



Taita College – We are one heart, one beat!

We have had an incredible year to date, and one full of success stories. It is great to be here at Taita College and to be a part of a wonderful community, who really care. We have achieved so much throughout the year as a learning community, and that is due to the hard work of our staff, students and your continued input.

At Taita College we have a strong vision, and a united and committed staff. We have big plans ahead and these include:

- *Continual growth of our school.*
- *Strengthening our existing partnerships and discovering new ones.*
- *Building on successes and magic moments.*
- *Developing active lifelong learners.*

Success is about achieving academically, but it is about so much more at Taita College. Our commitment is to enable your children to have every opportunity possible to experience that success and ultimately be all that they can be. Your children are taonga 'treasures' and they deserve the very best! He aha te mea nui o te au, he tangata, he tangata, he tangata – the most important thing in the world is people, people, people.

"Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tōhukoe, me he maunga teitei, Aim high for what you truly value, be persistent and don't let obstacles stop you from reaching your goal." We know the importance of relationships and value your involvement as parents. Community

is key, and this emulates our sense of whanaungatanga – we are family.

We would like to invite you to our Community meeting on Wednesday 8 November, from 7-8pm in the staffroom. This is an opportunity for you to meet Helena our commissioner.

The purpose of the meeting is to celebrate the success of the year and to hear what is important to you as we plan for 2018.

It has been a great term. Have a well-deserved safe holiday in preparation for a big Term 4.

Nga mihi ki a koutou
Karen Morgan





TU TANGATA

A large number of students from the Poly Group were involved in preparing for the Tu Tangata Festival held in Wellington at the Michael Fowler Centre.

“As the only co-educational secondary school invited to be part of this wonderful celebration it was an absolute privilege for our students to shine, experience success, and be a part of a forum where culture counted,” says Principal Karen Morgan.

The Taita College Poly Group is led by Rose Tuita'alili-Moreli, along with the student leaders for 2017 Tara Kerr, Tau Timu and Bronwyn Kumeroa-Bell.

The student leaders act in a tuakana teina role and guide, mentor and support all students involved.

The students exhibit lifelong learning capabilities such as

planning, organisation, leadership, commitment, memorisation, collaboration, active participation and focus.

The senior students involved were able to gain NCEA credits through the cultural dance assessments offered. Not only did our students gain academically, but they also embraced the true meaning of whanaungatanga (Aiga – family), and epitomised our mantra ‘we are one heart, one beat.’

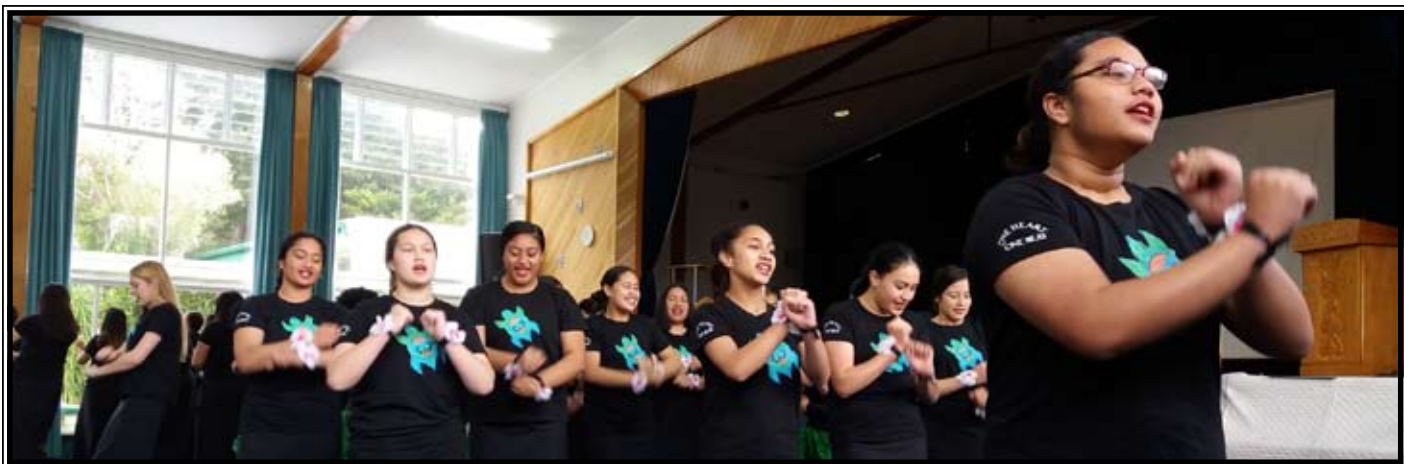
Taita College student leaders say “We get to learn about our own culture and everyone else’s culture. We gain respect and appreciation for our differences. Being in Poly Group has made us want to promote and do more cultural activities in our school and community. It is a truly memorable experience to be part of this group and connect to others through our

cultures. It makes us feel we are valued and gives us a real sense of belonging.”

