



Issue 5  
August  
2009

# Taita College

## Newsletter

Dear parents and caregivers

It is with great excitement and anticipation that I write my first newsletter to you. Having spent two weeks at Taita College, I can't help but notice the tremendous amount of school spirit and pride from the school which comes from many of the conversations and meetings with various parent, staff and student groups.

The powhiri on the 10<sup>th</sup> August was a special occasion for my family, friends, and colleagues at Newlands College and at the Ministry of Education. Many of them were struck by the friendliness of the student body and the community members from the school.

I have had the pleasure of addressing the students at three assemblies to date, and my message is clear and simple. Everyone who walks through the Taita College gates and into the school has special gifts and experiences to share, and the potential for greatness in their school life and beyond. When we all truly believe this fact, everyone will benefit.

I have also had the opportunity to watch Taita College students competing on the sports field, performing and practising on stage, and learning in the classroom. They are fortunate to be supported by dedicated and caring teachers. My aim for education is to provide quality teaching and learning and quality outcomes for individual learners, no matter their age or stage of education.

This aim will demand that parents and Whanau work collaboratively with the school for better outcomes for the children in this community. I look forward to visiting the community over the remainder of the year to discuss and develop our vision for Taita College as a future-focused, innovative and hugely successful secondary school in the heart of the Hutt Valley.

John Murdoch

Principal

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Mr John Murdoch is seated amongst the tangata whenua.

**Pride through Success  
Honour through Service**



## Welcome Mr John Murdoch



Mr John Murdoch was delivered by manuhiri, Newlands College.



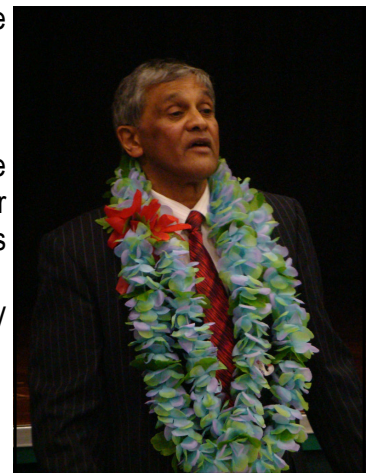
## Farewell Mr Candasamy

On the evening of 5 August, Mr Candasamy was farewelled by the community. The programme consisted of a powhiri and a summary of his career from Mani Tuki and Jamal Edgecombe, the two head students. This was followed by a presentation from the Poly Club students who were wearing the new lavalava uniforms and leis. After this there were more speeches, including one from the Board of Trustees Chair, Petone Toeileu and a break, before the barbershop quartet sang their two songs.

The night was a cold one and the dinner in the cafeteria was welcome. The dinner was provided by the parents on the Poly Committee and drinks and nibbles by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Alapati spoke about his appreciation of the 25 years of service from Mr Candasamy. On behalf of all of the parents he presented the gift of a fale to symbolise the community, the kavakava bowl as a sign of friendship and a necklace which symbolised knowledge and unity.

People mixed and mingled and were pleased to greet former parents, staff and pupils at the event. The evening was enjoyed by all.





## NEWS

- ◆ Haydn Carter of 9BAR went to Melbourne from 12th-19th August to compete in a world cup karate tournament.
- ◆ Bridget Smith was selected for Wellington Women's rugby, Wellington Women's league & Wellington Secondary Girls' rugby teams.
- ◆ Dylan Hemopo tried out for the Hurricanes schools training squad on the wing.
- ◆ Jarrod Burnett—named for the U16 development squad
- ◆ Junior Boys 1 Badminton team - winners of the Division 2 Wellington Junior Regional Championships.
- ◆ Premier Netball - runners-up, Millennium Netball Tournament. Ake & Urukeiha Isaia-Hapimana made the tournament team.
- ◆ Site Timu & Benson Tago in the development rugby squad

## 2009 Dates to Note



August/ September

31-4 Winter Tournament week

September

11-18 Taita College Exams

25 Term 3 Ends

26 School Ball for Seniors

October

12 Curriculum Teacher-Only Day

### Student safety on the bus lines



In the interest of student safety, no parent/ caregiver vehicles will now be allowed to come into the school at peak traffic times. Parents are jeopardising the safety of their own children and the safety of other students too.

Recently there were several near misses. To improve the poor traffic flow, we request that parents park outside the school in Eastern Hutt Road.

This means that parents cannot park in the bus lane either and can only park outside on Eastern Hutt Road at this time.

