lunch every day at no cost at all to you. Brain food = success! We want the very best for every single student - we are really excited about this new initiative being the first in the country.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Year 13 Malaya Raihania is traveling to Silicon Valley in California as part of the Innovative Young Minds project to encourage young women to look at careers in science or technology.

Malaya's interest in medical engineering was sparked after she spent three weeks at Hutt Hospital. She received a Kia Ora Hauora Champion Scholarship worth \$3000. This scholarship aims to encourage Māori youth to think about a career in health and for Malaya, that's exactly what it did.

Meeting medical engineers and watching surgeons at work opened her eyes to possible new career paths in medical engineering.

Watching surgeons perform



knee replacements was a highlight. "We had to dress in full scrubs. I just stood and watched and did not touch anything."

She was less impressed with watching dentistry.

"They all laughed at me because I jumped when I saw a tooth come flying out."

Talking to young doctors about their careers helped

her understand the potential opportunities in medicine. The trip to Silicon Valley is sure to build on her interest. As well as visiting tech firms, Malaya will meet a number of prominent women including ex-pat Kiwi entrepreneur Victoria Ransom, who has been listed as one of Fortune's Most Powerful Women Entrepreneurs.

The trip also includes visiting Harvard and Stanford universities, and meeting prominent university women involved in science and technology.

Of Ngai Tamanuhiri and Ngata Porou Ki Hārātaunga descent, Malaya will be joined on the trip by her cousin Bryana Jensen who also attended Taita College.

Haere mai, haere mai welcomed the 2019 year nines and their families onto the marae for the powhiri to start their Taita College learning journey. It was great to see the fantastic turnout. These new students heard the school song, Te Whakaruruhau, for the first time.

Any nerves dissolved during the day as Ignite Sports ran a "Unity through Co-operation" program. Students got to know each other and work together to complete a range of challenges. Despite the 30° heat, the students all succeeded in having a good time.

A big thanks to Dan and his amazing Ignite Sports team, also the tutors, teacher aides and Senior Executive students who came in and worked alongside the students.



Special mention to Rose our community liaison, who found time to get the ice blocks. Day two we were getting down to business, taking time to find where all our classes are (it can be daunting to move classrooms every fifty minutes)

and learning about the routines. It will all be "old hat" within a few weeks. Then we finished off the day learning the school song. Rose and the poly leaders did a great job teaching us judging by the harmonies heard.

YEAR 9 FIRST IMPRESSIONS



On Thursday 31st January, the latest group of Taita College students began the next phase of their lives. Each new student was met by a warm haka powhiri performed by the school's amazing poly group. They then met their dean Ms Wooding, the 2019 student leaders and new form teachers, who represent one of the four school houses. The form classes were assigned with three members of the executive team, who will mentor them throughout their first year. The remainder of the day was spent with Ignite Sport and their programme which included team building exercises and fun activities which kept the year nines

engaged all day long. We wish the year nines a happy and successful 2019 at Taita College. Ignite Sport also led a two-day programme with the student exec over the following two days. This programme included team bonding exercises and mentoring seminars about what it means to be a leader in our school and in our community. Ignite Sport took the members to the golf driving range on Friday, and sailing and kayaking out in Wellington Harbour on Monday. The student exec would like to thank Ignite Sport again for their support, and look forward to the future programmes with them.

FREE BRAIN FOOD

Eating both healthy and nutritious food is critical for all students to excel and reach their potential as active learners. When students have a decent lunch, they then have the energy to concentrate, focus and perform at their very best – it's not rocket science; Healthy, nutritious, brain food equals Success!

As of Term 2 this year we are going to be the first school in New Zealand to offer a gifted lunch programme to every student in the school – in partnership with Libelle our

lunch. However as part of this initiative there will be no cost to the student at all!

We are also actively encouraging all students to bring their water bottles and to fill these as their healthy main liquid for the day.

As a school we are most appreciative of Libelle and the partnership they have formed with us. They are an outstanding team to work alongside. Like us they are passionate about instilling in our youth the importance that healthy food leads to future

of every young person in New Zealand!"

