



A fabulous first term!

This term has gone so fast. Our staff and students never stop impressing me with their dedication and talents. As principal

I get to hear first-hand about the many positive stories of how our students are achieving.

It is such a privilege to see our students shine and to experience so many magic moments! Every day I hear success stories and it is lovely to chat with students about all the good things that are happening. I have been made to feel so welcome.

Success is about reaching academic excellence, and when students let me know they have passed a major assessment, it is an incredible moment for me. However, success is also about our students being able to confidently respect themselves, their identity, each other and their community. I strongly believe that all students will reach their potential when they understand the importance of values, morals and recognize that they are all leaders. These are the attributes that contribute to developing outstanding citizens and make us who we are as people in society.

As a new principal, this term has also been about establishing clear and transparent 'lines in the sand' so that students know the expectations, but also realise that they all play such a huge role in establishing our positive school culture. A culture of 'this is what we do here at Taita'. My role is about ensuring that we have the best teaching and learning programmes and curriculum, however it is also to provide an inclusive and respectful environment. That means saying 'No' to unacceptable behaviour. Taita College emphasises whanaungatanga and relationships, and this is the

foundation that enables a happy and positive learning culture.

We are already planning some changes for 2017 and are going to be introducing some new initiatives that will continue to build on success, but also meet the needs of our students. Currently we are busy with our vision and valuing planning. For those of you on email you should have received an email with a small survey to complete. Please take the time to let us hear your voices. Your views are extremely important to us and we want you as parents and whanau to be a part of our future direction.

Thank you all for your continued support of the college. It has been fantastic getting to know you and your children. We have an open door policy here at Taita, so you're always welcome to come in and meet with us.

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

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

I can't wait for term four!!

Nga mihi ki a koutou

Karen Morgan

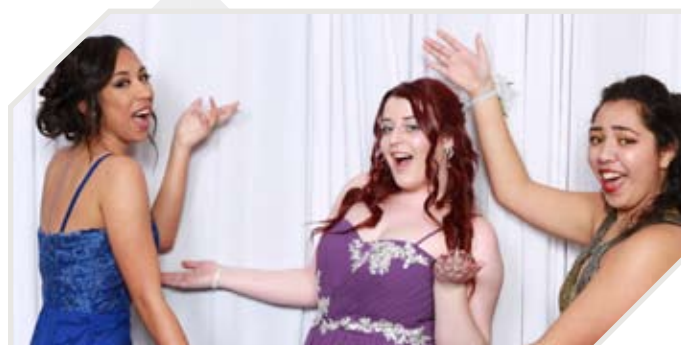
Principal Taita College

TAITA COLLEGE BALL

The theme for 2016's Taita School Ball was 'Enchanted Forest', and it proved to be an enchanting evening for all.

Our students looked incredibly smart, and displayed behaviour that matched.

(More Ball photos follow on the back page)



MAKING WAVES IN HAWAII

Aaliyah Preston-Lilomaiaava, year 12, was among seven students from New Zealand selected to attend a two week youth conference held in Hawaii during July. The conference concerned itself with indigenous people and environmental sustainability. There were lectures, workshops and group activities all geared towards helping students think about ways to help the environment and forge meaningful relations between indigenous people from around the globe.



Environmental Captain Aaliyah Preston-Lilomaiaava

Over 200 people attended. With so many cultures from around the world, one of Aaliyah's biggest challenges was to understand those that didn't speak English. "Google Translate created a laugh many times with it's translations."

At the conference "We looked at what the world could look like in 2030 if we carried on the way we are going. What we were leaving for the next generation." She said "It taught me to look afresh at the environment and I am hoping to bring back what I have learnt to pass on to my fellow students at Taita." In an effort to make students realize their impact on the environment,

Aaliyah has been appointed as the school's inaugural Environmental Captain. It's the first time Taita has appointed an Environmental Captain and she's been busy, organizing the planting of fruit trees in the college. "To feed our Rangitahi and students into the future." Plans are already in action to plant vegetable gardens in the school. With Environment conscience students like Aaliyah to lead us, the future already looks brighter.

