



Taita College

September 2006

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Dear Parents/Caregivers

By now, senior students should be allocating three hours every night for study, homework, assignments and revision in preparation for external exams.

Work commitments for students should be decreased at this time. If students concentrate on their learning goals and apply themselves to working for the exams ahead, this will bring them one step closer to reaching their life goals. Other distractions need to be minimised as well—*short term pain for long term gain.*

Accompanying this newsletter is a copy of the end of year senior report, which gives you the results of the internal examinations.

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House Results Update

T3-House Spelling Bee Shield—Charles
With the results of the Year 9 PE Challenge now in (see results elsewhere in this Newsletter), only one event remains before the winning House is found for 2006. With all Houses within 600 points of each other and 4,500 points on the line in the House Finale, an exciting finish to the Taita College House Competition looks assured.

Wellington Gymn Champs

Congratulations to **Loren du Chateau** who recently earned 1st place trophies at the Wellington Gymnastics Championships at Taita. (Hutt News , 8 August p.82).



World of Wearable Arts

For the first time a group of our students took part in the regional schools World of Wearable Arts Competition held at the Michael Fowler Centre on 11 August. The competition is a prelude to the International World of Wearable Arts competition which is being held in September in Wellington.

The students choose a **Medieval to Rock** transition theme. The wearable arts costume was made of paper doillies pasted onto a hoop skirt with a paper bodice which transitioned into a bold black costume made from rubbish bags! This costume was offset by traditional medieval and rock concert costumes.

A lot of wonderful creativity and performance was shown by all involved from lighting to music, choreography to costume making.

On the night their performance took out a stage management **Highly Recommended** award and gave all involved a positive and inspiring experience for entering next year! Well done to all involved. Our thanks go to Ms Cathy Tracey for assisting the students and accompanying them to this event.



We are the Champions... of the region

Shooting—Champion again for the fourth time in the last five years, Taita demolished teams from a dozen schools to win the annual Wellington/ Hutt Valley secondary school championships. The team results were -



Megan Bogisch: 189.03 (94.01/94.02)
Steven Brooking: 185.03 (93.02/92.01)
Bhanyavy Kim: 190.02 (96.01/94.01)
Rachel Partridge: 191.03 (95.02/96.01)
Megan Stanyon: 192.04 (94.01/98.03)
Todd Wynne: 185.03 (94.02/ 91.01)

Megan Stanyon's score was the second best of the tournament and she was the 'top girl shooter'.

The fact that everyone in the team shot cards higher than 91 meant that Wellington Boys' College and Marsden Girls were unable to catch up.



What is really demoralising for those other schools is that we are only going to get better over the next 2-3 years.

At the Hutt Valley Open Championships (which attracts all the best shooters from the lower half of the North Island) **Megan Bogisch** managed scores of 98,96 and 99 total 293 for the tournament. She is a first-year D-grader.

She won a cup, prizes and the honour of beating over 50 master A, B and C grade shooters: an awesome effort, reminiscent of Helen Sorensen a few years ago.

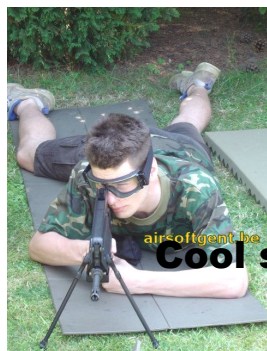
Helen and Vilavanh Souvanavong are in the final of the premier one Hutt Valley competition to be held soon. Vilavanh shot at the annual North v South Island teams event in Christchurch recently.

These two girls are considered to be amongst the best women and junior shooters in New Zealand.

The whole Taita team was selected to shoot in the Hutt Valley representative squad

and therefore make up 50% of the team members.

Want to try out in a sport which is producing champions? See Mr Strawbridge or talk to any of the team members.



Cool sport

SPORTS NEWS- **END OF WINTER SEASON**

Well done to all teams who have played so well over the winter season. Special congratulations to all of the following teams who made semi-finals or finals in their respective grades.

SOCCER

Boys 1st XI — At the end of a very successful season the boys played an exciting Division 1 final v HVHS and were unlucky to miss out on taking the title.

Girls 1st XI — Final v Upper Hutt. The girls finished top of Hutt Valley Div 2 and with a 1-2 loss on penalties just missed out on playing in the regional final.

Girls 2nd XI — The girls reached the semi-finals and finished third in the Hutt Valley Junior Division.

Junior girls soccer final

The team photo before their loss to Sacred Heart:
2:1.



RUGBY

Under 55 rugby

The Under 55 rugby team members had a successful end to their season in Division 1 by making their semi final.

This was a fantastic turnaround for a team that had been threatened with removal from the grade owing to poor behaviour. The team members took this warning on board and with their much improved discipline were able to show that they had all the skills to compete with some of the much bigger rugby playing schools.

The team finished the second round with 4 wins and 2 losses which tied them for 2nd place. Unfortunately, the members had to face the top qualifier St Patrick's Wellington in a hard fought semi-final where they went down 22 – 12.