Libelle is a school food service provider which not only offers New Zealand schools a necessary service but runs with a focus on healthy eating innovative thinking and getting students fed. Created by Chef Johannes Tietze, this purposeful organisation has been developing and evolving over the past 15 years to a point where it now leads the country in school food service and innovation.

Libelle Groups – Eat Smart,



canteen provider. Student voice has been strong and inspirational.

What does this mean for us as a school? It means every day from Term 2 onwards every student in the school will be able to receive a gifted lunch in the canteen. There will be a choice of two types of different lunch packages each day, but each lunch will essentially include (1 x of either a sandwich, bread roll, wrap, dumplings, or a burger) also 1 piece of fruit, 1 muffin, and a choice between either a yoghurt or a plain milk drink. This normally costs \$6.00 per

success.

Of course as we all know nothing is free in life, so the Libelle Company will be and have already sought sponsorship in order to make this happen. Libelle hope to start with three schools this year, and then increase over time. This will cost about \$2 million dollars just to cater for lunches everyday for all students in those three schools - so there is a real commitment needed from companies across NZ with sponsorship to make this work. Libelle's mission is to "see healthy, nutritionally balanced lunches in the bellies

Heart Foundation endorsed menu, will see the whole menu closely reviewed, monitored and meet the Heart Foundation's 'Fueled 4 Life' standard. Their menu is one of the healthiest menus within schools across the country. Libelle Group is committed to change and wants to see lunch in the hands of every hungry learner across the country! The following lunch gifting partnership programme will see lunch in the bellies of thousands of students across the whole country.

YEAR 10 SOCIAL ACTION

Year 10 Social Studies are completing an assessment on personal involvement in a social justice and human rights action. 10A has been studying child poverty, 10M has been studying child trafficking and exploitation, and 10S/10I have been studying child labour. All classes have been hosting fundraising events in an attempt to raise money for our chosen charities which include KidsCan, Child Rescue and World Vision NZ. We put our plan into action by having bake sales, sausage sizzles, pie face, shake it don't spray it and house activities. We have also organized writing a letter to the MP addressing him with our concerns in hoping that at least something small will change, as well as speaking in assembly and composing music. However, all classes made the unanimous decision to donate



the money fundraised from the mufti day to Christchurch in this time of tragedy. All additional money to be given equally to the charities mentioned above. From the mufti day, we raised \$364.60; this money will significantly help Christchurch. This is just a small indication of the amount of money we have raised so far. On behalf of the Year 10s we would like to thank you for all your support. This has

successfully helped us with our Social Studies Assessment as well as helping our school to stand up to these unfortunate events together. Thank you parents for participating in helping us with our learning and standing with us against these tragedies. We stand as one. Nga mihi kia koutou, Your year 10 students, Missy Porter-Samuels & Anushka Ram

MORE SOCIAL ACTION



Taita College Staff took part in some social action of their own. Dressing in only black and white for a day in order to raise awareness around the unfair gap that still exists in pay between the genders. The whole school took part in a mufti-day on Friday, April 5 for Gumbboot Day. It's an initiative which hopes to raise \$2 million for free youth counseling around issues of depression. Because dealing with mental illness has been likened to walking through mud. It's hoped everyone's show of support let's those affected realise that they're not alone.



ATHLETICS DAY





Athletics day was enjoyed by everyone again this year. The morning's House march and chants were followed by the track and field events. The afternoon ended with the relays. Notably Killarney Howsan equaled the junior girls high-jump record. Even more impressive, Spencer Sione broke the senior boys record!



WEEBIX TRIATHLON

75 senior students from Taita College made their way to the Hutt Rec on March 14 to be the Marshalls at the Hutt City Weetbix Triathlon. There were 1680 primary students competing in the event and our students made us proud as they helped the children to find their bikes, tie their shoes, and supported them to keep going and keep safe around the course.

A shining example of how amazing our students were was witnessed when a child had lost his shoes and his feet were too sore to complete the run so Crychton Comp piggybacked him to the end. Then before he had even caught his breath he noticed another child in distress. Using his First aid training, Crychton assessed the situation and realised the child needed immediate medical attention.