In the school week we ask that only staff and service vehicles come into the school parking area. Parent vehicles have held up staff who are trying to leave promptly to attend meetings in other schools.

Please assist us with your co operation.

## Pacific Expo

A group of 58 senior Pacific Island students, accompanied by Rose Tuita'alili-Moreli, Mrs Berridge and Matua Hirini, went into Wellington by train for the Pacific Careers Expo. When we arrived in Wellington we walked to the TSB arena.

The expo was really interesting and we are sure it helped a lot of students on the day to choose a career path or have a little think about it. Everyone made the most of the freebies and walked out with bulging carrier bags. There was a Samoan policewoman who spoke briefly to the group about her job and she answered a lot of questions from the students. George Bower won a T-shirt with his inspiring quote in a competition that the S.K.I.P stand ran, which was about violence in homes.

Next we walked to Te Papa to have a look at the exhibitions for about an hour and a half. While we were at Te Papa most of the students headed off for the Pacific Island exhibition to have a look, educate themselves and even play with the drums. The boys ended up giving a show on three drums, on request from some visiting priests. Primary school children and overseas visitors were interested and requested a repeat performance. We returned to school by train for lunchtime and fifth period.

Later that evening, we joined Rose at the Pacifically Wellington Festival which was held at the TSB arena to observe the 11 schools which were performing, to see what we could do to improve our Polynesian group performances. We had excellent seats and although it was a long night, it was worth every minute. The performances were spectacular and outstanding. We had a wonderful time.

Losaline Hopoi and Courtney Hawkins



The Freshmen of Barbershop: George Bower— tenor, Oswald Soane—lead, Jesse Peratiaki—bass and Patricio Ta'afua—baritone.

# Asthma

## The Achievers Awards 2009 — Nominations close 31 August 2009.



If you know someone who has asthma, COPD or another respiratory illness, has a great attitude to life and achieves things despite the challenges they face, then you can help them shine by nominating them for an Achievers Award.

Everyone nominated receives a certificate from the Foundation and a group of Supreme Achievers will be presented with special awards by the Governor-General in Wellington in November.

Visit [www.asthmafoundation.org.nz](http://www.asthmafoundation.org.nz)  
or email: [achievers@asthmafoundation.org.nz](mailto:achievers@asthmafoundation.org.nz)

## New asthma self-management plans for adults

The Foundation has released a new, simplified and modernised [asthma self-management plan](#) for adults to be completed together by doctors and patients with asthma.

Some advantages of the new plan, over the previous one, are that it covers both single intervention therapy (combination therapy) and conventional therapy. These plans are particularly important for all patients who have severe asthma.

If you would like to complete a form with a health professional you see, we recommend you download a copy of the form and take it along to your next appointment. If you would like to be sent copies of the plan —

email: [info@asthmafoundation.org.nz](mailto:info@asthmafoundation.org.nz)



A booklet is available online which is called 'Managing Your Asthma'.

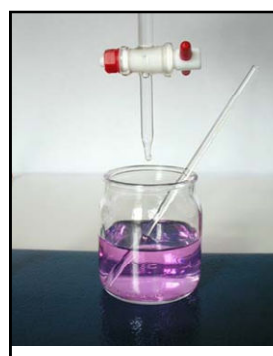
<https://www.asthmafoundation.org.nz/management.php>

# Titration Competition

Last term some Taita College chemistry students participated in the annual Victoria University and NZIC (New Zealand Institute of Chemistry) titration competition and quiz night. The titration event was attended by teams from throughout the Wellington region and Kapiti Coast, with the Taita College team being made up of five Year 13 chemistry students: Jared Crouch, Nicole Olivecrona, Hado Abdi, Megan Bogisch and Jamal Edgecombe. The results of the competition were very close with eight students within 1% of the correct answer. Congratulations to Jamal for being in the top 8 and winning a \$10 prize.

The quiz night saw over 50 teams entering and included two teams from Taita College: a Year 12 team called the 'VamTaitas' of Kristina Hendrie, Ellen Jackman, Amanda Saville and Jeremy Prentice and the Year 13 'Al-Taita' team of Jared, Hado, Megan, Jamal, and Norman Donaldson, with Nicole attending for moral support. It was an evening full of laughs, costumes, spot prizes and hopefully some learning.

In the end the 'Al-Taita' who were terrorising the competition all evening with a consistent second place finish after each round, finished a strong fourth equal. With a mere 3 points separating the top teams, the students did an exceptional job. The 'VamTaitas' enjoyed their evening and will be a stronger team for the quiz next year. Luckily, they got to drown their sorrows in a frozen coke and lick their wounds with some salty fries.