These sentiments back-up research that tells us when students believe in themselves, their identity, heritage and culture, they are far more likely to be confident, capable and successful citizens in their community.

“At Taita College we are making the most out of our learning programmes and know the power of offering an inclusive curriculum where culture counts. Success for all students means we have to move away from our traditional homogenous models of the past, and explore new and exciting programmes to enable every student to reach their potential and be the best that they can be!”





FIAFIA NIGHT

The Poly Group were the main attraction at Fiafia Night which took place on Wednesday, 23 August at the school hall. The night was MC'd by Paul Lemana and included added entertainment from Saint Michaels, Barbershop, Christ Like Band and many more.



The Taita Poly Group performing for school assembly the day before the big night.

THE STRATFORD EXCHANGE



The annual sports exchange with Stratford High School took place again in June. This year it was Taita's turn to travel up to Taranaki and enjoy Stratford's hospitality. That's not all we enjoyed. After some well fought sporting battles, Taita was pleased to drive away with the overall winners trophy. Thanks Stratford!

DARTS TRIUMPHS

Penny Tekira won the Youth Girls' Singles National tournament, and also won the Junior North Island Championship earlier in the year (Clubs New Zealand).

In the Charter Nationals, Penny came 3rd equal in the New Zealand Youth Charters, and Jasmine Horne came 3rd equal in the Junior Charters.

Penny and Jasmine won the Youth Girls' Pairs National Tournament, played in Porirua.

Penny was named captain of the Tournament team.

Jasmine was placed 3rd in the Youth Girls' Singles National Competition while Emma Walker was placed 5th equal in the Youth Girls' Singles National Competition. Penny, Jasmine and Emma made the Tournament team.

Recently Jasmine played in the Nationals in Motueka and was placed 5th equal in the open pairs competition.

Mya Kaden and Cory Horne won the Youth Pairs Junior National Tournament. Both Mya and Cory made the tournament team for Youth Juniors.

The students learn their skills by attending weekly club competitions, and for the majority of them their parents and families are heavily involved in their coaching and mentoring. These students are excelling at a national level. Darts is a game which requires determination, focus and full composure. The students involved comment on how much playing darts has assisted with their learning and numeracy skills.

We are extremely proud of our students and can see the transferable skills which lead to continued success.

Our congratulations to them on their outstanding efforts.



Emma Walker, Jasmine Horne, Penny Tekira.



Youth Pairs Champs Mya Kaden and Cory Horne.



Jasmine Horne and Penny Tekira.



Our group of netball umpires managed by Maureen Turley (Taita College staff member) have had an outstanding year. These students have demonstrated responsibility, leadership, commitment and most importantly have given up their time to give back to the community. Every Saturday, without fail, they are on the netball courts, umpiring games to ensure that others can experience a well-managed game. At such a young age these students are learning valuable life skills, along with building confidence, adaptability and resilience. These students have been exemplary role models and have given so much to their community.

UMPIRING AWARDS

Lupe Fetaui Centre Badge + Zone Theory.

Jasmine Setefano Centre Badge + winner of the Hutt Valley Sec School Most Promising Umpire in 2017.

Lepeti Melesala Centre Badge.

Penina Sitagata Centre Badge.

Bronwyn Kumeroa-Bell Centre Badge.

Tamara Howie Intermediate Badge.

Sarene Havler Intermediate Badge.

Shadae Corby-Kirkwood Junior Badge.

Lori Kiwha NZ Test Bank Theory

Roimata Hawea NZ Test Bank Theory.

Kayla Faitele NZ Test Bank Theory.

Our Umpire Team

Back row: Maureen Turley, Tamara Howie, Lupe Fetaui, Bronwyn Kumeroa-Bell, Penina Sitagata.

Front row: Roimata Hawea, Sarene Havler, Jasmine Setefano

The Hutt Valley Umpires' Association appreciates all that our girls do for netball as they are always smiling and brighten up our day each Saturday.

Taita College umpires volunteer their time on Monday nights umpiring for Avalon Primary and Rata Street School. Saturdays they volunteer their time for Avalon Intermediate.

We also umpire club teams on a Saturday.

In order to be umpires, students have to have an excellent work ethic at school which means good grades, attendance and engagement.

Our Taita netball teams finished the year strongly after winning well fought semi finals.