As the ambulance was across the other side of the field, Crychton picked the child up and ran all the way to the ambulance. Then he stayed while the child was treated and his parents arrived.

As we walked around the course we heard Lani, Ele, Drae and Tou'anga cheering on the cyclists, we saw Ethan and Ariki giving high fives to the runners, we saw the queues in the village tents to get to the fun games run by Monique, Shontelle, Ginesa and Fiaga, we saw Tori, Lanna and Selena at the cycle and swim transitions directing the students, and Shirley and Tiger helping them find their shoes. The student's efforts were recognised by Hutt City Council who said "Your volunteers were amazing.....with great attitudes and dedication" Our efforts were rewarded with \$2900 raised towards the Ball.



AWD ATHLETICS



Students from Taita College enjoyed a day at Newtown competing in the Wellington AWD Athletics competition. Three students; Tyrone Clark, Danni-Lee Kokiri and Brogan Godstchalk went on to compete in the Regional Athletics Finals at Newtown Park. Danni-Lee and Tyrone placed 3rd in their AWD 200 metre events.

SENIOR TOUCH RUGBY

Our Senior Mixed Touch team were winners of the CSW Regional Touch Tournament held at Fraser Park. It is the first time in many years that we have entered a Mixed team at the tournament and certainly this is the best result we have had since 2011. The team played with great spirit and deserved their win. Thanks to coaches Ants and Corrina. They are now hoping to be selected in the ballot to play at the NZSS Nationals at Rotorua in December.



VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT WEEK

Our senior boys and girls teams attended the Premier Volleyball Tournament in Palmerston North Arena, Manawatu. They were privileged to stay at Te Hotu Manawa O Rangitaane O Manawatu Marae. It was a great experience for all our players. Credit should be given to the boys, who were close to beating last years champs but they gave too much respect in the first set to clinch the win.



It was an intense final vs St Pats Silverstream with the boys finishing as silver medalists. They were honourable in defeat performing a haka for their opponents.

It was a massive learning curve for all the players. Remember to keep playing their own game and always enjoy playing Volleyball with their team-mates.

A massive thanks to the two coaches taking our players from strength to strength, as well as the two managers who were there for support and guidance.

LAWN BOWLS

Taita College have had 4 teams competing weekly in the College Sport Lawn Bowls Tournament. Last week Team 2 (pictured) won the Zone 5 final and will go on to compete at the Regional Finals in Johnsonville. Games are played weekly in Term 1 at Silverstream Bowls Club. We are very grateful that club members provide valuable coaching of our students during the games on a Thursday afternoon.



WAKA AMA



Our newly formed boys team took to the water at the CSW Regional Waka Ama champs re entry. After only three weeks training The boys paddled very well in the 250 and 500 metre events and improved their times with each race.

CRICKET



Bethany Trethewey was selected for the Governor Generals side to play a T20 match vs a side featuring some ex and current Wellington Blaze players. The match was held at the Basin Reserve. It was exciting to see her name up on the Basin scoreboard. She scored 12 runs and took 2 wickets for 6 runs.

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| 19 | MASON JONES | | | | WAKEFI |
| 5B | BREARTON | 2 | 2 | 2 | COOPER |
| 3L | TSE | 3 | 11 | 0 | MOLONY |
| 0B | FENTON | 2 | 7 | 0 | EVANS |
| 1L | HAMILTON | 1 | 11 | 0 | BROSTER |
| 31 | PLIMMER | | | | STOCKW |
| 8R | CHANDLER | 2 | 13 | 1 | WILLIAM |
| | KELLS | 4 | 8 | 2 | MINOT |
| 0B | CODYRE | 2 | 13 | 2 | FOREMAI |
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UMPIRES- WATKIN
CHANDLER