## "GROWING TOGETHER" PARENT EDUCATION & SUPPORT PROGRAMME

**WHEN?** Term Four: 21 October – 16 December  
Wednesday- 10am-12pm

**WHERE?** Family Works Upper Hutt

Register with Shirley @ 528-4164

before 16 October



# Senior Examinations

# September Timetable

## Study advice for students

September 2009

### Be prepared

- ◇ Go to all revision sessions for your subjects.
- ◇ Have up-to-date course notes. If you don't, ask your teachers for the latest versions.
- ◇ Practise assessments and examination papers.
- ◇ Know what is required for each achievement standard.

### Planning

- ◇ Set regular routines of study.
- ◇ Choose a quiet, airy, well-lit place to study.

### Set study goals

- Daily goals
- Weekly goals
- Long-term goals
- Know your deadlines.

### Make a study timetable

- Do a small amount of study on each subject every night.

### Relax

- ◇ Have lots of breaks eg break every 50 minutes for 10 minutes.
- ◇ Eat healthily, sleep regularly and exercise.
- ◇ Reward yourself regularly.
- ◇ If stressed, ask for help. Your teachers want you to succeed; ask them!



- ◆ Senior students will be on study leave from Friday 11 September - Friday 18 September.
- ◆ Morning examinations start at 8:50am and afternoon examinations start at 1:20pm - this includes Tuesday morning exams.
- ◆ Please ensure you are outside the appropriate room 10 minutes prior to the start of the examination.
- ◆ Any student who has a clash must organise with the HOD of this subject to sit the exam before 18 September.
- ◆ The school day will change with the swapping of spell 4 and lunchtime for the duration of the examination period and there will be no assembly during this time.

The senior exam timetable is on the opposite page.

## Examination advice

### Before the exam

- ◇ Check the time and place for the exam.
- ◇ Do not cram at the last minute.
- ◇ Put your equipment in a clear plastic bag the night before.
- ◇ Get a good night's sleep.
- ◇ Eat before the exam but not junk food.
- ◇ Avoid people who make you feel nervous.
- ◇ Stay calm and confident. Breathe deeply.



# Uniform Shop

Tuesday 9.00am to 11.30am  
any other time by arrangement.

A message can be left on extension 235. The Uniform Shop Manager will ring to arrange a time to suit.

When **new** stock arrives, the **prices will be going up!**

	Friday 11		Monday 14		Tuesday 15		Wednesday 16		Thursday 17		Friday 18	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
11	Hall ENG 101 ENG102 ENG 105 ENG 106  F6 ENG 103	Hall   F5 ENG 104	Hall SCI 101  SCI 102  G3 Sci103  E3 Sci103	Hall ACC 101  F4 DRA 101	Hall MAT 101 MAT 102 MAT 103  F6 MAT 104	ART ROOM ART 101  HALL INS 101  D7 WKS 101 H2 KAP 101	Hall GEO 101	Hall HIS 101  D8 WKS 102	Hall FNT 101  AV ROOM DAN 101	D6 GRA 101  D4 HOS 101	Hall MAO 101 PED 102 ESOL11	SV Entrance PED 102
12	AV ROOM DAN 201	Hall ENG 211 ENG 201	G4 SCI 201 KAV	Hall ACC 201 BIO 201  D7 WKS 202  D3 COM202 W D1 COM201 H	F4 CHEM 201	Hall MAT 201 MAT 202	Hall GEO 201 INS 211	Hall PHX 201  D1 COM 202 F4 RET 321  G1 SCI 201  KEO	Hall AUT 201  D4 FNT 201  ART ROOM ART 201 F4 WCS 201	Hall HIS 201  D3 COM 201  D6 GRA 201	Hall PED 201 PED 202 MAO 201	
13	F4 TOU 321  B2 GEO 301	F4 ENG 301 ENG 321	F4 HIS 301	Hall BIO 301 SCI 301 ACC 301  D7 WKS 321	Hall	Hall CAL 301  D1 COM 321H	HALL STA 301  F4 MED 301	Hall CLA 301	ART ROOM ART 301	D6 GRA 301	SV Pool PED 302  HALL MAO 301 D4 FNT 301	D1 Com 301



# STRATFORD EXCHANGE

This year it was our turn to travel to Stratford High School for the annual sports and cultural exchange. The teams participating were senior boys' hockey, girls' football, basketball, debating, Premier netball and 1st XV rugby. We also took the junior boys' football team.