The Premier 2 side achieved a great win in their final against Sacred Heart to finish champions of the collegiate 2 grade!

The Junior A and Junior B sides finished a very respectable 2nd in their Collegiate 3 and 6 grades respectively.



MUSIC AT TAITA

ITINERANT MUSIC PROGRAMME

This year we have been fortunate to have a wonderful team of itinerant teachers working alongside our students in the Music Department.

Vicki Ferguson (vocals)

James Paul (guitar)

Chris Buckland (piano)

Thomas Friggens (drums)

Alison Eldridge (violin)

This year's team of vibrant teachers has helped build a stronger culture of performance at Taita College - whether it be for assessment purposes, lunchtime concerts or school assemblies.



PERFORMANCE/SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

On 23 June our senior Music students had the privilege of working with the prestigious singer/songwriter/music educator/mentor Lisa Tomlins. In a two hour workshop, the students were given tips on how to enhance their musicianship and stage presence skills (in both a solo and group context) and also worked on different strategies around creating and writing songs.



BARBERSHOP WORKSHOP

This year we took a group of 15 students to the Hutt Valley schools' barbershop workshop, where they learned to sing songs in the style of Barbershop Acapella. We now have a male chorus here at Taita College and will hopefully next year have a female chorus. The long term goal is to have each group compete at the 'Young Singers in Harmony' regional competition in the years to come.



THANKS!



TAONGA PUORO

On 30 June our Y9 and Y10 Music classes combined with the Y9 and Y10 Te Reo Māori classes in a fun, interactive workshop with Taonga Puoro expert Alistair Fraser. Throughout this workshop the students learned about different traditional instruments used in the Māori world, what they were made from, and the stories they told through their sounds.



Last year local Rotary Clubs were approached by Taita College for any help they could provide in funding additional computers for the school, specifically for use in the music area.

Raising money is a difficult job and Rotary receives many requests. Fortunately for Taita College two Rotary clubs, Upper Hutt and Hutt River Valley agreed to form a tripartite group with the school and applied via their Rotary District organisation for a matched funding grant from the Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation funds block grants to districts that fund scholarships, projects, and travel which align with the mission of The Rotary Foundation. This enables Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Our scheme fell into the category of supporting education.

Both Rotary Clubs and the school agreed to fund raise \$3000 and put it into a pot that we could then apply to be matched by the Rotary Foundation.

The application was submitted and approved! For an investment of \$3000 the school will receive \$18,000 to spend on new equipment.

The last of the administration is still being worked through but there's a celebration night in term 4 planned where an official presentation to the school by both clubs will take place.



THE MUSIC LAB

As a direct consequence of the Rotary fund raising initiative, the Music Department has been blessed with 10 new Apple Mac desktops.

This has presented an awesome opportunity for our senior students as they now have their own space to create and record compositions using the Digital Audio Workstations available on Apple.



ONCE UPON A TIME...

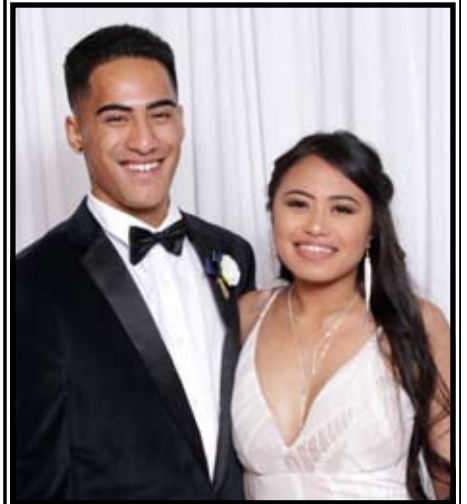
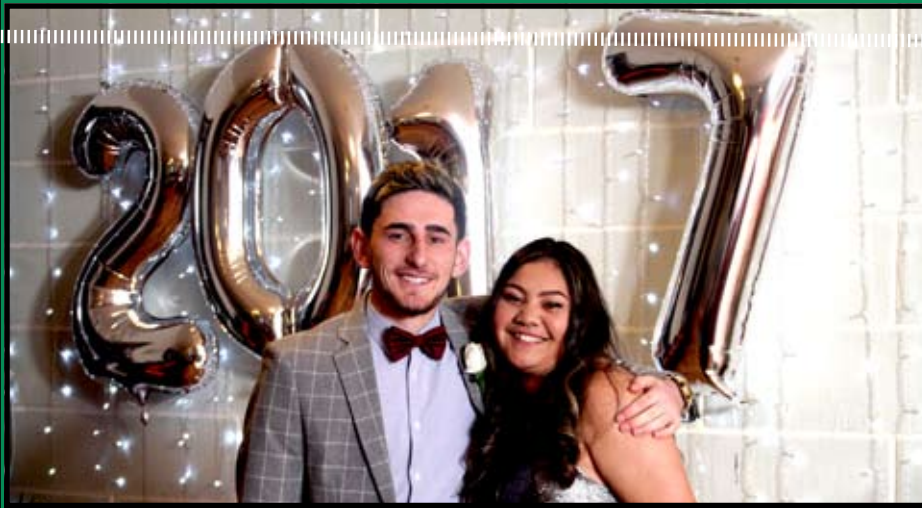
What a night to remember! The senior year 12 and 13 ball was a fairy tale like no other. Students and their partners took the journey out to the beautiful Kaitoke Gardens for the 'Once Upon a Time' themed ball. The students all looked amazing, transforming into over a hundred Cinderellas and Prince Charmings. A selection of awards were given out which included:

Princess of the ball - Lepeti Melesala and Prince - Ezra Sione.

Queen of the ball - Jonnie Tiaki and King - Connor Brownie.

The night was an absolute success. A big thanks to Miss Hall for all her hard work organising such a flawless event.





Our Tourism class had the chance to explore what the Gold Coast has to offer in the second week of Term 3. The trip was a week full of laughter and fun activities, combined with many experiences we had all discovered. We went to different theme parks like Movie World, Sea World and Wet and Wild. It was a great way for us to explore and to see what the Gold Coast has to offer for tourists and people who want to work in the tourism industry. It was an amazing adventure and most eventful. The funniest week ever, spent with some of the funniest and craziest people. Along for the ride were Sara Iosua, Denzel Pikari, Eden Korewha, Losaline Tupou, Mafutaga Faapusa, Bronwyn Kumeroa- Bell, Mateo Setefano, Alex Taanoa, Tau Timu and Brooke Crichton

Some of us have even been inspired to go to the International School of Tourism next year to pursue careers as flight attendants or tour guides.

Thanks to Mrs Peek and Mr Montgomery for taking us on such a wonderful experience.



"Travel to as many places as you can, take any opportunities that life offers you because money can always be made but good memories are hard to come across."

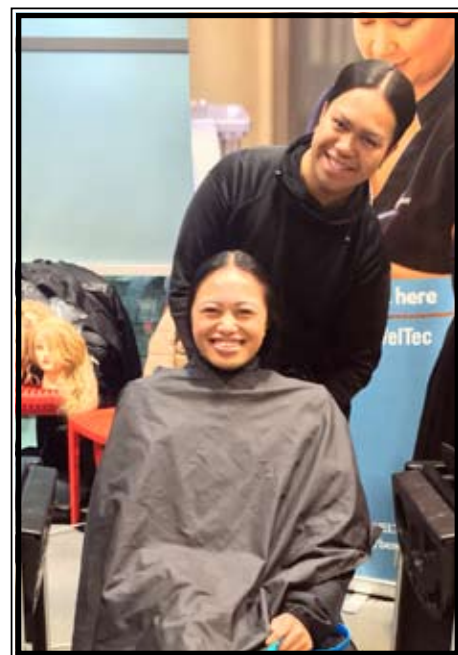
MEANINGFUL PATHWAYS

CAREERS EXPO



As part of a Gateway initiative, different industry and tertiary representatives set-up stalls in the hall to inform students about career paths and job options.

Students from all levels across the whole school took great interest in the displays and left better informed about the future that awaits them.



Taita College's Meaningful Pathways class 2018.

The purpose of this course is to fully engage students, allow them to have more ownership of their learning and enable them to experience success and believe in their future.

What does this course look like? In 2018 your child will attend school on Monday and Wednesday, they will be in one classroom and working with one teacher to meet their academic goals. The teacher of this class will create individual learning plans for each student based on their academic needs and strengths. They will participate in a Gateway work placement on Tuesday that will interlink with their school studies and / or their WelTec trade course. On Thursday and Friday they will attend their level two Trades Academy WelTec course. If this course is something you would like to find out more about please feel free to contact the school.

Wow! What an amazing term we have had in the Knowledge Hub, filled with exciting opportunities for our students and staff!

This term our focus has been on our partnership with Hutt City Libraries. Our goal is to see 100% of our students connected with Hutt City Libraries where they have access to FREE online services that will enhance and support their learning.