2016 FIRST FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



Kaisa Fa'atui, Anna Trethewey and Jonnie Tiaki

Kaisa Fa'atui, Anna Trethewey, Jonnie Tiaki, Olive Sua, Tara Kerr, and Tamara Howie have all been nominated for First Foundation Scholarships in 2016.

Committed to making an amazing difference to someone's impact on society, the First Foundation trust brings together New Zealand businesses, individuals, schools and students. Aiming to give young people with plenty of talent but few financial resources a hand-up to tertiary education.

Students receive their scholarships at the end of year 12. The trust recognizes this as an important time because it's both the final year at secondary and it marks the transition into tertiary.

Taita has a proud history with First Foundation scholars, including success stories like Josh and Sarai Hemara, Haley Small, Tommy McLoughlin and more recently former Head Girl Rosalina Sitigata aswell as Academic Captain in 2016 Alana Levi.



Olive Sua and Tara Kerr

2016 TEEN SUMMIT IN BOSTON USA



Eru Kepa and Joel Alheit

Eru Kepa year 9 and Joel Alheit year 12, are both members of the Taita Clubhouse network which runs under the umbrella of the Hutt City Council. The scheme aims to give young people the chance to be creative with technology outside of school time. Activities at the Clubhouse range from computer programming, video gaming, and film making to music, fashion, dance and design. The Clubhouse Network boasts over 100 clubhouses worldwide. The scheme was founded by Boston's Museum of Science and the very prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Media Lab.

As a result of their creative technology projects, Eru and Joel were lucky enough to be amongst the

250 young people from 17 countries that attended the Biennial Teen Summit in Boston, USA. It was held over six days at the end of July and offered a chance to network, collaborate and showcase their skills in front of an international audience. Although enjoyable the Summit was tightly scheduled between 7.30am and 11pm and included behind-the-scenes visits to MIT and Google.

Taita College principal Karen Morgan was happy to report to the Taita News that "Eru and Joel set up a stand to represent New Zealand, where they created a virtual tour of the Taita Clubhouse and used their individual skills in graphic design and short film making to represent their school and their country with pride."

Joel said that "A really big thing was just working with other cultures and learning how to be able to work with anyone. It made me want to work really hard and just stay focused." He now has ambitions to study in the United States.

Eru has been 'fired-up' by the Summit too. He's admitted that when he first joined the Clubhouse, a year ago that he "thought it was just a place to chill and play on computers." After seeing different ways to create films on the trip he has begun "working on three movies."

They can both now count themselves amongst the other youth leaders creatively using high-end innovative technology that addresses issues relevant to them.

YEAR 13 TOURISM TRIP



Students Riding the Green Lantern Roller Coaster on the Gold Coast

For the third year in a row the Year 13 Tourism class has been to the Gold Coast in Australia. The students had been learning about booking flights, reserving accommodation and planning itineraries.

What better way put this knowledge into practice than planning a real trip?

Students had the opportunity to experience the tourism industry first hand and to gain a better understanding of the many tourism careers out there. Many have been inspired to pursue a career in tourism and are intending to go to the NZ School of Tourism next year.

TU TANGATA

TAITA COLLEGE STANDS TALL ON THE REGIONAL STAGE

Taita College was one of only two Hutt Valley schools represented at Tu Tangata, the biggest Pacific Festival for Wellington area schools, held at the Micheal Fowler Centre on July 27.

The powerful performance of Taita College students showcased success and diversity at its very best. Here at Taita College it is about whanaungatanga - celebrating and exhibiting cultural collaboration and diversity. Students that are involved in the Poly Club have given hours of their own holiday and free time to perfect their performance. Likewise our staff, led by Rose Tuita'alili-Moreli and Simon Hirini, have given their time and effort 'above and beyond' to support and encourage students to lift their performance higher and higher.