As we have found in the past, we were made very welcome and our students thoroughly enjoyed being billeted with the Stratford families. Many of them were staying on farms some distance away from the school.

The competition was great and Taita basketball, hockey and football girls' teams did well considering they were quite under strength owing to players not being able to travel away. The netball girls did well in a tough game, eventually losing to Stratford by only two points. In the end, the junior football boys, the debating team and the 1st XV rugby won their matches. The rugby was the highlight with a 49 – 0 win.

The final result was an overall 5-3 win to Stratford. However, our students all had a great time and the benefits of their experiencing a different lifestyle and participating in this event were confirmed once again. We look forward to hosting Stratford High School students next year.

## Results

Basketball Girls	63-51 SHS
Basketball Boys	56-39 SHS
Hockey Boys	3-1 SHS
Football Girls	8-2 SHS
Football Boys	10-1 Taita
Netball	29-27 SHS
Rugby	49 -0 Taita
Debating	Taita

## Prem Netball

On Sunday 23 August the Premier 1 team played in the Millennium Tournament at the Kapi Mana Netball Centre. Teams from throughout the Wellington region participated in the event. Taita College made it through to the final but lost by 1 goal to Wairarapa College. It was a great effort by the team and congratulations go to Ake & Urukeiha Isaia-Hapimana for being chosen in the tournament team. We now wish the team every success at the Lower North Island Championships being held in Gisborne from 31 August – 4 September.

Congratulations also go to Kahu Elliott on being selected in the tournament team following the Hutt Valley U15 netball team being runners-up to Auckland at the national tournament in New Plymouth early in July.

- ◆ Congratulations to **Kahu Elliott** and **Toa Cribb** who were both members of the Hutt Valley teams at the recent NZ Basketball Under-15 tournament in Napier. The Hutt Valley Girls U15 team were winners in their tournament with the U15 Boys' team claiming second place in their grade.
- ◆ Kahu was selected to trial for the NZ Koru team.
- ◆ Also congratulations to **Aimee Drysdale** and **Grace Hemara** who have both been selected to represent Wellington at the NZ Gymsports National Competition in September this year. These girls will be representing Taita College at the NZ Secondary Schools' National competition in Auckland later this month.
- ◆ Courtney Hawkins and Bianca Waikato made the Hutt Valley U17 representative netball team.



# Taita College Ball

The Taita College Ball will be held on Saturday 26 September at the Trentham Racecourse and the theme is "HOLLYWOOD". We encourage all Year 12 and 13 students to participate in this exciting and fun-filled occasion.



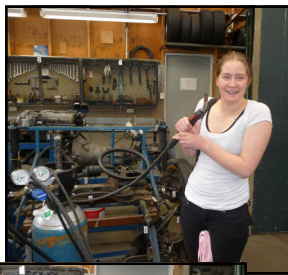
The ticket price is \$70.00 which is due before Friday, 11 September 2009. Students can make their payments to the Student Administration Office. With only two weeks to go for payment, we urge students to pay as soon as they can.

We look forward to seeing our students in the full "glitz and glamour" of Hollywood!

## Automotive



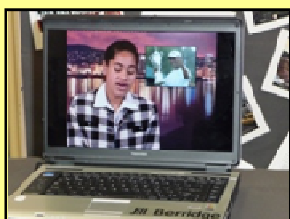
At Metro Training Services, Porirua.



### Open Night Photographs



Mr Newborn stands beside the workshop and technology display which intrigued and delighted those who visited it.



Malolaga Gogo-Simeona was filmed presenting the Taita College news slot for Media Studies.

Editor: Gill Berridge  
gill@taita.school.nz

### Snipers Shoot into North Island Reps

The Megan "twins" Stanyon and Bogisch have both shot their way into the North Island Women's and Juniors' smallbore rifle shooting teams to compete against the South Island in September. They both have a chance to make it into New Zealand teams, providing they shoot well.

This is the first time shooters from this college have made these prestigious squads. They earned their places by participating successfully in open tournaments in the lower North Island over the last few months.

It is extremely difficult for people their age who are still at school to make it into these teams. The cut off age for juniors is 21, so it is a bonus that they have so many years ahead of them to still qualify as juniors.



Megan Stanyon (on the left) and Megan Bogisch (on the right) are seated behind some of the trophies that they have won.

**Pride through Success  
Honour through Service**