Through Hutt City Libraries we have access to thousands of e-books and audio books, we are able to read up to date magazines and newspapers online and have access to a number of databases and tutorial sites, like Lynda.com, Britannica Library and the Australia/ New Zealand Reference Centre. We can also learn a language with Mango Languages who offer tuition in 72 different languages. There are 19 different FREE e-resources available to our students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support their learning and their quest for knowledge. All they need is a computer, device or smart phone and access to the internet or Wifi. They can access Hutt City Libraries at Taita College or anywhere in the community with their own device!

The beauty of using these e-resources through partnership with Hutt City Libraries is we have access to all the latest information, and books with no lost or overdue fees as the online resources automatically return themselves on their due date. Students can also borrow hard copy resources from any branch of Hutt city libraries, however these hard copy resources may incur lost or late fees.



Students can stay connected with Hutt City Libraries for as long as they live in Lower Hutt, providing them with the latest, continuously updated e-resources for their lifelong learning journey. We are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity in partnership with Hutt City Libraries.



Term 3 also saw the Knowledge Hub used as a performance venue when it hosted a senior music performance evening



The Knowledge Hub Team:

Mrs. Lydean Herman
Cruz Campbell
Tyrone Clark
Esther Dahm
Aaron Davis
Zak Hooper-Wills
Mya Kaden
Marshall Kennedy-Newton
Danni-Lee Kokiri
Ellarose Lamberton
Loria Mamea
Emily Morete-Norgren
Penny Tekira
Zeta Thickett
Esther Yu

WELL-BEING

Breakfast Club	Wed and Fri 8am until the start of school.
Nurses	Tues, Wed, Thu and Fri.
Doctor	Thu am. (Free service provided by VIBE)
Physio	Mon and Wed pm.
Guidance Counsellor	Jackie Agalawatta. Appointments made by contacting the front office.

The last date for physio sessions at Taita College is 30 October. Those who are still needing follow up care will be able to visit our physio, or one of the other clinicians at the Hutt Clinic: \$20 adult, \$15 student. Sessions are 20 minutes long.

UP-COMING EVENTS

CSW Shooting North Island	Sat, September 30, 9am – Sun, October 1, 5pm
Basketball Nationals	Mon, October 2 – Fri, October 6
First Day Term 4	Mon, October 16
CSW League Finals	Sat, October 21, 12pm – 4pm
Labour Day	Mon, October 23
Rugby 7s	Mon, October 23, 9am – 4pm
Rugby 7s U15	Sat, October 28, 9am – 4pm
Sports Prizegiving	Wed, November 1, 7pm – 10pm
Technology Display Day	Thu, November 2, 9am – 3pm
Sports Dinner	Sun, November 5, 7pm – 10pm
Last Day Seniors	Mon, November 6, 8:30am – 1:30pm
Senior Prize Giving	Mon, November 6, 7pm – 10pm
CSW Junior Basketball	Wed, November 8, 9:00am – 3:30pm
CSW Junior Volleyball	Fri, November 10, 9:00am – Sat, November 11, 5:30pm
Teacher Only Day	Mon, November 13, 8:00am – 3:30pm
CSW Junior Golf	Wed, November 15, 9:00am – 3:30pm
CSW Junior Touch	Thu, November 16, 9:00am – 3:30pm
Hangi and Umu Project Year 10	Fri, November 17, 9am – 7pm
AWD Swimming	Fri, November 17, 9:00am – 3:30pm
CSW Kio Rahi Junior Tournament	Wed, November 22, 9am – 4pm
CSW Junior Tennis Tournament	Wed, November 22, 9:00am – 3:30pm
Volleyball Junior North Island Tournament	Mon, November 27, 9am – Fri, December 1, 5pm
CSW Jnr Bowls and Softball Tournaments	Tue, November 28, 9:00am – 3:30pm
Year 10 NCEA Evening	Wed, November 29, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Taitaungawainae Tournament	Thu, November 30, 9am – 3pm
Touch Nationals	Fri, December 8, 8:30am – Sun, December 10, 5:00pm
Final Assembly - Last School Day of 2017	Tuesday, Dec 12

The school would like to acknowledge Fred Allen from Kiwi Plants and Lydean Herman (our very own Knowledge Hub Facilitator), who have both kindly donated plants to help further beautify Taita College's already stunning surrounds. Thanks very much.



KIWI PLANTS LTD
Wholesale Native Plant Nursery

Fred Allen
Managing Director

PO Box 37 263, Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt 5141, New Zealand

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Mobile: +64 (027) 222 2100 Skype: kiwi.plants

Email: fred@kiwiplants.co.nz

www.kiwiplants.co.nz

Member of International Plant Propagators Society and The Nursery and Garden Industry Association of New Zealand



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

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Compiled, designed and edited by Regan Nicholls.

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