This is 'learning authentically' at its very best - the realisation of the fact that hard work and striving to be the best they can be, has its own rewards; bringing out life-long qualities and values such as sharing, being respectful, listening, collaborating, and being creative thinkers. The students involved experienced first-hand that by putting in the hard work they got to reap the rewards of success: One heart, one beat.

Now in its 38th year, the quality of all the performances at Tu Tangata is second to none. Run by a volunteer Komiti of one teacher and two students from each of the participating schools, The festival's main focus is to celebrate and embrace Pacific culture through music and dance. A key focus is to also develop and foster student leadership. The students are an integral part of the Komiti and are fully involved in the decision making.





POLY CLUB'S FAME IS SPREADING

Taita College Poly Club was invited to take part in the welcome of renowned international NBA basketballer Steven Adams when he came to the Walter Nash Centre at the end of August. It is a real honour for the students that once again they have been singled out to represent their community.

TAITA NETBALL



Taita 3 Netball Team

The netball season is over and we had some great results. Taita 3 won their final against Upper Hutt College convincingly and it was pleasing to see how much the players had developed and improved over the season. Thank you to their coach Trina Waikato for her hard work. Congratulations to Heneriata Biddle who was named as the College Sport Player of the Season.

The Premier 1 team recently went to Wanganui for the winter tournament. The girls played really well and had some good wins and close losses. Thank you to their coach Tania Hetaraka for her hard work.

Congratulations to Serah Otineru who was named as the College Sport Player of the Season and Secondary Schools Player of the Tournament.

Thank you to the parents who have coached, managed and supported our teams this year: Otineru, Glenda Parry, Rose Broughton and Claire Mariri.



Premier Netball Team 2016



Heneriata in action

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Top 3 Times in each Year Level earn:
1st 100pts, 2nd 75pts, 3rd 50pts.

Year 9

1st Tluang Za Bawi 0:9:07:00	100pts NAR
2nd Nathan Faapusa 0:9:40:00	75pts NAR
3rd Zion Howlett 0:9:47:00	50pts CHA

Year 10

1st Mary McEwen 0:10:07:00	100pts JAM
2nd Tevita Masima 0:10:33:00	75pts JAM
3rd Spencer Sione 0:10:35:00	50pts JAM

The following Year 10's ran the 4km run instead of the 2km for the NCEA L1 assessment, for taking on this challenge they contribute 20pts each to their house

- Ky-Mani Atkinson BEAR
- Ed Evans CHAR
- Sarah Pihema NAR
- Lani Small JAM
- Drae Vaofusi JAM

Year 11

1st Jahkaya Atkinson 0:15:18:00	100pts NAR
2nd Misinale Misa 0:16:53:00	75pts CHA
3rd Ezra Sione 0:17:32:00	50pts NAR

The following Year 11's ran the 7km run for the NCEA L2 assessment, for taking on this challenge they contribute 20pts each to their house

- Godwin Gonzalez CHAR
- Tahu Munro JAM

Year 12

1st LJ Fonoti 0:34:00:00	100pts NAR
2nd Topaz Robinson 0:35:38:00	75pts NAR
3rd George Ravenhall 0:38:38:00	50pts JAM

House Participation 5pts

BEAR 165, JAMIESON 140, NARRAWAY 240, CHARLES 200.

Overall Final Points

4th BEAR 185.
3rd CHARLES 365.
2nd JAMIESON 455.
1st NARRAWAY 760.

2016 Cross Country Champions = NARRAWAY!



SUMMER SPORTS

Summer sports are getting underway now with Senior Volleyball, Ki O Rahi, Rugby League and Senior Rugby Sevens leading off.

Many of the weekly junior sports such as Touch, Tennis, Bowls, Cricket Volleyball and Senior/Junior Futsal will begin at the beginning of next term.