Under 65 rugby

Well done to this team, which finished fifth in Div 2. Members made huge progress during a difficult season with many players having to learn to play in new positions this year.

Under 75 rugby

A fifth place finish in Div 1 was the result of a lack of commitment from many players to this team. Well done to the players who turned up week after week to training.

2nd XV rugby

It was great to eventually get this team up and going, and it allowed many more boys to participate in rugby this year. The late start made it impossible to feature on the points table but some great games were played.

A lack of support with transporting players to games cost the team dearly, with too many defaults occurring throughout the season.

RUGBY cont.

Boys 1st XV

The boys were disappointed not to hold their position in Division 2 this year and had a mixed season with some excellent wins and some disappointing losses. They finished sixth in their grade.

Congratulations to **Kuin Lima** who was selected in the Wellington Samoan Schools' representative team and to **Bradley Shields** and **Michael Kainga** who were selected for the Hutt Valley and Wellington Regional U 16 A representative teams. Also to **AJ Tekira** who was selected for the U16 Centurians side.

Girls 1st XV

The girls had a great season and finished third in Div 1. Unfortunately, a contentious score entry cost the team the opportunity of playing in the final.

Congratulations to **Samantha Edser** and **Malologo Gogo-Oti** who were selected for the Wellington secondary Schoolgirls squad to prepare for the Hurricanes schoolgirls tournament to be held in Gisborne in October.

Basketball

Junior Girls

This team had an excellent season with some high scoring wins against their opposition. It lost in the semi-finals to Onslow College, finishing third in Division 2.

Congratulations to **Ariana Kauri** and **Penina-Rose Stephenson** who were members of the Hutt Valley U15 team that took first place at the NZ Basketball age grade tournament.

Junior Boys

After the first round, the boys' team competed well in Division 4 beating Wellington College in the semis and Aotea in the finals to win the grade.



BASKETBALL cont.

Senior Girls

The girls played well throughout the season, and had some high scoring wins. They eventually beat Chilton in the Division 3 final to emerge as winners of the grade.

Congratulations to Margaret Scott and Kerri-ann Ropiana who were members of the Hutt Valley U17 representative team at the National Age-Grade tournament. Margaret was also a member of the Hutt Valley U19 team and 3rd Division Womens' team which qualified to play in the National Divisional tournament to be held in Christchurch in October.

Senior Boys 2

Well done to this team, which played on without a coach or official manager for the last part of the season. Members had many close scoring games throughout the season and eventually lost to Aotea in a tough Division 4 final.

Senior Boys 1

The team had an excellent season finishing third in the Premier Division. This is a fantastic result and a testament to the skill of our players considering only St Pats Wellington and Wellington College finished ahead of them in this grade.

Congratulations to Nathan Rapana, Lidston Ah Wong, Ronald Stephenson and Taka Kauri who were Hutt Valley U 19 representatives. Also to **Bradley Shields**, Hutt Valley U17 representative at the Age Grade National tournament. Nathan Rapana is also a member of the Hutt Valley 3rd Division team which won the Regional Divisional Mens' Tournament and will play at the National Divisional Tournament in October.





NETBALL ROUNDUP



Premier 1

Getting a 4th placing in the Hutt Valley Secondary Schools' competition this year was a great finish to the season. This was an excellent achievement as only four players remained from last year and nine team members were in year 11 or below.

For such a young team the girls did exceptionally well. The team was initially coached by Alissa Morgan-Ziogas before she had baby Zack, and in the latter part of the season by Wendy Colledge and Tanya Hetaraka. Thanks to these ladies for their commitment to this team.

In mid-August, the Premier 1 team participated in the Lower North Island Netball Tournament in Napier. Here they finished 10th, out of 32 teams in the A grade section - another superb result. Thanks to Wendy for coaching and managing the team single-handedly during the tournament, and to Mike Williams for being the cook.

We would like to acknowledge and thank *Pub Charity* for \$3,415 (+ GST) in sponsorship, and *de Boer Building Services* for giving the team \$600 towards food and petrol costs. Without this financial assistance, it would have been very difficult for the team to participate. We would also like to thank Philip Hines Unichem Pharmacy for once again sponsoring the team by supplying it with a first aid bag.

Senior C (Social Team)

Congratulations to this team on winning Collegiate 4 - a great effort. Team members: **Susannah Bengree, April Denison, Shereen Edgcombe, Lauren Lum, Kimberley Olivecrona, Rebecca Start, Stacey Shields and Rebecca Wills.**

Overall it was a good netball season for our 12 teams, with 6 teams achieving in the top four of their grades.

Badminton

Owing to the huge number of players in the region wishing to play badminton, College Sport was forced to split the playing season into separate junior and senior competitions with each only having one term of play.

We fielded three senior and four junior teams this year. The Senior Girls' competitive team finished fifth in their grade and there were variable results from the other social and junior teams.

Badminton is certainly a sport where we could benefit from some coaching expertise as there is a high level of interest.

Summer sport is just around the corner now and we are putting together our teams for the new season. The College Sport summer calendar runs from the beginning of Term 4 through to the end of Term 1 each year so teams must be entered afresh.