KNOWLEDGE HUB

Welcome to the Knowledge Hub for another year of fun, excitement and learning. Our year 9 students have blitzed the rest of the school with our reading challenge this term, by over 100 book issues! We have a huge team of Student facilitators this year and we are looking forward to working together as a team. It is awesome to see so many of our students using the amazing resources available to them in the Knowledge Hub and so many of our students and staff reading for their own



entertainment. Our knowledge Hub offers a wide variety of activities and games for our students to engage in at break times. In our Maker Space this term we have been working on self-portraits, using a wide range of techniques and artistic styles. We have also had mindful colouring in acknowledgment of our fellow country people who have been affected by recent events in Christchurch. One of the highlights this term in the Knowledge Hub, has been our visiting scientist Heni Unwin from the Cawthron Institute. Heni spoke to our students about the impact of plastics in our oceans. Students participated in experiments showing how tides worked and how plastic waste moves in the tides. They were then able to use an app created by the Cawthron Institute to track plastic waste in the ocean, seeing how long it took to wash up on the shore and how long it stayed there before being washed back out to sea. Our students were then able to give constructive



feedback to enhance the work that Heni and her team are doing for our environment. Thank you to Hutt City Libraries for bringing Heni to share her work with us. We look forward to supporting your quest for Knowledge in the coming terms, remember to get your entries in for the Read and Review Competition and your entries for the Smart Alex, Re-Draft and Te Hunga Rangatahi Kaituhi writing competitions!

GEOGRAPHY TRIP

This years Year 12 Geography Research trip took place over two very busy days. The students were amazing and worked together to gather all the data they needed for their research projects. The weather gods were favourable - it rained constantly while we were driving but fined up every time we got out of the vans. It was a short but great trip with lots of quality educational opportunities. Thanks to Dean Waddington for being an excellent parent help.





Our Poly Group "one heart, one beat" had the honour of being asked to lead the waiata and National Anthem in the Lower Hutt vigil held to pay respect to all those impacted by the tragedy that occurred in Christchurch. Our students were outstanding and represented themselves, their families, the school and our

community with grace, poise, and the utmost respect. They were incredible ambassadors and we are very proud of them. Our students' demonstrated the school's key value of whanaungatanga. Now more than ever we must stand together, be united, look after one another, respect our diversity, accept each

other, empower and celebrate our differences. As a school we have had an assembly to pay our respect, and observed the nation wide 2 minute silence. The students and staff joined together in a heart on the field during lunchtime to say a prayer (which was a student led initiative).

UP-COMING EVENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Last Day of Term 1 | Friday, April 12 |
| First Day Term 2 | Monday, April 29 |
| Drama Trip all year levels | Tuesday, April 30, 11:00am – 2:30pm |
| Road Safety Week | Monday, May 6 - Friday, May 10 |
| MY Biz All Year 10 | Wednesday, May 8 |
| CSW X Country Relays | Wednesday, May 8 |
| Mother's Day | Sunday, May 12 |
| Fono Evening | Wednesday, May 15, 7:00pm – 8:00pm |
| Learning Conferences | Thursday, May 16, 9:00am – 3:30pm |
| CSW Netball Prem Tournament | Thursday, May 16 |
| Learning Conferences | Friday, May 17, 9:00am – 3:30pm |
| Whanau Evening | Wednesday, May 22, 7:00pm – 8:00pm |
| Year 11 Ignite Leadership | Thursday, May 23 |
| Literacy Team Day | Friday, May 24 |
| Samoa Language Week | Monday, May 26 – June 1 |
| CSW Cross Country | Wednesday, May 29 |
| Queen's Birthday | Monday, June 3 |
| Ignite Year 12 Leadership | Thursday, June 6 – Friday, June 7 |
| Open Day Open Evening TBC | Wednesday, June 12 |
| Ignite leadership Year 10 | Wednesday, June 12 – Friday, June 14 |
| Poly Club Police Awards | Thursday, June 13, 2:30 – 4:30pm |
| CSW Indoor Bowls Champs | Thursday, June 27 |
| New Zealand Blood Service on Site | Thursday, June 27 |
| AWD Ten Pin Bowling Tournament | Wednesday, July 3 |
| CSW Individual Swimming Tournament | Thursday, July 4 |
| Year 8 Enrolments Due | Friday, July 5 |
| Last Day of Term 2 | Friday, July 5 |