In late October there will also be a Junior Rugby Sevens tournament.

All students who wish to play summer sport should now be registered and all outstanding winter fees paid up so they are eligible to play.



WINTER TOURNAMENT WEEK

The Taita College Senior Boys Basketball team attended the NZSS Nth Is Nationals Qualifying Tournament which was held in Tauranga during tournament week. This is the first time Taita has sent a team to this tournament so it was a huge unknown for all concerned. It was great to see our sports exchange partners Stratford High School there as familiar faces.

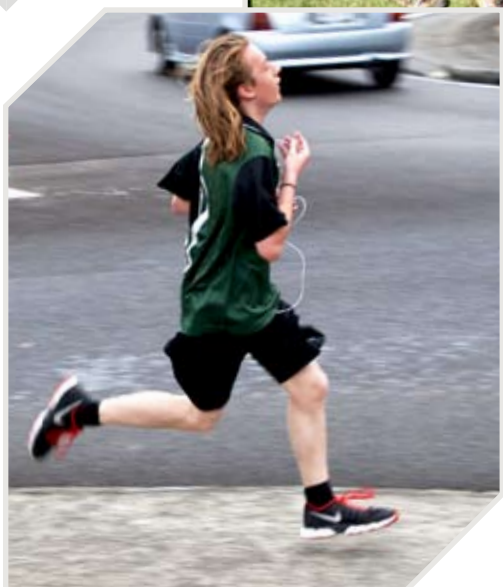
Our boys played extremely well, losing only one game in the round robin to eventual finalists Huanui College. This placed them in the 5-8 playoffs where they fought hard but were unable to hold out against Te Aroha for fifth place.

The great news is that the team has qualified in sixth place to play at the National Tournament which is being held in Palmerston North in the first week of the school holidays. We wish them all well for a successful tournament.

COACHES AND MANAGERS

We are still desperately needing coaches and managers for several of our summer sports teams. Please email the sports coordinator: Debbie@taita.school.nz

Or call the school for more information if you are able to help.



UNIFORMS

All winter uniforms (and a few outstanding summer uniforms) need to be returned to the school office before the holidays please so that gear can be put together for summer teams. Please have a hunt around at home and make sure to return any uniform that is still outstanding.

*Save the Date : Sports Prizegiving
7pm October 19th, Taita College Hall*

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Year nine student William Bower has been appointed the student representative on the Taita College Board of Trustees.

William, a former Avalon Intermediate student, will join the board - which sets the direction for the school - at the beginning of term four and will serve for the next 12 months.

He replaces Year 11 student Neyla Masima, whose term has just ended.

William says that his goal is to do his very best to give students a voice on the board.

"I want students to feel they can come to me with their ideas for building on all the success that occurs at Taita College, which I will then share on their behalf with the board."

Principal Karen Morgan predicts William – whose siblings have all attended Taita College – will be an outstanding representative on the board.

"William is a natural leader and emulates all of the qualities required to be effective in this role."

I am looking forward to working alongside William, and to have his input on the board."



Neyla Masima passes on the role of Student Representative to William Bower

My experience as student rep' in 2016 has been quiet a ride. I've been amazed at the work that the Board of Trustees puts in for the school. I was warmly welcomed in by adults that I now not only see as friends, but as another family too. They have helped me understand what being a student rep' means. It has been a fascinating journey especially seeing the extra precautions the Board took when deciding on our new principal. I have learnt firsthand how decision making at the boardroom level takes place. I can now build on this experience and use my skills in future leadership jobs.

One of the successes that I raised with the board was for girls to wear shorts as an alternative to skirts. It was agreed that they should have the right to choose and now short pants are an option in Taita's uniform for girls.

Another success that I was included in was the process of deciding on a new Principal. We were careful because the outcome can have a huge impact on students. By following the Board's vision we found the perfect Principal with Miss Morgan.