Hockey

There are still some final games left in the season for both the girls' and boys' teams. Currently the girls are sitting first on the points' table and the boys are in fifth place—more news after the finals!

Coaches and managers.

A huge thank you is extended to all of the parents, students, teachers and other staff members who have contributed to the sports' programme this winter.

It is not always easy to find the time to commit to helping with a team and we are extremely lucky to have so many of you supporting our students in this way. Many, many thanks to you all.

If you are at all interested in helping with our summer sport programme with either coaching or managing a summer team, please either phone or email the sports coordinator.

Year 9 inter-form and inter-house lunchtime tournament

Year 13 Level 3 Physical Education has been involved in running a lunchtime tournament for the year 9's at Taita College. The competition was run from the second half of Term 2 until halfway through Term 3.

On Monday and Friday lunchtimes, students played Unihoc, Indoor Netball, Basketball and Indoor Soccer, and results were recorded to establish which teams would play in the final.

After 8 weeks of competition, 9HE and 9BE emerged as the finalists, and both of these teams represented Bear House.

It was decided that the final game of the tournament was to be Dodge Ball, and 9BE showed supremacy on this occasion. It looks like the future may be strong for the yellow house!

As a finale, 9BE had the honour of playing the Year 13 PE class, who brought their 'A' game to ensure victory in this friendly end to the tournament.

Well done to Year 13 PE for putting together and maintaining a successful tournament. You provided extra opportunities for our students

at lunchtime. Well done to all participants in Year 9. The games were played fairly, and a lot of fun was had throughout this entertaining competition.

Lunchtime activities for students

There has been a lot of interest in taking part in organised activities at lunchtime from students, particularly in the winter months of Term 2 and Term 3. There has been a flurry of activity in both gymnasiums since Term 2, including activities such as: badminton, senior table tennis, junior table tennis, senior basketball, Year 9 lunchtime tournament, Year 10 volleyball tournament, and combat aerobics.

We welcome **Chris Tuapola**, who has been working on building and maintaining the number of activities available for all of our students, to Taita College. Chris has been working alongside PE staff to ensure that sports equipment is available at lunchtimes, as well as putting together tournaments such as the Year 10 volleyball tournament. Chris has also been instrumental in organising student inter-year challenges, with the winning teams challenging a staff team in the 'final'. There has been a lot of positive interaction between students and staff, and we look forward to continuing these activities indefinitely.

It has been fantastic to see so many enthusiastic students taking part in the activities offered. A friendly reminder to everyone: No school shoes, food or gum in either gym. Thanks!

Staff versus students

From early August, a challenge was sent out that reverberated across the grounds and struck a chord with many of our sports people at Taita College. Word on the street was that there was to be a staff versus students challenge. A tournament was put together based on a random selection of form classes throughout all age levels, and those classes played (volleyball on this occasion). The Year 10 boys' class won the tournament, and the right to play the staff. An excellent match ensued, and a hard fought and narrow victory was won by the staff. Well done to all players.

Keep your 'ear to the ground' to hear of further contests – there will be many and varied challenges in the coming months. Well done to Chris Tuapola for providing the impetus for these entertaining events!

Waterpolo

The team moved up into the Open A Grade and had a long playing season this year. It played some very competitive games and improved members' performance markedly in Round 2 to finish fifth in the grade.

Library reminders: Do you have any old Taita College library books or old textbooks that could be returned?

They could help another student learn—thank you.



Sports Fees

Registration for Summer sports will start soon. The Board of Trustees' position is that only students who have paid their registration fees for the past winter's sports can register for summer sports. This is fair—so only students who pay are allowed to carry on playing.

A registration facility does exist to ensure that students who are unable to pay can be accommodated.

Outstanding payments for sports registration fees can be made at the student office.





Taita College

The following students have been recently awarded Academic Focus

Certificates in recognition of their efforts in English at NCEA Level One. It is encouraging to see so many students with the correct attitude at this crucial stage in their academic year. The students are:

Melissa Bilton
Hayley Chesterfield
Natasha de Gans
Ryan Harvie
D J Imo
Melody Kirkland
Laura MacKay
Joseph Magawa
Naria Puketapu
Aroha Samuel
Bradley Shields
Haley Small
Natalie Stephenson
Rebecca Warner
Daniel Watson

High ability students have the opportunity to attend a seminar on achieving your potential at Selwyn College in Auckland, 2-4 October for years 7-10, which covers various

subjects. Contact Jean Hendy-Harris 09 585 0111, cell: 021 389 448 or email: info@holidayseminars.co.nz or website www.holidayseminars.co.nz.



Appointment Attendance Officer

Mrs Yvonne Iti has been appointed as an attendance officer for the college.

Her role incorporates ringing parents of students who do not have previously explained absences as well as making home visits where telephone contact is not possible.

Taita College is also involved in a Ministry of Education attendance initiative which requires us to work in conjunction with the truancy service. Parents are urged to inform the student office of any absences.

A written note is also needed, on the student's return to school for the form teacher's record.