I wish William the best of luck in his new role for 2017. I hope he remembers to have fun, look after the school, and to care for the students like he cares for his family.

Neylar Masima.

HUTT RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAMME

Year 10 students planted 800 native trees along the Taita Rocks in association with the Wellington Regional Council.

This programme is part of a three year programme where Taita students are involved in the progress, maintenance and constant monitoring of the growth of these native trees.

As a part of our school's vision, our students are committed to their community and are being responsible citizens of the future.

Along with this practical experience they also get a chance to write Level 2 NCEA credits associated with the biodiversity of the environment.

It was an awesome experience for our students and Wellington Regional Council was in awe of their work ethic, behaviour, and total involvement in the project.

As a thank-you for the student's hard effort, the Wellington Regional Council has displayed a plaque with the name: TAITA COLLEGE 2016.

So dear parents if you take a stroll around Taita Rocks and see the plaque, you can be proud of your children, the face of New Zealand's tomorrow.





Taita Staff Making Their Voices Heard at September's PPTA Meeting

Each school around the country had a paid union meeting in early September. The meetings were called in response to the Government's intention to introduce Global Funding in schools. The teachers' unions see this as the equivalent to the rejected Bulk Funding only disguised under a different name. This means that instead of the current funding model which allots funds for a school's operational costs and a separate allocation for staff salaries, the Global Funding scheme seeks to join the two purposes together in one bulk pay-out. It would be up to the school board to manage this fund as best they could. The uncertainty of the scheme depends on how financially able the board is and whether the 'bulk' amount is sufficient. Any short-fall would result in either staff or resources being cut.

The teachers' unions see this is an unwelcome change to the current model, which has a formula in place to guarantee a minimum number of funded staff, based on the student numbers.

Should Global Funding be implemented, then it could easily effect students and parents with increased class sizes and increased 'voluntary' donations.



DEPARTURES AND ARRIVALS



Mr Nicholls Attempting to Dance to Mr Colbridge's Tune

August saw the emotional departure of Mr Colbridge from the Technology department. The opportunity to teach at a school in Memphis, Tennessee, USA, coupled with coordinating rugby development in the region proved too tempting for the popular digital design teacher.

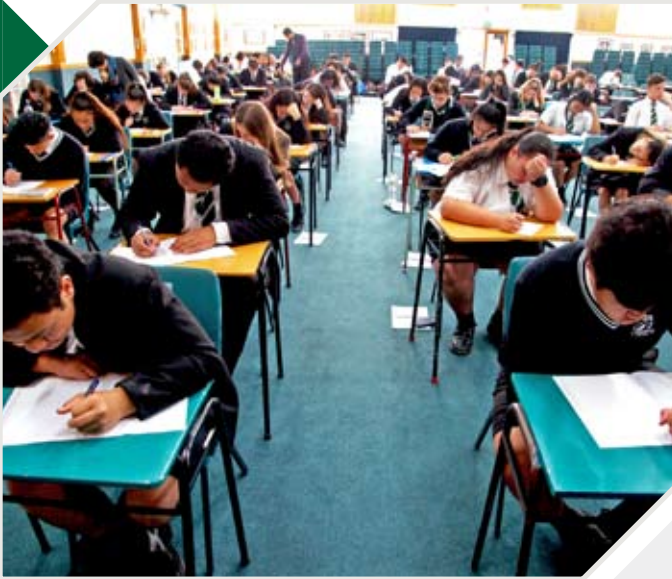
His position has been filled with the arrival of Mr Nicholls. He comes with industry experience in Graphic Design and Illustration, and formerly taught for several years at Otahuhu College in Auckland.

Digital Technology is well recognised as an extremely relevant subject for the future. It's good to know that it continues to be in safe hands here at Taita.



What a PPTA Party Looks Like

STUDENTS WHO ACHIEVED NCEA EXCELLENCE IN TERM 3



TAITA EXAMS

There's a saying "practice makes perfect" and that's what senior students did recently to prepare for their upcoming NCEA exams.

More than 200 students sat the Taita Exams across a range of subjects, the content and conditions of which were identical to what they will face at the end of the school year.

Deputy principal Linda Pye says the exams were a chance for students to experience exam conditions, many for the first time.

"This, along with identifying areas to work on, will put the students in good stead for the external examinations."

The NCEA exams start on Monday, 28 November. See the full NCEA exam timetable at goo.gl/bLoqF



LJ Showing School Spirit, On the Day It 'Snowed'

Year 11

Jahkaya Atkinson
Cleveland Beach
Carson Bell
Heneriata Biddle
Joshua Boyd
Kiara Comp
Esther Dahm
Antonia Fenwick
Lupe Fetaui
Sione Fotofili
Godwin Gonzales
Ben Guillonta
Kerry Hart
Shaun Hayman
Breana Ieremia
Connor Jensen
Mokz Kemp
Rachel Korewha
Elijah Lakai
Ellarose Lamberton
Faipaua Leafa
Ally Lindsay
Ulamila Little
Ally Mairaro

Kristina Masae
Neyla Masima
Megan McCliskie
Amy McEwen
Kian McHardy
Lepeti Melesala
Te Awaroa Meteka
Misinale Misa
Tahu Munro
Aata Murdoch
Eloise Old
Serah Otineru
Quaylee-Ann Parekura-Tane
Michelle Quach
Ezra Sione
Josie Sitagata
Joe Spence
Vanessa Ta'afi
Lania Tana
Levi Taylor
Devyn Te Puia
Zeta Thickett
Jay Tofa
Jonathen Tuiketei
Allan Tuitama
Emma Walker
Aimee Woodall
Esther Yu

Year 12

Joel Alheit
Cullum Barker
Connor Brownie
Elijah Craies
Brooke Crichton
Adele Dean
James Evans
Kaisa Fa'atui
Matilda Faifai
Sara Iosua
Ariana Judge
Caleb Little
Dani Lunn
Pisa Mase
Leyany Murdoch
George Ravenhall
Ruby Reid
Olive Sua
Jonnie Tiaki
Sione Tonu
Anna Trethewey
Marina Tuuaso Pale

Year 13

Brittani Barrow
Shandan Beirne
Susana Bryce-Alapati
Finn Fairbrother
Tyler Fogarty
Jessica Hayman
Ariel Hemara
Brayden Herewini-Manuel
Jordy Hetaraka
Del Hyde
Lupe Lama
Panapa Leatuavao
Alana Levi
Danielle McLean
Tessa Porter
Tamar Rice
Nila Ulberg
Kalatiola Viliamu

UPCOMING EVENTS



Ki O Rahi Nationals	30th Sept - 2nd Oct
First Day of Term 4	10th Oct
Junior Ki O Rahi	19th Oct
CSW Rugby League	22nd Oct
Rugby 7s Qualifier	24th Oct
Technology Presentation	25th Oct
Senior Prize Giving	3rd Nov
Teacher Only Day	4th Nov
Booster commences	7th Nov - 2nd Dec
NCEA commences	9th Nov - 25th Nov
CSW Junior Volleyball Finals.	11th -12th Nov
CSW Junior Golf	16th Nov
CSW Junior Touch	17th Nov
AWD Swimming	18th Nov
Rugby 7s U15 Festival	19th Nov
CSW Junior Touch Finals	22nd Nov
Ki O Rahi Junior Regionals	23rd Nov
Ngati Kahungunu Pa Wars	25th Nov
CSW Junior Bowls	29th Nov
Year 8 Day, Year 8 Parent Evening	5th Dec
Junior Cricket Finals	10th Dec
(Activity Day) TBC	12th - 13th Dec
Final Assembly, Last Day of Term 4	14th Dec



SPECIAL THANKS

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



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Taita College

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